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Morgan Arts Council – Berkeley Springs, WV  
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## **Opera at the Ice House**

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV – In a rare opportunity for local audiences, the Morgan Arts Council (MAC) presents the award-winning American bass-baritone operatic singer Kevin Short in concert on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 2 pm at the Ice House.

Short, a graduate of Morgan State University, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the Juilliard School of Music's American Opera Center, won the bass-baritone award for the Middle Atlantic region Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 1989. From there he has continued to engage audiences around the world with his wide range of musical talent. His appearances include performances with the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Opera Pacific, Spoleto Opera Festival, Canadian Opera Company, the Opera de las Americas, and various European and Asian opera companies, orchestras, and festivals. He has also performed locally with the National Symphony Orchestra and Baltimore Symphony. Short was invited to perform in Berkeley Springs by local music teacher and pianist Patricia Springer, who worked with and accompanied him while he was a student at Morgan State University.

Short is performing a program that includes *In solitaria stanza* and *Brindisi* by Verdi, *Don Quichotte a Dulcinee* by Ravel, *Morgen and Caecilie* by Strauss, as well as two selections by Ralph Vaughn Williams and one song by Gerald Finzi. In addition, Short will be singing Aaron Copland's *Songs from America*.

Accompanying Short for this concert is collaborative pianist Nancy Beith who has worked with many musicians in Maryland in recital and chamber performances including the Maryland State Boychoir, Frederick Chorale, Hood Chamber Singers, and Frederick Symphony Orchestra. Currently retired, she previously taught in the Music Department at the University of Maryland – Baltimore County where she served as academic advisor for the music department, pianist for the Camerata and Opera Workshop ensembles and coordinator of the class piano program. Beith received degrees from both Syracuse University and the Peabody Institute and studied at the Vienna Academy of Music and Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

Cost of this performance is \$20 / \$18 for MAC members.

This program is presented with financial assistance for the WV Department of Arts, Culture and History, and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the WV Commission of the Arts, and local hotel/motel taxes. The Ice House is at the corner of Independence and Mercer Streets in downtown Berkeley Springs, WV. For more information on this and other MAC activities, call 304-258-2300 or visit [www.macicehouse.org](http://www.macicehouse.org).