

YOUNG FRIENDS OF OPERA

PARTICIPATING CITIES

Arlington, VA
 Boston, MA
 Central City, CO
 Charlotte, NC
 Chicago, IL
 Cleveland, OH
 Dallas, TX
 Detroit, MI
 Edmonton, AB
 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
 Orlando, FL
 Pittsburgh, PA
 Saint Louis, MO
 Salt Lake City, UT
 Santa Fe, NM
 Seattle, WA
 Washington, DC
 West Palm Beach, FL



Chicago Opera Theater's production of Bizet's *Carmen*. Photo by Liz Lauren, courtesy of Chicago Opera Theater.



Kyle Ketelsen as Méphistophélès in The Minnesota Opera's production of Gounod's *Faust*. Photo by Michal Daniels, courtesy of The Minnesota Opera.

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Boston Lyric Opera
 Central City Opera
 Chicago Opera Theater
 The Dallas Opera
 Edmonton 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 Theatre of Northern Virginia
 Opera Theatre of Saint Louis
 Orlando Opera
 Palm Beach Opera
 Pittsburgh Opera
 The Santa Fe Opera
 Seattle Opera
 Utah Symphony & Opera
 Virginia Opera
 Washington National Opera



JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Dear Young Friends of Opera Member:

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

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 <http://www.operaamerica.org/Content/Audiences/yfo.aspx> for a complete list of and links to all companies participating in OPERA America's Young Friends of Opera.

We are delighted to welcome Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia into OPERA America's Young Friends of Opera Program.



CHICAGO OPERA THEATER

Chicago Opera Theater's Opera Underground is a group of young professionals who like to combine two of their favorite things -- fun mingling and great theatre!

Chicago Opera Theater is a young, vibrant, edgy and contemporary opera company, and Chicago Opera Theater productions are stunning to watch whether you are an opera lover or it's your first opera!

Your Chicago Opera Theater \$100 Opera Underground Membership includes:

- A ticket in section "A" on Wednesday evenings at the Harris Theater in Millennium Park to two of the three productions of the 2009 Spring Festival Season
- A reception at a downtown venue before each opera
- Exclusive invites and discounts to Opera Underground events throughout the year

Visit <http://tickets.chicagooperatheater.org/tickets/subscriptions/index.aspx?season=underground> for information and tickets.



Founding *Encore!* members and their guests at *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Photo courtesy Edmonton Opera.

EDMONTON OPERA

Edmonton Opera prepares to launch *Encore!*

The success of Edmonton Opera's Explorers' Club has laid the foundation for *Encore!*, a new group targeting 25-40 year olds in the Edmonton area. The goal of *Encore!* is to promote the idea that attending a night at the opera is as accessible, lively and enjoyable as a concert, dinner party or hockey game. With reserved seating and special discounts for guests as well as backstage access and exclusive events like dinner with Artistic Director Brian Deedrick, *Encore!* is poised to bring opera to the attention of Edmonton's nightlife scene and to steward and excite Edmonton's next generation of patrons, sponsors and board members.

Encore! is led by a volunteer committee and will be launching for the 09/10 season with a unique event on April 24th, on the set of Edmonton Opera's upcoming production of *La Traviata*. The party is called "Storm the Stage" and will allow attendees to stand in the limelight for an evening to explore the world of the stage with refreshments, demonstrations of both sound and lighting effects for the show, singing, dancing and, of course, a chance to faint on Violetta's chaise lounge.

For information about *Encore!*, e-mail encore!@edmontonopera.com or visit www.edmontonopera.com.

HOUSTON GRAND OPERA

Houston Grand Opera Opening Nights for Young Professionals is a group of professionals in their 20s and 30s who are dedicated to building a new audience for the Houston Grand Opera and committed to sustaining that audience by attending Opening Night opera performances and special events.

Networking and social opportunities available to Opening Nights members include intermission mixers in the Brown Alcove, a post-performance party at SoVino Wine Bar & Bistro, young professional special events, discounts to the glamorous Houston Grand Opera Ball, Opening Night Dinner and much more!

Become a member by subscribing to our Opening Night Series. Prices vary by seating location. You may order online at www.HoustonGrandOpera.org/ON or by calling (713) 228-OPERA (6737).

