

Born and raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, **Helen Kashap** is a Canadian-American classical pianist and actress. Recently named a recipient of the prestigious Chalmer's Professional Development Grant from the Ontario Arts Council, she has performed as a soloist with several major Canadian orchestras and given concerts across Canada, the United States, and Europe. Born into a musical family, Kashap's early training was furthered at the *Interlochen Arts Academy* in Michigan where she graduated in 2006 with top distinction and awards in English, political science, and music. Kashap went on to receive her Bachelor of Music degree and was named a 'Schulich Scholar' at *McGill University* in Montreal, QC and received her Master of Music degree from the *Cleveland Institute of Music* in 2014. An avid learner, Kashap has attended programs and been an artist in residence at the *Banff Centre for the Arts*, the *Aspen Summer Music Festival*, the *Gijon International Keyboard Festival*, the *Toronto Summer Music Festival*, and the *Orford Arts Centre* in Quebec. Notable awards include: two maximum grants to Professional musicians from the *Canada Council for the Arts*, a *FACTOR Canada* recording award, a major research grant from the *New York Foundation for the Arts*, Emerging artist grants from the *Saskatchewan Arts Board*, top prizes from the *Canadian Music Competition*, the *Kinsmen Competition*, the *Saskatchewan and North Bay Symphony Orchestra Competitions*, the *Interlochen Arts Festival Concerto Competition*, the *National Knigge Piano Competition*, the *MidWest USA Piano Competitions*, among others.

In addition to her music studies and pursuits, Kashap completed the Hagen Core Training acting program at the *HB Studio* in New York City in 2015. Other theater/film studies include training at the *Stella Adler Conservatory*, *The William Esper Studio*, and the *Terry Schreiber Studio* in New York City. Kashap continues her theater studies in New York City with Fitzmaurice vocal coach Ilse Pfeifer and Alexander technique coach Martha Bernard. Kashap has recently begun work on a show that draws on her love of and interest in both classical music and theater, and also continues research on developing a program to bring classical music lessons to inner city youth across New York City. Kashap currently resides in Manhattan.