

## Wisconsin Singers Troupe Spotlight

### Aubrey Bailey

This month, Company Manager Lauren Meyer interviewed Aubrey Bailey, a first-year lighting designer from Mukwonago, WI. Aubrey recently finished her freshman year at UW-Madison and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Theatre and Drama through the School of Education.

Aubrey's first experience with lighting design was for her middle school production of "The Wizard of Oz." When she moved into high school the following year, she was excited to pursue her newly-found passion through the theater department's set building and lighting design team. As Aubrey grew into her love for stage design, she was on the lookout for opportunities to continue her art in college. That's when she received an email about joining the Wisconsin Singers' tech team.

Since joining the troupe back in July, Aubrey highlights the sense of community as one of her favorite aspects of Wisconsin Singers. Many of Aubrey's friends in middle and high school came from her involvement in the theater program and various art clubs, and Singers connected her with many other musical people around campus. Joining Wisconsin Singers served as an immediate opportunity to meet lots of like-minded people while transitioning to a large campus and moving into a new phase of life, a sentiment that many Wisconsin Singers have shared over the years.

With a year of lighting experience under her belt, Aubrey is looking forward to designing next year's show and learning about what songs, medleys, and themes will govern the 57th season. This year, Aubrey's favorite numbers were Cold As Ice, Burnin' Love, and Feelin' Good. Aubrey shared that of all the songs she helped bring to life, Feelin' Good was her absolute favorite!

Aubrey's artistry goes far beyond the immaculate lighting design you'll see on stage at a Wisconsin Singers' show. Aubrey has been drawing since long before she can remember, and she joined many art clubs throughout her life. Her main mediums for physical art are graphite and ink, but Aubrey also sings and plays piano and guitar. She was involved in her high school choir, and now mainly sings classical music in her free time.

After graduation, Aubrey hopes to pursue graduate school for lighting design and work professionally with a touring musical company as a lighting designer or stagehand. She looks forward to traveling and seeing the many marvelous theaters that span the country. After moving around for a bit, she hopes to reside on the east coast to continue working in professional theater settings. Aubrey's dream show to work with is Hadestown. After seeing a live performance in Milwaukee, she was astounded by the atmosphere the stage and lighting design were able to create for the audience, and she hopes to be a part of a similar creative team in her future. As far as the Wisconsin Singers' lighting design goes, Aubrey's dream number to create would be anything from "The Phantom of the Opera" – perhaps a large chandelier is in the budget for next season?

Aubrey has been such a blessing to the troupe this year, both with her masterful orchestration of her lighting design and the continuous joy and laughter she brings to the group. We're so excited to see how Aubrey's passion and dedication shine through on stage next season!