LYRIC OPERA OF KANSAS CITY

The young friends of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, the Bohemians, is an organization for young professionals (ages 21-40) who are interested in getting involved in the community, meeting other young adults and learning about opera. An individual membership starts at \$25 and benefits include invitations to special Bohemian-only parties, volunteer opportunities, reduced season tickets to the Lyric Opera and

full membership in the Lyric Opera Guild (including Opera Previews, invitations to hear special members-only speakers, a quarterly newsletter, monthly e-newsletter, post-opera parties with opportunities to meet performers, Guild Room privileges prior to performances and during intermissions, and exclusive members-only trips). Visit www.kcbohemians.org to find out more or sign up for the mailing list. Support the arts in Kansas City and have fun along the way; become a Bohemian today!

THE MINNESOTA OPERA

Tempo is a membership program for both new and veteran operagoers in their 20s and 30s. Membership in Tempo gets you into fun, exclusive social and opera-related events, plus gives you a steep discount on the hottest ticket in the Twin Cities -- The Minnesota Opera! Tempo invites you to join us for our Opera Night Out celebration. YFO members receive up to two tickets at \$30 each for any Opening Night production during the season (discount applies in areas C-E). You also receive an invitation to our post party with the cast! For more details on Tempo and The Minnesota Opera or to order tickets visit www.mnopera.org and enter promo code YFO30.



Tempo members and Kyle Ketelsen (Méphistophélès) at the *Faust* Cast Party. Photo by Clare Gardner.



Holiday Vivace! Party at The Wine Loft. Photo courtesy of Mobile Opera.

MOBILE OPERA

Since its launch in September of last year, Mobile Opera's Vivace! has quickly gained recognition throughout the Mobile area. With a membership of over 70 young adults, this group has organized itself into not only a social and networking group but also a support group for Mobile Opera. Throughout the year, Vivace! will represent the opera company in many community events which benefit other organizations. Vivace's upcoming project will be the American Cancer Society's Chili Cook-Off in March.

Members of Young Friends of Opera with OPERA America are invited to join us for the upcoming production of *Susannah* on March 26 and 28. As a member you will enjoy the same benefits as Vivace! members with 25% off a single ticket purchase and the complimentary pre-performance reception on March 28th. For more information, please contact Stacey Driskell at stacey@mobileopera.org.

OPERA CAROLINA

Experience BRAVO!, Opera Carolina's group for young professionals interested in exploring and enhancing their enjoyment of Charlotte's vibrant performing arts scene. Bravo! Members receive a 15% single ticket discount for both Saturday night performances. To order, call 704-372-1000. Join us at Blue Restaurant & Bar after the Saturday night performances for appetizers and drink specials featuring the operatINI! For more information, visit http://www.operacarolina.org/about_bravo.php.

New for 2008/2009, the Bravo! Society is for young donors 35 years old and younger who donate \$100 or more to the Opera annually. In addition to Bravo! membership, Bravo! Society donors will receive an invitation for a VIP backstage tour and many other benefits. All new Bravo! Society donors will receive a pair of "Operatini" glasses! For information, e-mail jaimee@operacarolina.org.



Photo courtesy of Opera Carolina.

OPERA THEATRE OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Cavalieros is Opera NoVA's (Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia) new group for young professionals in their 20s to 40s, spanning all industries and tastes. Cavalieros strives to be a major force in Northern Virginia's art and culture scene, bringing together opera enthusiasts and newcomers alike to experience one of the world's premier art forms. Members enjoy delightful, world-class opera and a variety of cultural events.

Future events include: *O' Lovers' Voice* concert with great new tenor, Ta'u Pupu'a on February 14 and 15 and a recital by Leslie Mutchler, winner of Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia's Artist of the Year Award.

For more information, visit <http://www.novaopera.org> or call (703) 528-1433.



Photo courtesy of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis.

OPERA THEATRE OF SAINT LOUIS

La bohème Bash: June 4 and 6, 2009

Join the young professional set at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis for a fun night of food, drinks, networking and opera!

You're invited for dinner and drinks beginning at 6:15 p.m. under the tent outside the Loretto-Hilton Center. You will have an opportunity to network with other young professionals and meet artists from Opera Theatre's 2009 season.

After dinner, we'll enjoy Opera Theatre's production of *La bohème*, one of the most beloved operas ever written. Puccini's musical portrait of Bohemian life in Paris has lured whole

generations into opera. Rodolfo and Mimi, Marcello and Musetta fall in and out of love to music full of gaiety and pathos, laughter and tears.

Pick either June 4th or June 6th for a fun night at the opera! The cost for this special package is \$35 for dinner and one ticket to the performance of *La bohème*. Please call Opera Theatre's event coordinator, Emilie Hensley at (314) 963-4223 to reserve your space.

