Absolutely the No.1 show in the world!
—Kenn Wells, Former lead dancer of the English National Ballet

Jan 1-3, 2016
Detroit Opera House
Detroit
844.MI.SHOWS | 888.974.3698
ShenYun.com/Michigan

Presented by: Michigan Falun Dafa Association
CONTENTS

ON STAGE

La Bohème .................................................................6

FEATURE STORY:
On the Edges of Our Seats for a New Operatic Adventure ..................12

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE

Boards of Directors and Trustees ........................................5
Volunteer Information ..................................................11
Avanti Society ..............................................................19
Community Programs and Dance Education ..........................20
Administration and Staff ................................................22
General Information .....................................................26
Michigan Opera Theatre Contributors ...............................23
Welcome to the Detroit Opera House (DOH) and the 2015-16 Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT) Fall Season — sponsored by our friends at Ford Motor Company. This fall marks the beginning of my second season with MOT, and I am delighted to work with so many dedicated and enthusiastic supporters.

The 2015-16 Season marks the 45th year since Founder and Artistic Director Dr. David DiChiera created the Michigan Opera Theatre, a company that is recognized as a major force among leading opera companies in the United States. Our productions attract audiences not only from the greater Detroit area, but also the state of Michigan, the Great Lakes region, and the Canadian Province of Ontario.

This season we also observe the 20th Anniversary of the Detroit Opera House. Our home is a place of pride, and throughout the season we will launch a series of cosmetic changes in order to enhance your performance experience. This summer, MOT paid tribute to Karen DiChiera, Founder and Director of Community Programs. We are truly appreciative of the imprint that Karen has made in the lives of children and adults who seek to learn about the art form of opera and the creativity that exists within each of us.

September marked the launch of the Michigan Opera Theatre Studio, a resident artist program through which MOT has reaffirmed its commitment to community and education programs. In addition, this initiative coincides with a new cast of individual artists who will join the company and remain in residence throughout the year. The internationally renowned tenor Richard Leech has been appointed director of this new initiative. Throughout the year, these young artists will be seen on our stage and throughout the community.

Thanks to our devoted audience, MOT has been able to mount a robust opera and dance season in the DOH as well as our community initiative in regional venues. This year, performances of Aaron Copland’s opera The Tender Land will be presented in Macomb and Wayne counties and will feature our Studio Artists.

Season subscribers enjoy the most generous range of benefits — including preferred seating, the largest discounts, and advance notification for purchasing tickets to special events. Single ticket purchasers are invited to contact our ticket office and apply the value of your ticket stub toward an opera or dance series so that you too may enjoy generous benefits.

We invite you to join us for our many program offerings, and we hope that you will encourage your family and friends to share these experiences with you. Thank you for coming!

Wayne S. Brown
President & Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to MOT’s 45th season. As always during these many years I love to program familiar operas alongside works that are either very new or rarely produced. In that way those who especially enjoy seeing works they already know can share their pleasure with those who like to experience unfamiliar works. So we open with an opera that is among the most beloved and most frequently performed. This season’s La Bohème marks the ninth production in MOT history. Yes, we know and treasure Puccini’s amazingly beautiful music, but what makes each production unique is the individuality and interpretation that each artist brings to their roles. Over the years we have enjoyed a cavalcade of wonderful and often famous artists bringing Rodolfo and Mimi to life. Tenors such as Marcello Giordani, Francesco Demuro, and Charles Castronovo are among the unforgettable Rodolfos, while Helen Donath, Stella Zambalis and Kelly Kaduce were wonderful and touching Mimos. This season’s La Bohème is no exception with the return of internationally celebrated soprano Nicole Cabell, who thrilled us with her Violetta in La Traviata several seasons ago, and with tenor Sean Panikkar, who not only sings opera in many of the world’s great houses but is well known with an even wider American audience as one of the three tenors known as Forte. Another beautiful pair, tenor Eric Margiore and soprano Lina Tetriani will bring the lovers to life at the Sunday matinee. Russian baritone Rodion Pogossov, who gave us one of the most memorable Barbers in the in the fall of 2012, sings Marcello. Making her American debut as the flirtatious Musetta is the exciting Marina Costa-Jackson. Bohemians Schaunard and Colline will be sung by two very talented members of our newly formed Resident Artists program, Jeff Byrnes and Brent Michael Smith.

Our season continues with an opera by Mieczyslaw Weinberg (1919-1996), the third in the Opera of Our Time series, following A View from the Bridge by William Bolcom and Frida by Robert Xavier Rodriguez. Weinberg was a Polish Jew who escaped to Russia after his family perished in a Polish concentration camp. In Russia he was mentored by Shostakovich and became a very successful and prolific composer, writing operas, symphonies and chamber music. His lifetime ambition however, was to compose an opera about the Holocaust in remembrance of his family. Shostakovich introduced him to a novel written by Zofia Posmysz, a survivor of Auschwitz. This novel, called Passenger, finally gave him the opportunity to express in music of luminous beauty and tragic power, his own story and the stories of those who struggled to be free from the greatest inhumanity of his time. Unfortunately, the Russian government would not allow the work to be performed, and it was not until 2010, 14 years after the composer’s death, that it had its world premiere. Shostakovich considered it a masterpiece saying, “I understand this opera as a hymn to humanity.”

While the opera is a voyage into history, it is also very much a story of the present day in which man’s inhumanity to man continues unabated. It is only with remembering that the narrative for change can be possible.

Dr. David DiChiera
Founder & Artistic Director
Michigan Opera Theatre

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

R. Jamison Williams
Chairman

Wayne S. Brown
President and CEO

Enrico Digirolamo
Chair, Finance Committee

Cameron B. Duncan
Treasurer

C. Thomas Toppin
Secretary

Enrico Digirolamo

Margaret Allesee
Pernilla Ammann
Joseph Anglieri
Lee Barthel
Richard A. Brodie
Elizabeth Brooks
Robert Brown
James Caroli
Gloria Clark
Joanne Danto
Julia Donovon Darlow
Ethan Davidson
David DiChiera
Sonal Dubey
Cameron Duncan
Michael Einheuser

Marianne Endicott
Paul E. Ewing
Jennifer Fischer
Barbara Frankel
Herman Frankel
Dean Friedman
Richard G. Goetz
John P. Hale
David Handleman
Danielle Karmanos
Barbara Kratchman
Thomas M. Krikorian
Harry Lomason II
Alphonse S. Lucarelli
Donald Manvel
Ali Moin
Nora Moroun
Stephen Munk
Charlotte Podowski
Paul Ragheb
Ruth Rattner
Roy S. Roberts
Bernard Rubin
Ankur Rungta
Elham Shayota
Terry Shea
Matthew Simoncini
Richard Sonenklar
Lorna Thomas
Jesse Venegas
George Vincent

Directors Emeritus
Dale Austin
J. Addison Bartush
Shelly Cooper
Marjorie M. Fisher
Jennifer Nasser
Audrey Rose
William Sandy
Richard Webb

TRUSTEES EMERITI
Eugene and Marcia Applebaum
Agustin Arbulu
Donald and Dale Austin
Marvin A. Frenkel
Preston and Mary Happel
E. Jan and Pat Hartmann
Robert and Wally Klein
Julius and Mary Pollone
William and Marjorie Sandy
Roberta Starkweather
Paul and Janet Victor
Amelia H. Wilhelm
Barbara K. Wingley

FOUNDING MEMBERS
Mr. & Mrs. Lynn A. Townsend, Founding Chairman
Mr. & Mrs. Avern L. Cohn
Dr. & Mrs. John H. DeCarlo
Mr. & Mrs. David DiChiera
Mr.'s & Mrs. Aaron H. Gershenson
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Graves
Mr.'s & Mrs. John C. Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. Harry L. Jones
The Hon. & Mrs. Wade H. McCree, Jr.
Mr. Harry J. Nederlander
Mr. E. Harwood Rydholm
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Snow
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Strichartz
Mr.'s & Mrs.' Robert C. VanderKloot
Dr.'s & Mrs. Sam B. Williams
Mr.'s & Mrs.' Theodore O. Yntema

