

YOUNG FRIENDS OF OPERA

PARTICIPATING CITIES

Arlington, VA
Atlanta, GA
Boston, MA
Central City, CO
Charlotte, NC
Chicago, IL
Cleveland, OH
Dallas, TX
Detroit, MI
Edmonton, AB
El Paso, TX
Fort Worth, TX
Houston, TX
Kansas City, MO
Los Angeles, CA
Memphis, TN
Miami, FL
Minneapolis, MN
Mobile, AL
New York City, NY
Norfolk, VA
Pittsburgh, PA
San José, CA
Saint Louis, MO
Salt Lake City, UT
Santa Fe, NM
Seattle, WA
Washington, D.C.
West Palm Beach, FL

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

The Atlanta Opera
Boston Lyric Opera
Central City Opera
Chicago Opera Theater
The Dallas Opera
Edmonton Opera
El Paso Opera
Florida Grand Opera
Fort Worth Opera
Houston Grand Opera
Los Angeles Opera
Lyric Opera of Kansas City
Michigan Opera Theatre
The Minnesota Opera
Mobile Opera
New York City Opera
Opera Carolina
Opera Cleveland
Opera Memphis
Opera San José
Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia
Opera Theatre of Saint Louis
Palm Beach Opera
Pittsburgh Opera
The Santa Fe Opera
Seattle Opera
Utah Symphony | Utah Opera
Virginia Opera
Washington National Opera



Josh Bongers, Dan Galpin, Rebecca Davis, German Mendoza and Puay Kua in Opera San José's production of Puccini's *La Rondine*. Photo courtesy of Pat Kirk Photography.



MAY E-NEWSLETTER

Dear Young Friends of Opera Member:

We are pleased to send you this May issue of the Young Friends of Opera e-newsletter. As a member of your company's young professionals group, you can enjoy the special ticket and social event offers described below when visiting any of the cities listed on the left.

Kindly note that admission and purchase restrictions are different with each participating organization, so please contact the company you are visiting prior to making your ticket purchases. Also, remember that all ticket offers and discounts are available at the discretion of the participating company.

Visit www.operaamerica.org/content/education/yfo.aspx for a complete list of and links to all companies participating in OPERA America's Young Friends of Opera.

We are pleased to welcome Opera San José to the Young Friends of Opera program.



YOUNG FRIENDS OF OPERA PARTICIPATING COMPANY OFFERS

BOSTON LYRIC OPERA

BRAVO! is an exciting series of opera-related events and discounted performances for young professionals (YPs) in their 20s and 30s. It offers fun and different ways to experience opera in and out of the theater in enticing venues throughout Boston. By participating in BRAVO! events, you join a rapidly expanding community of YPs who appreciate engaging in and supporting opera and the arts in Boston. BRAVO! events will return in the fall with the start of the 2010-2011 season.



Contradicting the stereotype that opera is only for older people, young professionals Tyler York, Elena Damaskos, opera singer Jesse Blumberg, Mia Howard, Ethan Tavan and Karen Robichaud celebrated Blumberg's Opening Night in Boston Lyric Opera's production of *Ariadne auf Naxos*. The production attracted audiences of all ages as well as rave reviews with its blend of slapstick comedy and tragedy. Photo by Roger Farrington for BLO.



Photo courtesy Chicago Opera Theater.

CHICAGO OPERA THEATER

Chicago Opera Theater presents their last Opera Underground of the 2010 Spring Festival on Wednesday, May 12, with Jake Heggie's *Three Decembers*. This touching opera about a Broadway diva and the dark secrets she's hidden from her two adult children stars the legendary Frederica von Stade in her last opera performances before retirement!

An Opera Underground ticket includes:

- Section "A" Ticket to *Three Decembers* (7:30 p.m.)
- A pre-show reception at The Gage (24 S. Michigan Ave.) includes free hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar with specialty drinks. (6:00 p.m.)
- Plus, you will receive exclusive invites and discounts to Opera Underground events throughout the year.

For tickets, visit COT's Web site or call 312-704-8414.

EDMONTON OPERA

Edmonton Opera's *encore!* hosts **Storm the Stage and Rock the House** on the set of *Otello*.

On April 23, opera fans and the opera-curious gathered in Edmonton for a unique event the night before Edmonton Opera opened *Otello*. Attendees met members of the cast, heard a performance by Edmonton Opera chorus member Charlotte Burrowes, enjoyed a night of dress-up in costumes and wigs pulled from the wardrobe department (with permission!), and topped it all off with a big, bad game of Rock Band®!

This is the second year *encore!* has hosted **Storm the Stage** and they hope to make it an annual event. It's an exciting night for people who've never been backstage, let alone onstage, and it's generating new interest in opera among the 20- to 40-somethings in Edmonton.



Members of *encore!* on the set of *Otello*, in costumes lent from the Edmonton Opera wardrobe department. Photo courtesy of Kelly Redinger Studios.

This event was sponsored by **PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS** 



Edgar J. Glen, Manon Mohammady and Sofia Gomez. Photo courtesy Florida Grand Opera.

FLORIDA GRAND OPERA

On April 15, 50 members of Florida Grand Opera's Crescendo Circle and their guests celebrated the upcoming opening of Bizet's *Carmen* with a Spanish-themed Flamenco party. Mr. Edgar Glen of Antares Wines generously donated the wine; his Dominio de Valdelacasa Cosecha 2005, produced from 120-year-old vines, was greatly appreciated by all. Armando Olmedo, senior legal counsel of UNIVISION, served as event chairman and introduced many new participants, including Chair for the Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law Section of The Florida Bar Nina-Dawne Williams, Esq., to Florida Grand Opera. Graciously hosted by Manon Mohammady in her beautiful Coconut Grove home, the evening's festivities featured tapas and sangria, as well as the Flamenco guitarist Reynel Ríos and vocalist Jesús Hidalgo. *Diario Las Américas* and *Miami Monthly* provided social press coverage of the event.