PALM BEACH OPERA

Overtures, Young Friends of Palm Beach Opera held their first ever fundraising event, *Bohemian Rhapsody*, dinner, dancing and silent auction on Friday, January 30 at PGA National Resort & Spa. Victoria Pollingue and Carla Canedo were event co-chairs with help from Huntley Miller acting as auction chair. Proceeds from the event help support the 2009 Family Opera Performance of *La bohème*.



Carla Canedo, Dr. Melisande Wolff and Vinnie Kochar. Photo courtesy of Palm Beach Opera.

PITTSBURGH OPERA

Opera Straight Up is for hip/cultured Pittsburghers in their 20s to 40s who enjoy all kinds of music. Mingle with other operagoers, do some networking, meet new people, discuss music, politics, whatever!

Opera Straight Up offers drastically reduced tickets to some of the best seats in the house and an after party following every Friday night Pittsburgh Opera performance...not to mention the company of very cool people like yourself. \$35 gets you a seat for the opera and admission to the after party. If you already have tickets you can come to the party for a \$15 cover charge. That includes food and drinks! Must be 21 to attend.



Photo by Daniel V. Klein, courtesy Pittsburgh Opera.

Visit https://www.trgarts.com/eticket/o/PO/p/run_module.php?__module__=806 For more information on upcoming events. For tickets, call Mark Marston at 412-281-0912, ext. 216 or e-mail him at tickets@pittsburghopera.org.

SEATTLE OPERA

Seattle Opera is offering BRAVO! Club benefits to all out-of-town Young Friends of Opera members without charging you the club membership fee! Take advantage of 50% off single tickets (limit two per Young Friends of Opera member) on all BRAVO! Nights during each production. Also available to members are two complimentary tickets to the pre-show lecture as well as admission to intermission receptions in the BRAVO! lounge. Visit www.seattleopera.org/affiliates/bravo/yfo.aspx for a full list of benefits and the list BRAVO! Night dates.

To purchase tickets, visit our ticket page at <http://www.seattleopera.org/tickets/index.aspx> and enter promo code FRIENDS50. Tickets will be held at Will Call and can be redeemed upon presenting your Young Friends of Opera membership card.

Founded in 1996 through the collaborative efforts of Seattle Opera and 30 dedicated volunteers, BRAVO! is operated by members with a passionate commitment to creating a community for its members to interact, get involved, learn more and get excited about opera. Through their efforts, BRAVO! has grown into a diverse group of people in their 20s and 30s (membership base of over 700 paid club members) who share a desire to explore opera and have fun.



BRAVO! Members at December Laser Opera event. Photo by Bill Mohn, courtesy of Seattle Opera.



Vivace members enjoying the *Regina* after-party. Photo courtesy of Utah Symphony & Opera.

UTAH SYMPHONY & OPERA

Vivace is a funkified group of 20, 30 and 40 somethings -- single/partnered/married -- who just happen to get their groove on to Utah Symphony and Utah Opera performances. Benefits with your FREE Vivace membership: great discounts, sit by other Vivace members, receive the Vivace *Behind the Music* Guide and attend after-parties at area restaurants with our guest artists, conductors, Utah Opera casts and the Utah Symphony. Visit <http://www.usuo.org/vivace>.

FROM RUSSIA, WITH LOVE

February 28, 8pm at Abravanel Hall; after-party at The New Yorker (private club)

BOW-ISIMO

March 28, 8pm at Abravanel Hall; after-party at Abravanel Hall's 1st Tier Room to celebrate Vivace's fourth birthday

I WANNA BE LIKE...TCHAIK

May 9, 8pm at Abravanel Hall; after party at Café Molisse

Vivace tickets are \$30 (\$15 for students)

Visit Vivace on Facebook: <http://www.new.facebook.com/pages/Utah-Symphony-Utah-Operas-Vivace/32449971282?ref=ts>.

WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA

Started in 2003, Washington National Opera's Generation 0 provides students and young professionals between the ages of 18 and 35 with special Gen0 ticket offers to some of the nation's best opera. Over 10,000 strong, Generation 0 members are invited to exclusive mixers, lectures and behind-the-scenes tours hosted by the Generation 0 Advisory Council. Sign up today to receive an e-mail invitation to the best opera performances and events in the nation's capital. Stay tuned for Generation 0's next events, coming in March 2009! To learn more and to begin receiving special offers, visit the Generation 0 Web page at <http://www.dc-opera.org/experience/generation0> or create an account at <http://www.dc-opera.org/account/signin.asp?url=../account/modifyaccount.asp>!



Generation 0 Advisory Council hosts special events around the operas. Photo courtesy of Washington National Opera.