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2015-2016
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Kenn and Liz Allen
Robert and Margaret Allesee
Sarah Allison
Daniel and Pernilla Ammann
Lourdes V. Andaya
Joseph and Julie Dousse
Karen VanderKloot DiChiera
David DiChiera
Kevin Dennis & Jeremy Ethan and Gretchen
Jerry and Maureen D'Avanzo
Julia D. Darlow and John C. Helen Daoud
Joanne Danto and Arnold Peter and Shelly Cooper
Thomas Cohn
John and Marlene Boll
Gene P. Bowen
Richard and Gwen Bowly
Bety J. Bright
Richard and Joanne Brodie
William and Elizabeth
Brooks
Robert and Geraldine Brown
Wayne S. Brown and Brenda
Kee
Thomas and Vicki Celani
Michael and Mary Chirco
James and Elizabeth Cirioli
Frederick and Gloria Clark
Avern and Lois Cohn
Thomas Cohn
Pam and Shelly Cooper
Joanne Danto and Arnold
Weingarten
Helen Daoud
Julia D. Darlow and John C.
O'Meara
Jerry and Maureen D'Avanzo
Lawrence and Dodie David
Enright and Gretchener
Davidson
Kevin Dennis & Jeremy
Zeltzer
David DiChiera
Karen VanderKloot DiChiera
Enrico and Kathleen
Digirolamo
John and Debbie Dingell
Mary Jane Doerr
Richard A. Brodie
Michael Einheuser
Kenneth and Frances
Eisenberg
Marianne Endicott
Alex Erdeljan
Fern R. Espino and Thomas
short
Paul and Mary Sue Ewing
Margo Cohen Feinberg and
Robert Feinberg
Oscar and Dede Feldman
David and Jennifer Fischer
Marjorie M. Fisher
Carl and Mary Anne Fontana
Eileen Fontana
Barbara Frankel and Ron
Michalak
Herman and Sharon Frankel
Dean and Arvia Friedman
Barbara Garavaglia
Yossif and Mara Ghafari
Richard and Aurora Goetz
Arnold and Carolyn Gordon
Harvey and Reva Grace
Samuel and Toby Haberman
Alice Berberian Haidostian
John and Kristan Hale
David and Rose Handleman
Eugene and Donna Hartwig
Doreen Himmel
Derek and Karen Hodgson
Alan and Eleanor Israel
Una Jackman
Don Jensen and Leo Dovelle
Kent and Amy Jidov
Gary and Gwenn Johnson
Ellen Kahn
Peter and Danielle Karmanos
Patrick J. Kerzic and
Stephanie Germack Kerzic
Michael and Barbara
Kratchman
Thomas and Deborah
Krikorian
Melvin A. Lester
Linda Dresner Levy and
Edward Levy
Kim and Margo Lie
Arthur and Nancy Liebler
Harry and Mary Alice
Lomason II
James and Marion LoPrete
Alphonse S. Lucarelli
Denise Luz
Donald Manvel
Florine Mark
Ronald and Zwezdana
Manella
Jack Martin and Bettye
Arrington-Martin
Florence McBrien
Eugene and Lois Miller
Monica Moffat
Ali Moin and William
Kupsly
Demetra Monolidis
Manuel and Nora Moroun
Stephen and Barbara Munk
E. Michael and Dolores
Mutchler
Allan and Joy Nachman
Irving Barbara Nassbaum
Juliette Okotie-Eboh
Linda Orlans
Graham and Sally Orley
Richard and Debra Partrich
Spencer and Myrna Partrich
Daniel and Margaret Pehrson
Robert E. L. Perkins
Brock and Katherine Plumb
Charles and Charlotte
Podowski
Waltraud Prechter
Paul and Amy Ragheb
John and Terry Rakolta
Ruth F. Rattner
James and Marguerite Rigby
Roy and Maureen Roberts
Patricia H. Rodzik
David and Jacqueline
Roessler
Audrey Rose
Dulcie Rosenfeld
Carolyn L. Ross
Bernard and Donna Rubin
Anthony and Sabrina Rugiero
Ankur Rungta and Mayssoun
Bydon
Hershel and Dorothy
Sandberg
Donald and Kim Schmidt
Alan and Marianne Schwartz
Mark and Lois Shaevsky
Arlene Shaler
Elham Shayota
Terry Shea
Matthew and Mona
Simoncini
William H. Smith
Phyllis F. Snow
David and Cyvia Snyder
Anthony L. Soave
Richard A. Sonenklar and
Gregory Haynes
Mary Ann Stalla
Christine Strumbos
Jonathan Swift
Ronald F. Switzer and Jim F
McClure
Lorna Thomas
C. Thomas and Bernie
Toppin
James G. Vella
Jesse and Yesenia Venegas
Marilyn Victor
George and Inge Vincent
Christopher and Susan
Wilhelm
Barbara Williams
R. Jamison and Karen
Williams
Joan Young and Thomas L.
Schellenberg
Mary Lou Zieve
LA BOHÈME

October 17 - 25, 2015

Music
Giacomo Puccini

Libretto
Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa

World Premiere
Teatro Regio, Turin, Italy, February 1, 1896

Conductor
Leonardo Vordoni

Stage Director
Mario Corradi

Chorus Master
Suzanne Mallare Acton

Set Design
Michael Yeargan

Costume Design
Walter Mahoney

Lighting Design
Christopher Maravich

Hair and Makeup Design
Joanne Weaver

Assistant Director
Kelsey Ross

Stage Manager
Ken Saltzman

Surtitle Translation
Roberto Mauro

Production originally created for San Francisco Opera

The 2015 Fall Opera Season is made possible by Ford Motor Company

This production is made possible through additional support from Ford Motor Company
Act

In order of vocal appearance

Marcello .......................... Rodion Pogossov
Rodolfo ........... Sean Panikkar (Oct. 17, 21, 24)*
                          Eric Margiore (Oct. 25)
Colline ............................ Brent Michael Smith†*
Schaunard ............................. Jeff Byrnes†
Benoit .................................. Thomas Hammons
Mimi ........................................ Nicole Cabell
                          Lina Tetriani*
Alcindoro ............................. Thomas Hammons
Musetta .......................... Marina Costa-Jackson*
Parpignol ......................... Jason Thomas
Custom Officer ........................ Kurt Frank
Sergeant ..................... Brandon C. Sharperson Hood
Boy ............................. Kevyn Roessler (Oct. 17, 24)
                          Natalie Wilson (Oct. 21, 25)

* Michigan Opera Theatre debut
† Michigan Opera Theatre Studio Artist

Synopsis

Act I.

Paris, Christmas Eve, c. 1830. In their Latin Quarter garret, the painter Marcello and poet Rodolfo try to keep warm by burning pages from Rodolfo's latest drama. They are joined by their comrades — Colline, a young philosopher, and Schaunard, a musician who has landed a job and brings food, fuel, and funds. But while they celebrate their unexpected fortune, the landlord, Benoit, arrives to collect the rent. Plying the older man with wine, they urge him to tell of his flirtations, then throw him out in mock indignation. As the friends depart for a celebration at the nearby Café Momus, Rodolfo promises to join them soon, staying behind to finish writing an article. There is another knock: a neighbor, Mimì, says her candle has gone out on the drafty stairs. Offering her wine when she feels faint, Rodolfo relights her candle and helps her to the door. Mimì realizes she has dropped her key, and as the two search for it, both candles are blown out. In the moonlight the poet takes the girl's shivering hand, telling her his dreams. She then recounts her solitary life, embroidering flowers and waiting for spring. Drawn to each other, Mimì and Rodolfo leave for the café.

Act II.

Amid shouts of street hawkers, Rodolfo buys Mimì a bonnet near the Café Momus before introducing her to his friends. They all sit down and order supper. A toy vendor, Parpignol, passes by, besieged by children. Marcello's former lover, Musetta, enters ostentatiously on the arm of the elderly, wealthy Alcindoro. Trying to regain the painter's attention, she sings a waltz about her popularity. Complaining that her shoe pinches, Musetta sends Alcindoro to fetch a new pair, then falls into Marcello's arms. Joining a group of marching soldiers, the Bohemians leave Alcindoro to face the bill when he returns.

Act III.

At dawn on the snowy outskirts of Paris, a Customs Officer admits farm women to the city. Musetta and revelers are heard inside a tavern. Soon Mimì walks by, searching for the place where the reunited Marcello and Musetta now live. When the painter emerges, she pours out her distress over Rodolfo's incessant jealousy. It is best they part, she says. Rodolfo, who has been asleep in the tavern, is heard, and Mimì hides; Marcello thinks she has left. The poet tells Marcello he wants to separate from his fickle sweetheart. Pressed further, he breaks down, saying Mimì is dying; her ill health can only worsen in the poverty they share. Overcome, Mimì stumbles forward to bid her lover farewell as Marcello runs back into the tavern to investigate Musetta's raucous laughter. While Mimì and Rodolfo recall their happiness, Musetta quarrels with Marcello. The painter and his mistress part in fury, but Mimì and Rodolfo decide to stay together until spring.

Act IV.

Some months later, Rodolfo and Marcello lament their loneliness in the garret. Colline and Schaunard bring a meager meal. The four stage a dance, which turns into a mock fight. The merrymaking is ended when Musetta bursts in, saying Mimì is downstairs, too weak to climb up. As Rodolfo runs to her, Musetta tells how Mimì has begged to be taken to her lover to die. While Mimì is made comfortable, Marcello goes with Musetta to sell her earrings for medicine, and Colline leaves to pawn his cherished overcoat. Alone, Mimì and Rodolfo recall their first days together, but she is seized with coughing. When the others return, Musetta gives Mimì a muff to warm her hands and prays for her life. Mimì dies quietly, and when Schaunard discovers she is dead, Rodolfo runs to her side, calling her name.