HOUSTON GRAND OPERA

Houston Grand Opera's Opening Nights for Young Professionals members enjoy intermission mixers (free with their season subscriptions) and post-performance meet-ups at SoVino in trendy Montrose. They also host "O.N. the Rocks Happy Hours" at various locations throughout the city with can't-miss operatic entertainment, and they present the annual Ovation Awards, which honor Houston's next generation of dynamic young leaders — people who pave the way for young professionals in the realm of philanthropic, charitable and civic endeavors, in the hope that recognizing the dedication of these key influencers will encourage other young people to become involved in Houston's philanthropic, charitable and civic arenas. Ovation Award winners were honored at the Encore Party, the after party for Houston Grand Opera's "Yellow Rose" Ball on April 10.



O.N. members Chris Brown and Divya Pralakar rock the Encore Party. Photo by Kim Coffman.



A couple of Lyric Opera Bohemians at *Rigoletto* pre-performance dinner on Saturday, March 20.

LYRIC OPERA OF KANSAS CITY

The Bohemians of the Lyric Opera Guild are hosting their First Annual Bohemians Golf Tournament on Sunday, May 23, at the Deer Creek Golf Course in Overland Park, KS. Anyone interested in supporting the Lyric Opera of Kansas City is invited to play in the tournament. Please contact Bohemian President Jenn Morgan at bohemians@kcopera.org for details.

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE

Michigan Opera Theatre's **ACCESS.Opera** Young Professionals Wednesday Nights are the can't-be-missed entertainment destination during the week. Michigan Opera Theatre's 2010 spring season will conclude in May with Puccini's *Tosca*. Members of OPERA America's Young Friends of Opera are eligible for the ACCESS Young Professionals and students special ticket offer for the performance of *Tosca* on **Wednesday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m.** For only \$20, young professionals can receive a main-floor ticket to the Wednesday performance of the opera and a drink ticket for a beverage of their choice at an exclusive post-performance reception to mingle with the cast and other young professionals. Tickets go on sale two weeks prior to the ACCESS performance. Visit www.motopera.org/access/accessopera.html or call Felicia Burgess at 313-961-3500, ext. 3200 and mention "ACCESS" for more information.



Attendees at Michigan Opera Theatre's ACCESS: *Don Giovanni* event on April 14.

OPERA SAN JOSÉ

"Opera for young professionals, by young professionals"

Opera fan under 35? Next season, take advantage of two special offers designed just for you! Become a Season Subscriber for only \$100!

- Save money — You just can't beat a \$25 ticket to the opera!
- Free exchanges — If you can't join us for Amici Night (Thursday performances, series F), switch to another performance of the same production!
- BRAVO Newsletter — Stay informed about all the other company "insider" events and offers, read exclusive interviews and learn about upcoming productions in print or online!
- Guaranteed Seats — Your seat is where you want, when you want — no more fussing over last-minute availability!

For more information, call our box office at 408-437-4450 or visit www.operasj.org.

Amici Club Members enjoy special perks with a \$50 donation!

With your minimum contribution of a fully tax-deductible \$50 gift, you will be among others in your generation who value the beauty and artistry involved in producing live opera. Whether you join us for the music, the theatricality, or the social scene, the Amici Club has something special for you:

- Recognition in the Amici Club listing printed in the theater program;
- Access to exclusive Amici Club events;
- Discounts on single tickets and advanced notice for our popular Opera History course;
- Announcements about other fun social networking events in Silicon Valley; and
- A Membership card for OPERA America's Young Friends of Opera program, offering access to special discounts and events at opera companies nationwide.

To become an Inaugural Member of Opera San José's Amici Club, contact Margot Helm at 408-437-4460 or helm@operasj.org.



Photo courtesy of Pittsburgh Opera.

PITTSBURGH OPERA

Formerly Opera Straight Up, OPERAEncore is a special gathering for young professionals on our Friday evening performances. Meet some new friends in the South Lounge on the Promenade Level of the Benedum at the intermission for refreshments and conversation. Your \$35 OPERAEncore ticket includes great seats to the opera and the reception, not to mention the company of very cool people like yourself. To order tickets, click [here](#). Questions? Want to order by phone? Call Mark Marston at 412-281-0912, ext. 216 for more information or e-mail tickets@pittsburghopera.org.

The next OPERAEncore event is scheduled to take place on Friday, October 15, during *The Barber of Seville*.

WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA

Over 10,000 strong, *Generation O* members are invited to exclusive mixers, lectures and behind-the-scenes tours hosted by the *Generation O* Advisory Council. The Council is having great success hosting events around the city for our *Generation O* members aged 21 and over. Our event at **MOVA Lounge** on April 23 brought opera *out* into the community! *Generation O* members welcomed opera newbies and mingled with WNO staff and artists at this eco-friendly club in D.C.'s Logan Circle. In addition to special ticket offers for our Young Artist performance of *The Marriage of Figaro* on May 6, two lucky winners got VIP tickets to our *Late Night Affair* event and box seats to *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Coming Next: Washington National Opera launches full-season subscriptions for our young professionals!

Washington National Opera will be launching a new subscription program for *Generation O* members with an exclusive reception and open orchestra rehearsal on June 2. The subscription will include fixed seats at *Generation O* prices, a pre-performance lecture, post-performance gathering and much more! Stay tuned for more details!



WNO mainstage artist Stephanie Braun (Countess, *The Marriage of Figaro*) with *Generation O* Council member Richard Weinberg (right) and friend.