— courtesy of Opera News

Cast

In order of vocal appearance

Marcello .......................... Rodion Pogossov
Rodolfo ........... Sean Panikkar (Oct. 17, 21, 24)*
                          Eric Margiore (Oct. 25)
Colline ............................ Brent Michael Smith†*
Schaunard ............................. Jeff Byrnes†
Benoit .................................. Thomas Hammons
Mimi ........................................ Nicole Cabell
                          Lina Tetriani*
Alcindoro ............................. Thomas Hammons
Musetta .......................... Marina Costa-Jackson*
Parpignol ......................... Jason Thomas
Custom Officer ........................ Kurt Frank
Sergeant ..................... Brandon C. Sharperson Hood
Boy ............................. Kevyn Roessler (Oct. 17, 24)
                          Natalie Wilson (Oct. 21, 25)

* Michigan Opera Theatre debut
† Michigan Opera Theatre Studio Artist
Suzanne Mallare Acton
Chorus Master

As Chorus Master of MOT, Suzanne Acton has received wide critical acclaim for her choral direction involving more than 125 productions in seven languages. Conducting credits include Frida, West Side Story, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Music Man, Pirates of Penzance, The Mikado, Daughter of the Regiment, Carmen, La Traviata, Les Pêcheurs de Perles and Carmina Burana with The Medium for MOT; My Fair Lady and La Traviata for Dayton Opera; Merry Widow and Madame Butterfly for Artpark; and Tosca for Augusta Opera. As founding Director of the MOT Children’s Chorus, Ms. Acton was instrumental in developing the inaugural 2007-08 season. She is also the Artistic and Music Director of metro Detroit's Rackham Choir.

Nicole Cabell
Mimi (October 17, 21, 24)

Nicole Cabell's current season includes her debut at the Grand Théâtre de Genève in the title-role of Handel’s Alcina and returns to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Violetta in La Traviata, to the Atlanta Opera as Juliette in Roméo et Juliette, and to the Cincinnati Opera in a new role: Rosalinde in Die Fledermaus. Ms. Cabell will perform Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and a solo recital in Baltimore. Future projects include a debut with the Sydney Symphony and David Robertson as Bess in Porgy and Bess and a return to the Cincinnati Opera. Ms. Cabell’s last season included semi-staged concerts of Don Giovanni with Edo de Waart and the Milwaukee Symphony, her Opéra National de Paris debut (and role debut) as Mimi in La Bohème and Adina in L'Elisir d'Amore with the Minnesota Opera as well as a return to Washington Concert Opera as Giulietta in I Capuleti ed i Montecchi. In concert, she was heard with the Boston Symphony Orchestra in Villa-Lobos' Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5, with the Orchestre National de Lille in Poulenc's Stabat Mater, with the San Diego Symphony in Strauss’ Four Last Songs, with the London Symphony Orchestra in Debussy's La Damoselle Elue, as Bess in an abridged version of Porgy and Bess at Ravinia with Bobby McFerrin and at the Oregon Bach Festival in Mahler’s Symphony No. 2.

Mario Corradi
Stage Director

Mario Corradi made his MOT debut in 1996 staging Carmen and most recently directed the fall 2013 production of La Traviata for the company. He began his theatrical career with the Yale University Theatre but, as he could not get rid of his (slight) Italian accent, he moved from acting to directing. Beginning with his debut in Palermo in 1982 with Cimarosa’s Il Matrimonio Segreto, Mr. Corradi has worked on all continents except Australia and has added more than 50 titles to his repertoire. Since 1995, he has returned to MOT nearly every year and hopes to continue to do so.
Thomas Hammons
Benoit/Alcindoro

Thomas Hammons has been acclaimed throughout the United States, Canada, and across Europe, for the depth and richness of his portrayals and the strength and beauty of his singing. A versatile singing actor, Mr. Hammons has an active repertoire of over 60 roles spanning a variety of genres from the classical buffo repertoire, to the world of contemporary music, to modern musical theater. He made his debut at The Metropolitan Opera as Sacristan in Tosca during the 1996-97 Season, and took part in the premiere of Jonathan Miller’s acclaimed production of Le nozze di Figaro. He has returned to The Met in over 250 performances since, most recently for Lulu, Le nozze di Figaro, and La Bohème. This season, Mr. Hammons will perform the role of Benoit/Alcindoro in La Bohème and in the world premiere of Shalimar the Clown at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, and Candy in Of Mice and Men at Austin Lyric Opera.

Marina Costa-Jackson
Musetta

Soprano Marina Costa-Jackson is a 2015 Met Opera National Council winner. In the fall of 2015 she makes her professional debut as Musetta with Michigan Opera Theatre in La Bohème, sings Verdi’s Requiem with Teatro Municipal de Santiago and debuts the role of Leonora in Il Trovatore in Hong Kong. In 2017 she makes her European debut as Elisabetta in Don Carlo with Opera Köln, followed by her debut with the Welsh National Opera as Mimi. With the Academy of Vocal Arts she has performed Amelia in Un Ballo in Mascherata and Liza in Tchaikovsky’s Pique Dame, and performed various concerts with the Delaware Symphony Orchestra and Opera Philadelphia. This past season at AVA, she sang Mimi in La Bohème and Marguerite in Faust, and performed in concert with Andrea Bocelli at Madison Square Garden in New York and with Dmitri Hvorostovsky in Moscow and Minsk. Ms. Costa-Jackson studied Vocal Performance at Utah State University, the University of Utah, and privately in Italy. Currently she studies with Bill Schuman and was a 2014 Belvedere finalist. She has received grants from the Giulio Gari Foundation, the Licia Albanese- Puccini Foundation, the Mario Lanza Institute, the Sergio Franchi Music Foundation, the George London Foundation, and the Giangiari Bel Canto Competition.

Christopher Maravich
Lighting Designer

Christopher Maravich is currently the Lighting Director of the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and served as San Francisco Opera’s Lighting Director from 2006 to 2012, where he has created lighting designs for many productions including The Gospel of Mary Magdalene, Cost Fan Tutti, Turandot, Cyrano de Bergerac, Le Nozze di Figaro, Salome, Il Trittico, Tosca, Simon Boccanegra, Don Giovanni, Nixon in China, and Attila. He has collaborated on the lighting designs for Doktor Faust at Staatsoper Stuttgart, Tannhäuser for the Greek National Opera, and La Fanciulla del West, The Makropulos Case, The Daughter of the Regiment, Il Trovatore, Die Tote Stadt, Ariodante, Samson and Delilah, and Macbeth all for San Francisco Opera. Maravich has also designed lighting for Florida Grand Opera, Opera Colorado, San Diego Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Cal Performances, and Opera San José to name a few.

Eric Margiore
Rodolfo (October 25)

Lyric tenor Eric Margiore, who was praised by Opera News for his “brilliance and style, brio and high-octane vocalism,” last appeared with MOT in the company’s debut of A View from the Bridge in 2013. Mr. Margiore is establishing himself as an international contender in the principal Italian bel canto and romantic tenor repertoire. In the 2013-2014 season, Mr. Margiore performed his debut with the Canadian Opera Company as Rodolfo in La Bohème, and as Pinkerton in Madama Butterfly at the Glimmerglass Festival.

Sean Panikkar
Rodolfo (October 17, 21, 24)

Sean Panikkar is recognized for his “surpassing musicality and passion, commanding self-confidence and gorgeous expression.” The American tenor of Sri Lankan heritage made his Metropolitan
Opera debut under the baton of James Levine in Manon Lescaut and his European operatic debut in Mozart’s Zaide at the Aix-en-Provence Festival in a production directed by Peter Sellars and conducted by Louis Langrée. Mr. Panikkar opens 2013-16 at Michigan Opera Theatre as Rodolfo in La Bohème and he continues the season with the Washington National Opera in Lost in the Stars, Kurt Weill’s gripping musical tragedy based on Alan Paton’s classic 1948 novel Cry, the Beloved Country. The tenor sings in the world premieres of JFK at the Fort Worth Opera and as the title role of Shalimar the Clown with Opera Theatre of St. Louis. Symphonic highlights include Berlioz’s Roméo et Juliette with David Robertson and the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Sean Panikkar is a member of Forte, the operatic tenor group created in 2013 and seen by tens of millions of television viewers in national broadcasts of America’s Got Talent on NBC. He holds Master’s and Bachelor degrees in Voice Performance from the University of Michigan.

**Rodion Pogossov**

Marcello

Russian born baritone Rodion Pogossov joined the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program at the beginning of his early career, for the 2000-01 season. He went on to make his Carnegie Hall debut with The Metropolitan Opera Chamber Ensemble, singing Stravinsky’s Renard under the baton of James Levine and the following season gave his first Carnegie Hall recital. From here, his outstanding career unfolded. Now based in New York, he regularly sings the roles of Guglielmo in Così fan tutte and has done so with Glyndebourne and at the MET. Other major operatic roles include Figaro in Il Barbiere di Siviglia which he has sung in houses across the world, including at the Hamburg State Opera, Teatro Municipal de Santiago, Michigan Opera Theatre and Metropolitan Opera. As a recording artist, his discography includes his solo recital disc for EMI Debüt Series which received great acclaim and was followed by Rachmaninov songs with pianist Iain Burnside, released in February 2014 and Adelson e Salvini with Opera Rara. Rodion will perform Pagliacci at the MET, before returning to the UK for Adelson e Salvini at Opera Rara and Carmina Burana with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Lina Tetriani**

Mimi (October 25)

Lina Tetriani has been praised for her glowing, rich timbre as well as her intense dramatic abilities. Recent successes include her interpretation of the role of Lora in Wagner’s rarely heard first opera, Die Feen, under the baton of Marc Minkowski at the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris. She returned to the Châtelet for the world première of Howard Shore’s opera The Fly, and in the title role of Norma. Other engagements include Lito in Seattle Opera’s Turandot, Magda Sorel in Menotti’s The Consul at Opera New Jersey, the title role in Suor Angelica at Opera on the James, Cio-Cio San in Madama Butterfly with Mobile Opera and Hawaii Opera.

---

**Volunteers**

Dear Friends of Michigan Opera Theatre,

Greetings from the MOT Volunteer Association (MOTVA) as we begin our 2015-2016 Season!

I have been an opera lover for many years and Michigan Opera Theatre is very important to me. That’s why I have been a proud MOT volunteer for nearly 30 seasons. I am very proud to be a small part of our world-class company which showcases some of the most diverse opera and innovative dance series in the country. As we are all aware, these performances require the collaboration of many, especially those who help out behind the scenes. Our founder, Dr. David DiChiera, has often said, “Volunteers are the lifeblood of our company.”

If you are not yet a volunteer, please consider joining us! Volunteering is a great way to meet other interesting and involved people. Our key volunteer groups do everything from ushering and guiding tours, to hosting events and planning sold-out fundraisers.

Your tax-deductible MOTVA membership entitles you to participate in our individual volunteer groups. For membership information please view the MOTVA webpage at http://www.michiganopera.org/working-with-us/volunteer, or call Christina Wagner at (313) 237-3236. Christina would be very happy to discuss volunteer opportunities with you, and connect your interests with the appropriate volunteer group.

To those of you who currently support us through generous gifts of time and resources, I offer my sincere thanks.

I hope you enjoy the 2015-2016 season. We look forward to working with you and thank you for your interest and involvement in the Michigan Opera Theatre Volunteer Association.

Terry Shea, President, MOTVA

---

**MOTVA Executive Committee**

Terry Shea, President
Cheryl McIlhon, Vice President
Nancy Moore, Secretary
Steven Marlette, Past President
Dodie David, Past President
Betty Brooks, Past President
Gloria Clark, Past President
Gwen Bowlby, Treasurer

**MOTVA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs**

Dominic Arellano, Young OperaHouse Council
Helen Arnoldi-Rowe, Divas/Divos
Kathie Booth, Ushers
Gloria Clark, Opera League
Dodie David, Opera League
Leo Dovelette, Boutique
Don Jensen, Special Events and Soirees
Amy Jidov, Special Events
Annette Marchesi, Publicity
Myrna Mazure, Operations & Ambassadors
Cheryl McIlhon, Dance Council
Curtis Posuniak, Board Member

---

**BravoBravo!**

2014 Co-Chairs
Megan Davis
Olga Gamburg
Will Robinson

**2015 OPERAtors**

Helen Arnoldi-Rowe
Gwen Bowly
Gloria Clark
Dodie David
Marianne Endicott
Sissinio Ferandos
Alan Israel
Amy Jidov
Delphine Kerney
Glen & Linda Moon
John Novak
Marguerite in Faust at Opera Naples and in concert in Beijing, Magda in La Rondine and Violetta in La Traviata at Sarasota Opera, and Kupava in The Snow Maiden for Wexford Festival Opera.

Leonardo Vordoni
Conductor
Maestro Leonardo Vordoni led a splendidly nuanced reading of verve and melting grace,” raved Opera News of his Chicago Opera Theatre début conducting Mosè in Egitto. In recent seasons, Vordoni made débuts at Houston Grand Opera conducting I barbiere di Siviglia; Canadian Opera Company conducting La Cenerentola; and Lyric Opera of Chicago conducting Le nozze di Figaro, where the Chicago Tribune wrote “Mindful of the singers’ needs, he infused the orchestral playing with crisp vitality and shapely phrasing.” He also conducted L’elisir d’amore at Minnesota Opera and L’italiana in Algeri at Lyric Opera Kansas City. This season, he will be returning to Opera Santa Barbara for L’elisir d’amore. Abroad, Vordoni debuted at the prestigious Wexford Opera Festival conducting Pedrotti’s Tutti in maschera giving what critics called a “scintillating performance.” Additionally, he led performances of Don Pasquale at Teatro Comunale di Bologna, and Anna Bolena for Opéra National de Bordeaux.

Joanne Weaver
Wig and Makeup Designer
Born in England, Joanne Weaver came over to the United States in the late 1980s. She began apprenticing with what was then Washington Opera, now Washington National Opera. Ms. Weaver has since designed at many Opera companies throughout the United States, including Glimmerglass Opera, Central City Opera, Sarasota Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and Des Moines Metro Opera. Her notable MOT credits include Frida, The Merry Widow, Faust, Margaret Garner, Cyrano, and Pearl Fishers. Weaver has been invited to design wigs for Sarasota Opera’s upcoming spring season, which will complete the Verdi Cycle they began in 1989.

Michael Yeargan
Production Designer
Michael Yeargan designed his first opera production in 1970 — La Bohème at the Nevada Opera Company. His opera sets have been seen at the Metropolitan Opera, the Seattle Opera, the LA Opera, the San Francisco Opera, the Houston Opera, Glimmerglass, and the New York City Opera, as well as the Royal Opera at Covent Garden in London, the Welsh National Opera, the Scottish Opera, the Théâtre musical de Paris, the Frankfurt Opera, and Opera Australia. Mr. Yeargan’s Broadway credits include Seascape, the Light in the Piazza, South Pacific, Awake and Sing, Ah, Wilderness, and Joe Turner’s Come and Gone, as well as numerous productions Off-Broadway and in regional theatres throughout the United States. His set designs won the 2005 Tony Award for Light in the Piazza and a Tony nomination and Drama Desk Award for Awake and Sing. He is the resident set designer at the Yale Repertory Theatre and is a long-time Professor of Stage Design at Yale School of Drama.

What’s in a Song?
Martin Katz
CURATOR AND PIANIST
Including appearances by Jamie Barton, mezzo-soprano; Jesse Blumberg, baritone; Janai Brugger, soprano; David Daniels, countertenor; William Ferguson, tenor; Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano; Friday, January 8 // 8 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
PROGRAM
Includes works of Turina, Chausson, Schubert, Dvořák, and Rachmaninoff

Jamie Barton
MEZZO-SOPRANO
Martin Katz
PIANO
Sunday, January 10 // 4 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
PROGRAM
Includes works of Turina, Chausson, Schubert, Dvořák, and Rachmaninoff

SUPPORTED BY
Maurice and Linda Binkow

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
UMS.ORG / 734.764.2538
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN | ANN ARBOR

BE PRESENT

Michigan Opera Theatre
www.MichiganOpera.org
Michigan Opera Theatre is a company unafraid of innovation. When Dr. David DiChiera founded MOT in 1971, there was no indication that an opera company could thrive in blue-collar Detroit as it has done. The splendid Detroit Opera House was created out of a moldering 1920s movie palace that had for years been ignored as a mere ruin. The theatre has now seen the successful world premieres of groundbreaking operas. In November, Detroit will be only the third city in America to host a full production of Mieczyslaw Weinberg's *The Passenger*. And this season, the company is setting forth on another entirely new enterprise: an artists' training program called the Michigan Opera Theatre Studio.

The Studio provides advanced development and performance opportunities for a select group of young artists. From September to June each season, MOTs Studio Artists will gain valuable experience through appearances in main stage productions and community programs, and will hone their vocal and dramatic craft by training with an array of brilliant guest coaches and performers. MOT has had an apprentice artist program for years, but never one so intensive as this, which amounts to a full-time job for the Studio Artists. Their schedules will be full with master classes, rehearsals, chances to interact with and perform for Detroiter's of all stripes, and workshops in which the hope is that they will learn as much from each other as from their talented teachers.
MOT is dedicating many hours and resources to the program, banking on the belief that such investment in young talent today will foster a rich and exciting operatic scene tomorrow. According to Richard Leech, newly named Director of Resident Artist Programs and himself a celebrated lyric tenor who made his Metropolitan Opera début as Rodolfo in La Bohème in 1989, opera is all about taking such chances, all about reaching ever increasing heights. The program will encourage the singers to do the same. “Young artists are so talented and well-trained,” Leech tells us. “They could be surgeons by now, for how long they’ve studied. But then, too often, they plateau. Along the way, they need opportunities, like this one, to take a chance and rise to the next level. That’s what’s unique about opera: the importance of taking chances, of going out on that stage and trying something new, of being vulnerable and in the moment—that’s what grabs the audience.”

And the inaugural Studio Artists, five singers and one coach-accompanist, are men and women who are ready to grab the proverbial bull by its operatic horn-helmet. Vocal coach and accompanist Gordon Craig Schermer of Pittsburgh has performed all over the world—Canada, Austria, Italy, Israel—but now his talents bring him back stateside as a collaborative pianist here at the Detroit Opera House. Soprano Angela Theis of Grosse Pointe Woods is a hometown girl, admired by MOT audiences for such roles as the jailer’s sprightly daughter Marzelline in 2013’s Fidelio, but also quickly gaining regard throughout the country. Tenor Joseph Michael Brent of New York is described by Leech as “the real deal” (and he would know!). Owosso, Michigan’s Brent Michael Smith, though his name sounds a lot like Brent’s, sings the opposite end of the male vocal spectrum, being possessed of a rich bass voice. Jeff Byrnes of Louisiana was once a bass, too, having sung the Old Servant in MOT’s Elektra in 2014, but will be assuming a more youthful energy this year in the baritone role of the musician Schaunard in La Bohème. “The Studio environment will be a wonderful atmosphere for him to make the transition and explore this higher repertoire,” says Leech. And mezzo-soprano Rachann Bryce-Davis of Texas, is described by Leech as “a wonderful asset to the program. She absolute stole the night in the closing concert of the Merola Opera Program this summer.”

At the Merola Program, a San Francisco “proving ground for the future of opera,” Bryce-Davis tells us she was delighted to sing excerpts from Verdi’s Don Carlo, but is “especially looking forward” to performing her first full Verdi opera this season at MOT. She is scheduled to sing the role of the Lady-in-Waiting in Macbeth, April 2016. “Nothing beats the Verdian thrill of an incredible orchestra joining with exhilarating voices to bring edge-of-your seat excitement,” says Bryce-Davis.

Exciting, edge-of-your-seat, a brand-new venture…this merry mezzo might as well be describing the MOT Studio itself! So plant yourselves on that stage, newly dubbed Studio Artists. Sing out and fill that glorious hall. Take chances. MOT shall be taking one right alongside you.
Michigan Opera Theatre Studio Artists

The six resident artists of Michigan Opera Theatre Studio represent some of the most exciting emerging talent in opera today. Coming to Detroit from all different areas of the country, from September to June, these young opera professionals gain valuable experience through myriad performance opportunities in main stage and community productions, and hone their skills through master classes and training with an array of world class professionals, guest artists, and coaches. Throughout their residency, studio artists benefit from the advice and guidance of Dr. David DiChiera and receive advanced individual training from MOT’s newly named Director of Resident Artist Programs, celebrated American tenor, Richard Leech.

Supported by a major grant from the William Davidson Foundation, the program will serve as a central component of MOT’s enhanced presence in the community through our productions in the Detroit Opera House, community venues, and through recitals and special events. An important and unique element of the program is that MOT’s community initiative productions are now selected and mounted specifically for the Studio Program. This season the studio artists will fill leading and featured roles in MOT’s production of Aaron Copland’s The Tender Land, the second installment, following last season’s Frida, of MOT’s community initiative to annually produce an opera outside of the Detroit Opera House in venues throughout metro Detroit.

Marc Scorca, President and CEO of Opera America said the program “will add an important dimension to the American training infrastructure and another element to MOT’s broad community service.”

Angela Theis
Soprano

Soprano Angela Theis has captivated the attention of international audiences and critics alike, while remaining active in her hometown Detroit area. She has appeared frequently with Michigan Opera Theatre, and this year will perform several roles with the company. A highlight of her career was when David DiChiera, founder of Michigan Opera Theatre, personally chose her to perform his own compositions both at his 2013 Kresge Eminent Artist award presentation and his 2015 tribute concert at the Detroit Opera House.

Last season, Ms. Theis sang Pamina in the Magic Flute School Programs Tour (The Metropolitan Opera Guild), Adina in L’elisir d’amore (Eugene Opera), and Clorinda in La Cenerentola (Opera Roanoke). Other operatic roles have included Mabel in Pirates of Penzance (Eugene Opera), Johanna in Sweeney Todd (Syracuse Opera), and Frasquita in Carmen with (Opera Roanoke). On the concert stage, Ms. Theis has been a frequent guest soloist with Utah Symphony (including Handel's Messiah), the soprano soloist for Richard Einhorn's Voices of Light at the Detroit Institute of Arts, twice, a guest artist with the AIMS Festival Orchestra in Austria.

A district winner of the 2012 Metropolitan Opera Council Auditions, she also won the Audience Choice Award at the 2013 Meistersinger Competition in Austria. Of her Zerlina in Don Giovanni with the New England Conservatory of Music, The Boston Globe referred to her performance as “bright, bold, and beguilingly sung.” Ms. Theis completed a postgraduate fellowship in Salzburg, Austria, and holds degrees from New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Notre Dame.

Raehann Bryce-Davis
Mezzo Soprano

Raehann Bryce-Davis has been hailed by the New York Times as a “striking mezzo soprano” that “sang and spoke potently and moved vivaciously.” Of her Santuzza at the Merola Opera Program Grand Finale, the San Francisco Chronicle raved of the “electrifying sense of fearlessness” to the singing and that “Bryce-Davis infused her performance with a wealth of emotional and vocal color — now insinuating, now ablaze with righteous fury.”

Winner of the 2015 9th International Hilde Zadek Competition at the Musikverein in Vienna and the 2015 Sedat Gürel - Güzin Gürül International Voice Competition in Istanbul, Ms. Bryce-Davis entered the European music scene this spring making quite a splash. In addition to winning the Zadek competition, she also walked away with the Supporters and Sponsors Prize, the Media Jury prize, a master class with Christa Ludwig, and a gala concert at Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe in Germany. She was a 2013-15 Florida Grand Opera Young Artist and 2015 Merola Opera Program Participant. Opera credits include Lily in Porgy and Bess at Grand Théâtre de Genève, Mama McCourt in The Ballad of Baby Doe with Chautauqua Opera, Albine in Thais at Florida Grand Opera, the Owl in the American Premiere of Unsuk Chin’s Alice in Wonderland with Opera Theatre Saint Louis, Zita in Gianni Schicchi at Florida Grand Opera, the Nurse in Decoration by Mikael Karlsson with American Opera Projects, Countess in Tchaikovsky’s Pique Dame with Russian Opera Workshop at the Academy of Vocal Arts, and Marcellina in Le Nozze di Figaro with Opera on the Avalon.

With the Manhattan School of Music Opera Theatre, credits include Begbick in Weill’s Rise and Fall of Mahagonny, Albine in Thais, Candelas in El Amor Brujo, and Carmela in La Vida Breve.

Joseph Michael Brent
Tenor

In February of 2014 Mr. Brent made his role debut as Nemorino in the University of Georgia Opera Theater’s production of Donizetti’s L’elisir d’amore. Nemorino marked Mr. Brent’s ninth leading tenor role with the UGA Opera Theater, under the
direction of Metropolitan Opera Baritone Frederick Burchinal. Additionally, he was named the first recipient of the Carl Hoveland Opera Fellowship 2013/2014.

Mr. Brent had two major debuts in November of 2013. He made his Carnegie Hall debut singing the roles of Wagner and Nereo in The Collegiate Chorale's presentation of Boito's Mefistofele and his role debut as Don Jose in Carmen with the UGA Opera Theater. In the Summer of 2013 Mr. Brent sang the title role in Jacques Offenbach's fantastamagorical Les Contes d'Hoffmann (The Tales of Hoffmann) with the Martin Arroyo Foundation's Prelude to Performance program. Throughout the summer he performed excerpts from the Les Contes d'Hoffmann, including three live-streamed master classes for opera super-stars Eric Owens, Richard Leech and Maestro Tito Capobianco. Following the success of Mr. Brent's Hoffmann, he was invited, by the New York-based Collegiate Chorale, under the direction of James Bagwell, to sing at the Verbier Festival in Switzerland. Mr. Brent returned to the University of Georgia in August 2013 to complete a Doctor of Music degree.

JEFF BYRNEs
Baritone

Baritone Jeff Byrnes is excited to return to Michigan Opera Theatre this season as a Studio Artist. Last season, Jeff performed the role of Old Servant in Elektra and The Bronze in Madama Butterfly. Prior to joining MOT, he performed the role of Owen Hart in Dead Man Walking with Dayton Opera, and he covered Germont in La Traviata and Balsirode in Peter Grimes with Des Moines Metro Opera. Other operatic highlights include Leporello in Don Giovanni and the title role in The Mikado with the Natchez Opera Festival, and Figaro in Le Nozze di Figaro, Sprecher in Die Zauberflöte, and Pilate in St. John Passion with CCM Opera. He was a regional finalist in the Rocky Mountain Region of the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions in 2014, and he was awarded the Encouragement Award in the New Orleans district in 2010. Jeff has also participated in the young artist programs at Dayton Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, and the Seagle Music Colony. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and Louisiana State University. This season at MOT, he appears as Schaunard in La Bohème and Top in The Tender Land.

BRENT MICHAEL SMITH
Bass

As a Studio Artist with Michigan Opera Theatre, this season Brent will be singing Colline in La Bohème and the Grandpa in The Tenderland among other roles.

He was an Apprentice Artist with Des Moines Metro Opera this summer, where his performance as Billy Jackrabbit in La fanciulla del West received critical acclaim by Opera News as a “standout.” Colorado Music Buzz praised him for “making the most of his brief appearances.”

This year, Brent sang Harry Hopkins in the world premiere of Daron Hagen's A Woman in Morroco, as a part of Kentucky Opera's American Opera Initiative, and was an Apprentice Artist with Sarasota Opera where he covered Charles V/The Monk in Don Carlos as well as sang in scenes from Fidelio, Litalia in Algeri and I Lombardi.

In 2014, Brent sang the role Jim Larkens in Kentucky Opera's production of La fanciulla del West, as well as Doctor Grenvil in their touring production of La Traviata. Additionally he made his debut with Central City Opera, as an Apprentice Artist, singing Antonio in their production of Le nozze di Figaro.

Brent sang Balthazar in Amahl and the Night Visitors with the University of Northern Iowa, where he received his Masters of music under the tutelage of John Hines. He received his Bachelor's in music in piano performance from Hope College (Holland, MI). While at Hope, he studied voice with Linda Dykstra and sang Harry Easter in Street Scene.

Brent is a first-place winner in the Grand Rapids Opera Competition (2012).

GORDON SCHERMER
Coach/Accompanist

Gordon Schermer is an extremely versatile musician equally at home in opera, art song, musical theater and chamber music. His performances have taken him across the United States as well as Canada, Italy, Austria and Israel. He has performed in venues such as Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall and Steinway Hall in New York and the Salle Bourgie in Montréal. In Montréal, he helped recreate a unique two piano transcription of Poulenc's Les Mamelles de Tirésias originally arranged by Benjamin Britten for the Aldeburgh Festival. He has been a fellowship coach at the Aspen Music Festival and School where he served as the children's chorus master for Puccini's La Bohème and rehearsal pianist/coach for Britten's The Rape of Lucretia. In addition, he was also chosen to play the Verdi Requiem for renowned conductor Leonard Slatkin. He was selected as the official accompanist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in the Central Illinois district in both 2006 and 2007. Mr. Schermer has appeared in master classes given by Marilyn Horne, Sherrill Milnes, Thomas Hampson, Ben Heppner, Catherine Malfitano and Nathan Gunn among others. A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Mr. Schermer comes to us from New York City. He has served as an adjunct professor at Montclair State University, vocal coach at Manhattan School of Music and staff pianist at the Bard College Conservatory of Music. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master's Degree in Accompanying from Manhattan School of Music. His teachers have included Ian Hobson, Kenneth Merrill and John Wustman.
Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra — La Bohème

VIOLIN I
Andrew Wu*
  Acting Concertmaster
Velda Kelly*
Bryan Johnston*
  Acting Assistant
  Concertmaster
Emily Barkakati*
Charlotte Merkerson*
Beth Kaufman*
Molly Hughes*
Jenny Wan

VIOLIN II
Victoria Haltom**
Daniel Stachyra*
Anna Bittar-Weller*
Tracy Dunlop
Janet Sullins
Judith Teasdle

VIOLA
Scott Stefanko**
Kathleen Grimes*
James Greer
Julianne Zinn
Barbara Zmich-McClellan*

CELLO
Nadine Deleury**
Stefan Koch
Daniel Thomas*
Andrea Yun
Eugene Zenzen

BASS
Derek Weller*
  Clark Suttle*
  Robert Stiles

BANDA
Neil Mueller
Charles Saenz
Charles Ricotta

FLUTE
Amanda Blaikie**
Dennis Carter
Laura Larson*

PIECOLO
Laura Larson*

OBOE
Nermis Mieses**
Stephanie Shapiro
Sally Heffelfinger-Pituch*

ENGLISH HORN
Sally Heffelfinger-Pituch**

CLARINET
Brian Bowman**
Chad Burrow
J. William King*

BASSOON
Paweł Wnuk*
Gregory Quick*

HORN
Andrew Pelletier**
Carrie Banfield*
David Denniston
Tamara Kosinski

TRUMPETS
David Ammer**
Gordon Simmons*
Derek Lockhart

TROMBONE
Tyler Vahldick**
Greg Near*

BASS TROMBONE
Gary Hellick
Bryan Pokorney

TIMPANI
Alison Chang**

PERCUSSION
John Dorsey**
David Taylor
Dan Maslanka

HARP
Patricia Terry-Ross**

* Principal
+ Michigan Opera Theatre Core Orchestra

Be a source of hope. Help find a cure for bipolar disorder.

What makes a person bipolar, prone to manic highs and depressed lows? We are advancing research on the personalized treatment of this illness that affects close to 6 million Americans.

Make your donation at:
PrechterFund.org/help
1-877-UM-GENES

Michigan Opera Theatre Chorus — La Bohème

Soprano
Brandy Adams
Alaina Brown
Alexandria Clark
Fidelia Esther
Darmahkasih
Danae Picklo
Jessica Pistor
Jennifer Zabelsky
Heidi Zook

Tenor
Gregory Ashe
Fred Buchalter

Michael Fowler
Richard Jackson
Adrian Leskiw
Brad Miller
Jason Thomas
Jeffrey Wilkinson

Alto
Yvonne Friday
Helen Hass
Mimi Lanseur
Rachel McIntosh
Anna Nadasky
Amanda O’Toole

Diane Schoff
Tamara Whitty

Bass
Kurt Frank
Branden Hood
Matthew Konopacki
Pette Moore
Paolo Pacheco
David Twigg
Justin Watson
Norman Weber

The American Guild of Musical Artists is the official union of the Michigan Opera Theatre Chorus.
“The combined power of all of these people is extraordinary. Art can unite. Music can make a difference; Opera can serve as a catalyst for productive dialogue. We honor our community partners who are joining us on this journey with The Passenger.”

—WAYNE S. BROWN, President & CEO of Michigan Opera Theatre
Michigan Opera Theatre Children’s Chorus (MOTCC) is a ground breaking ensemble and first of its kind for Metro Detroit children. Founded in 2007, the MOTCC with children ranging from 8-16 years old has charmed audiences of all ages, embracing diverse cultures and traditions in an extensive range of genres from folk songs to opera. Come see the MOTCC perform!

MOTCC Principal Chorus

Michigan Opera Theatre Children’s Chorus Performing in La Bohème

Oct. 17, 24, 2015
Melody Balos
Shiloh Beaton
Brooke Bugajewski
Lacey Cooper
Miranda Cancelosi
Katherine Fuller
Lilly Geer
Nina Georgeff
Jayla Granger
Emma Guzman
Mary Jordan
Rebecca Lucksom
Emily Mackinnon
Emma McDonald
Elliana Michaels

Oct. 21, 25
Matteo Papadopoulos
Owen Pichla
Samantha Radman
Kevyn Roessler
Laura Rosales
Caitlin Simonds
Noah Trudeau
Natalie Watson

Oct. 21, 25
Alexandra Beck
Ryan Blankenburg
Armando Crespo
Portteia Davidson
Xaneveya Davidson
Kristen D’Souza
Edward Eichenhorn
Jaeden Footitt

MOTCC Staff
Suzanne Mallare Acton, Director
Dianna Hochella, Assistant Director, Principal Chorus Conductor
Annie Klark, Preparatory Chorus Conductor
Twannette Nash, Chorus Administrator
Joseph Jackson, Principal Chorus Accompanist
John Pavik, Preparatory Chorus Accompanist

Jehnya Footitt
Soleil Garcia-Johnson
Memphis Griffin
Alexander Honable
JT Langlas
Molly Levin
Reagan Marinucci
Stephanie Martin
Rachel Miltimore
Nadia Morman-Williams
Katherine Moses
Amber Ohlsson
Raquel Segars
Lauren Trainor
Benjamin Ward
Violet Whitmore
Natalie Wilson

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES:

La Bohème
Giacomo Puccini
Detroit Opera House
October 17-25, 2015

Ethan Bortnick Live in Concert
Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Dearborn
Tuesday, October 27, 2015 7 PM

A Winter Fantasy: Holiday Concert & Fundraiser
Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 3 PM
Ring in the season with beautiful choral music sung by the MOTCC. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. to register for silent auction at 3 p.m.

Tickets are $30 for adults 18 and older, $50 for box seats, $15 for ages 5 and older, and free for children 4 and younger. Tickets include entrance to the concert, silent auction, and a variety of delectable desserts.

The Mikado — MOTCC Children’s Opera
By: Gilbert and Sullivan
Synopsis: This beloved, hilarious Gilbert & Sullivan operetta has been re-imagined for a younger generation. Be prepared for an explosion of fun and color on stage with Japanese anime mixed with Candyland.

Student Dress Rehearsal
Friday, April 29, 2016
11 a.m. at the Detroit Opera House
Tickets (must be purchased in advance): $10/Student; 1 FREE Chaperone ticket for every 10 tickets, if purchased the day of rehearsal: $15 students; $25 adults

Public Performance:
Saturday, April 30
2:30 p.m. at the Detroit Opera House
Tickets: Adult: $30, Children: $15

For more information about the MOTCC and to order tickets visit www.motcc.org or contact MOTCC Chorus Administrator, Twannette Nash at tnash@motopera.org
Ensuring the Future

Imagine a gift that outlives you—that touches future generations in your absence—to experience and enjoy the world of opera.

That's the goal of the Avanti Society, Michigan Opera Theatre's Planned Gift Recognition Program. The Avanti Society represents a designated group of friends of Michigan Opera Theatre who have made plans to include the organization in their estate plans—whether by will, trust, insurance, or life income arrangement. Membership in the Avanti Society is open to all.

Members of the Avanti Society receive a beautifully designed lapel pin, recognition at the annual Avanti Evening and invitations to special events and performances, and are listed as members in our program books throughout each season.

AN AVANTI FOR TOMORROW

The growth of Michigan Opera Theatre's permanent Endowment Fund ensures the growth and future vitality of one of the region's greatest cultural assets. You are invited to create your own legacy—your Avanti—through Michigan Opera Theatre.

Estate of Mr. Douglas Allison
Estate of Ms. Anne E. Ford
Estate of Ms. Rema Frankel

THE AVANTI SOCIETY MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Allesee #
Mrs. Adel Amerman* # +
Dr. Lourdes V. Andaya*
Mr. & Mrs. Agustin Arbulu*
Mr. & Mrs. Chester Arnold*
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Barthel
Mr. & Mrs. J. Addison Bartush* #
Mr. & Mrs. Brett Batterson*
Mr. & Mrs. Mandell Berman
Mr. & Mrs. Art Blair*
Mr. Robert Bonier
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bowly
Mr. & Mrs. Roy E. Calcagno*
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Carson
Dr. & Mrs. Victor J. Cervenak*
Prof. Kenneth Collinson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Comstock #
Dr. Robert A. Cornette* #
Mrs. Mary Rita Caddohey
Mr. & Mrs. Tarik Daoud* #
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin I. Danto
Mr. Thomas J. Delaney
Dr. David DiChiera #
Mrs. Karen VanderKloot DiChiera* #
Ms. Mary Jane Doer #
Dr. & Mrs. Charles H. Duncan*
Mrs. Charles M. Endicott* #
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Fisher*
Ms. Pamela R. Francis*
Ms. Barbara Frankel & Mr. Ronald Michalak* #
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Frankel* #
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Freeman
Mrs. Jane Shoemaker French
Dr. & Mrs. Byron P. Georgeson* Priscilla R. Greenberg, Ph.D.* #
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hagopian
Mr. Lawrence W. Hall*
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Halperin*
Ms. Heather Hamilton
Mr. Kenneth E. Hart*
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene L. Hartwig*
Dr. & Mrs. Gerhardt A. Hein
Ms. Nancy B. Henk
Mr. & Mrs. Derek Hodgson
Dr. Cindy Hung*
Drs. Heidi & Dale Jacobs
Ms. Kristin Jaramillo*
Mr. Donald Jensen*
Mr. Patrick J. & Mrs. Stephanie Germack Kerzic
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Klein#
Mrs. Josephine Kleiner
Mr. & Mrs. Erwin H. Klopfes* #
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kolton
Misses Phyllis & Selma Korn*
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Krolakowksi* Mr. Max Lepler & Mr. Rex Dotson
Dr. Philip Leon
Mr. Stephen H. Lord
Ms. Jane McKee*
Drs. Orlando & Dorothy Miller*
Ms. Monica Moffat & Mr. Pat McGuire
Demetra & Theodore Monolidis
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Munk
Ms. Surayyah Muswakkil
Mr. Jonathan F. Orser
Ms. Julie A. Owens
Mr. Dale J. Pangonis* Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Parkhill
Mr. Richard M. Raisin*
Mrs. Ruth F. Rattner* #
Mr. Joshua Rest
Mr. & Mrs. James Rigby*
Mr. Bryan L. Rives
Ms. Patricia Rodzik*
Ms. Joanne B. Rooney
Mr. & Mrs. Giles L. Ross
Aphrodite & George Roumell
Ms. Susan Schooner*
Drs. Heinz & Alice Platt Schwarz*
Mrs. Frank C. Shaler*
Mr. Stephan Sharf
Ms. Laura Sias
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Siebert
Mrs. Marge Sleza
Ms. Anne Sullivan Smith
Ms. Phyllis Funk Snow*
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Starkweather*#
Mr. Stanford C. Stoddard
Dr. Jonathan Swift & Mr. Thomas A. St. Charles*
Mr. Ronald F. Switzer*
Mr. Edward D. Tuisset*
Mr. & Mrs. George Vincent* # +
Mrs. Amelia H. Wilhelm* #
Mr. & Mrs. Walter P. Work*
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Zangerle
Mr. & Mrs. George M. Zeltzer*
Avanti Logo & Pin Design
Ms. Monica Moffat & Mr. Pat McGuire

Keys:
* Founding Members
# Touch the Future donors
+ Avanti Society Sponsors
Italics = deceased members
TOURING ENSEMBLE

Taking opera to the community, last season The MOT Touring Ensemble presented more than 100 performances for students, seniors, and adults throughout the state of Michigan, bringing opera to over 20,000 individuals. Performances are 30-45 minutes in length and include a Q&A session with the cast immediately following the performance. Our 15-16 Touring season will include a variety of performances which are listed below.

FEATURED:

How Nanita Learned to Make Flan
by Enrique Gonzalez-Medina. (Grades K-6)

This multicultural chamber opera performed in English and Spanish displays some of the struggles of Hispanic immigrants. Nanita’s papa is a shoemaker who works so hard he doesn’t even have time to make his own daughter a pair of shoes. Now Nanita’s First Communion is coming up, but how can she appear before Our Lady of Guadalupe in bare feet? So Nanita decides make the shoes for herself. But somehow, her odd little creations turn out to be enchanted, and they sleep walk her far, far away. When she awakens, poor Nanita is lost. How this feisty heroine finds her way back home is sure to delight all youngsters, as will the recipe for magical flan. (Subjects: English Language Arts, Spanish, Humanities, Social Studies, Arts Education — Music & Theater)

Little Red Riding Hood
by Seymour Barab (Grades K-6)

Seymour Barab’s Little Red Riding Hood is a delightful adaptation of the fairy tale classic, in which the scary wolf is transformed into a comedic character, and Little Red learns why she should have listened to her mother and kept her promises. Barab uses just the right mix of tradition; although kids know how the story should end, they’ll sit on the edge of their chairs. (Subjects: English Language Arts, Humanities, Social Studies, Arts Education — Music & Theater)

I, Too, Sing America
by Dr. Emery Stephens (Grades 7-12)

This interactive lecture / recital highlights the achievements of African-American musicians. Dr. Emery Stephens, Assistant Professor of Voice at Wayne State University and Alvin Waddles, Award-Winning Concert Pianist give a history lesson on how various genres of music were created and the world events surrounding their creation. (Subjects: World History, African-American History, Social Studies, Humanities, Music)

Create & Perform:

A program in which students ages 8-18 use improvisation to create their own unique musical drama. This program can be conducted as an in-school residency, based on any school subject.

COMING SOON:

La Pizza Con Funghi
by Seymour Barab (Grades 9-12 & Adult)

This spoof on Italian opera will tickle your funny bone! Voluptua is in love with Scorpio. In order to be free to marry him, she plans to poison her husband, Count Formaggio. Her maid, Phobia, warns the count of his wife’s plans and for her loyalty, she must lose her life. Eventually, of course, so must all the other members of the cast. This opera is sure to keep you laughing.

ALSO OFFERED EACH SEASON:

Opera & Broadway Revues: From the American Songbook Classics of Irving Berlin and Jerome Kern to the operatic favorites of Bizet, Puccini, and Verdi, our Opera & Broadway revues continue to delight audiences of all ages! A favorite in a variety of venues including: Schools, Libraries, Senior Living Communities, Theaters, and Community Centers.

Opera in the Parks: Michigan Opera Theatre hosts outdoor Grand Opera concerts throughout the Metro Detroit area. Recent concerts include venues such as Grand Circus Park, Campus Martius Park, and the Detroit Zoo.

Operetta Workshop: Coming this summer! Students learn singing, acting, healthy vocal care, and stage movement. This workshop culminates in a final performance of a selected Gilbert & Sullivan operetta on the Main Stage of the Michigan Opera Theatre.

To learn more about any of these programs go to www.MichiganOpera.org.
DANCE EDUCATION

MASTER CLASSES
All classes are held in the Detroit Opera House Margo V. Cohen Dance Studio. FREE with ticket to corresponding dance performance. Class fee is $25 without corresponding ticket.

Pre-registration required: dance@motopera.org.
For information: (313) 237-3251

BalletMet Columbus
Ballet master class – Ages 11 to 15
Beginner/Intermediate level
Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015 – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2015 – 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Get Involved! Michigan Opera Theatre Volunteer Association Dance Council
Do you love dance and have a desire to support the arts by volunteering? Become a member of the MOTVA Dance Council. This is a group dedicated to sharing dance and building audiences at the Detroit Opera House. The Dance Council is in need of highly motivated dance lovers with new ideas willing to host gatherings, come up with new fundraising ideas, and most of all enjoy dance in Detroit. For more information please contact dance@motopera.org

Enjoy Dance Film, Refreshments, and Discussion
Dance lovers from all over Detroit come together for dance films, popcorn, drink, and discussion on Tuesday evenings. All dance films take place at the Detroit Opera House in the Ford Center for Arts and Learning. A $10 donation is payable at the door, and this includes the film presentation, refreshments and beverages. No reservations are required. For more information, call 313.237.3251.

DANCE FILMS
October 13, 2015 – Opening Spectacular
November 10, 2015 – Highlights of Fred and Ginger
Administration & Staff

Wayne S. Brown
President & Chief Executive Officer

David DiChiera
Founder & Artistic Director

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS
Margarite Fournoy, Chief Patron Officer
Richard Leech, Director of Resident Artist Programs
Dewan Mitchell, Director of Bookings & Events Management
Rock Monroe, Director of Safety & Security, DOH & DOHPC
David W. Osborne, Director of Production
Shawn Taffinder, Director of Catering & Special Events
Jason Warzecha, Director of Theatre & Parking Center Operations

ADMINISTRATION
William Austin, Executive Assistant
Timothy Lentz, Archivist & Director, Allessee Dance & Opera Resource Library
Dodie David, Human Resources Volunteer Consultant
Bryce Rudder, Senior Librarian, Allessee Dance & Opera Resource Library

PATRON SERVICES
Felicia Burgess, Tunisia Brown, Patron & Ticket Services Associates
Mitchell Carter, Website Coordinator
Crystal Ceo, Account Executive, Real Integrated Advertising
Leo Dowelle, Boutique Manager
Christy Gray, Patron Services Associate, Development
Kimberly Gray, Patron Services Manager, Ticket Office
John Grigaitis, Photographer
Michael Hauser, Marketing Manager
Colin Knapp, Audience Engagement Associate
Kathi Kucharski, Corporate, Foundation & Government Grants Manager, Database Consultant
Sean Martinez, Patron Services Associate, Development
Laura R. Nealson, Communications Consultant
Christina Wagner, Patron Services Manager, Individual Giving
Michael Yashinsky, Audience Development Associate
Stephani Yates, Special Events Manager
Jillian Zylinski, Communications Manager
Austin Stewart, Audience Engagement Coordinator

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
Mark Vondrak, Associate Director of Community Programs
Pette Moore, Program Coordinator

TOURING ARTISTS OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
Betsy Bronson, Maria Cimarelli, Dan Greig, Joseph Jackson, Brad Lieto, Annie Klark, Betty Lane, Dianne Lord, Pette Moore, Madelyn Porter, Amanda Rodriguez Sabelhaus, Karl Schmidt, Emery Stephens, Brittanii Talori, Mark Vondrak, Alvin Waddles

COMPUTER SERVICES
John Grigaitis, Information Technology Manager
Chris Farr, LAN Administrator

DANCE
Kim Smith, Administrative Assistant

FINANCE
Derrick Lewis, Controller
Kimberly Burgess-Rivers, Rita Winters, Accountants

DETROIT OPERA HOUSE PARKING CENTER
Robert Neil, Manager
Paul Bolden, Event Supervisor for Parking

PRODUCTION
ADMINISTRATION
Elizabeth Anderson, Production and Artistic Coordinator
Kathleen Bennett, Production Administrator
Ken Saltzman, Stage Manager
Michael Peters, Nan Luchini, Assistant Stage Managers
Nancy Krolkowski, Production Volunteer

MUSIC
Suzanne Mallare Acton, Assistant Music Director & Chorus Master
Jean Schneider, Repetiteur
Molly Hughes, Orchestrar Personnal Manager
Beth Kaufman, Librarian

TECHNICAL & DESIGN STAFF
Daniel T. Brinker, Technical Director
Monika Essen, Property Master & Scenic Artist
Heather DeFauw, Assistant Lighting Designer & Assistant Technical Director
Lisa Berg, Technical Assistant
Dee Dorsey, Superstitlue Operator

COSTUMES
Suzanne M. Hanna, Costume Director
Katherine Nelson, Wardrobe Mistress
Craig P. Wickham, Fitting Assistant/Wardrobe Master
Susan A. Fox, First Hand
Jessica M. Herron, Stitchers/Crafts
Patricia Pratt, Maureen Abele, Mary Ellen Shuffett, Stitchers

MAKEUP & HAIR
Elizabeth Geck, Assistant Wig & Makeup Designer
Kristine Clifton-Higgins, Crew Leader
Corene Bridges, Erika Broderdorf, Mikko McKay, Paige Parks, Alexis, Pravato, Cedasha Randolph, Shannon Schoenberg, Denitra Townsend, Dayna Winalis, Wig & Make-up Crew

STAGE CREW
John Kinsora, Head Carpenter
Frederick Graham, Jr., Head Electrician
Pat McGee, Head Propertyman
Henry Ruiz, Head Sound
Robert Martin, Head Flynn
Gary Gilmore, Production Electrician
Mary Ellen Shuffett, Head of Wardrobe

IATSE Local #38, Stage Crew
IATSE Local #786, Wardrobe
Michigan Opera Theatre gratefully acknowledges the generous donors who made major general operating support and restricted gifts of $25,000 and above between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015. Their support plays an integral part in the company’s financial stability, which is necessary for producing great grand opera, dance and award-winning educational activities.

**$1,000,000 and above**
- William Davidson Foundation

**$500,000 and above**
- Ford Motor Company Fund

**$200,000 and above**
- Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

**$150,000 and above**
- DTE Energy Foundation

**$100,000 and above**
- Michigan Opera Theatre Donor Honor Roll

**$50,000 and above**
-SCRIH

**$35,000 and above**
- Shirley K. Schlafer Foundation

**$25,000 and above**
- Fred A. & Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation

**$10,000 - $29,999**
- Ford Motor Company Fund

**$5,000 - $9,999**
- Alice Kales Hartwick Foundation

**$1,000 - $4,999**
- MetroHealth Foundation

**$500 - $999**
- Comerica Charitable Foundation

**$100 - $499**
- Michigan Opera Theatre Endowment for the Michigan Opera Theatre Foundation

**Contributors to Annual Campaigns**

Michigan Opera Theatre gratefully acknowledges the generous corporate, foundation, government, and individual donors whose contributions were made between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015. Their generosity is vital to the company’s financial stability, which is necessary to sustain MOT’s position as a valued cultural resource.

**FOUNDATION & GOVERNMENT SUPPORT**

**GOVERNMENT**
- Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
- National Endowment for the Arts

**FOUNDATION**
- $1,000,000+
  - William Davidson Foundation

- $100,000+
  - Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation
  - Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
  - The Kresge Foundation
  - McGregor Fund

- $30,000 – $99,999
  - Marvin & Betty Danto Family Foundation
  - DTE Energy Foundation

- $10,000 - $29,999
  - DeRoy Testamentary Foundation
  - Detroit Public Schools Foundation

**CORPORATE SUPPORT**

- $100,000+
  - Ford Motor Company Fund
  - General Motors Foundation

- $50,000 – $99,999
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

- $25,000 and above
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

- $15,000 and above
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

**ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

- $100,000+
  - General Motors Foundation
  - Ford Motor Company Fund
  - DTE Energy Foundation

- $50,000 – $99,999
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

- $10,000 - $29,999
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

- $5,000 - $9,999
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

- $1,000 - $4,999
  - Ford Motor Company Fund

- $500 - $999
- $100 - $499

**OPERATION BALL 2014**

- Mr. Robert and Margaret Alleece
- Mr. Joseph Amine
- Mr. Lourdes V. Andaya
- Miss Samantha Arkashewsky
- Ms. Kristen Armstrong
- John and Linda Axe
- James and Andrea Balcerksi
- Ms. Lindsey Barile
- Mr. Ken Barrett
- Barrs, Scott, Dunn & Deiker, PLLC
- Ms. Debra Bernstein-Siegel
- Ms. Marta Blaga
- Paul and Lee Blizman
- Ms. Elizabeth Brazilian
- Robert and Geraldine Brown
- Wayne Brown and Brenda Kee
- Mr. Otto Buj
- Mr. Howard W. Burdett, Jr
- Jeff and Susan Cancelosi
- Natalika Cap
- Mr. Richard D. Cavalier
- Ms. Shirley C endlesser
- Frederick and Gloria Clark
- Mr. Eric Clement
- Avram Cohn and Louis Pincus
- Mr. Gordy Coleman
- Mr. Daniel A Collins
- Ms. Candace Coffman
- Mr. Steve Cosgrove
- Crain Communications Inc.
- Ms. Ashley Crain
- Maryann Cromwell
- Alma Crosby
- Joanne Danto and Arnold Weigard
- Julia Darlow and John O’Meara
- Ethan and Gretchen Davidson
- Kevin Dennis and Jeremy Zelter
- Chris and Trish Dewald
- Dilib and Sonal Dubey
- Cameron Duncan
- Ms. Maggie Durant
- Eclipse Creative
- Mrs. Natalia Emelianov
- Mr. Sean Emery
- Marianne Endicott
- Mr. Brian Enright
- Ms. Aleksandra Epsyheyn
- Ms. Alla Epsyheyn
- Olga Epsyheyn
- Fern Espino and Tom Short
- Ms. & Mrs. Ernest Essad
- Mr. Ernie Essad
- Ms. Taffey Everett
- Paul and Mary Sue Ewing
- Ms. Candice Farano
- Carl and Mary Anne Fontana
- Mrs. Elaine Fontana
- Mr. & Mrs. Joe Fontana
- Ford Motor Company Fund
- Barbara Frankel and Ron Michalak
- Herman and Sharon Frankel
- Dean and Aviva Friedman
- Mr. Antonio Gagnon
- Ms. Carolyn Gimmicht
- Gasper Financial Group
- Steve and Stephanie Gasper
- Karen Gaudette
- General Motors Foundation
- Ms. Laura Gerlants
- Mr. Ehren Gonzales
- Lee and Brenda Gonzales
- James and Nancy Grosfeld
- Mr. & Mrs. David Grossman
- Samuel and Toby Haberman
- John and Kristan Hale
- Heather Hamilton
- Mr. Bryan L. Hardaway
- Ms. Dana Hardings
- Mr. & Mrs. Corey Harris
- Doreen Hermelin
- Derek and Karen Hodgson
- Rich and Tracey Homberg
- Devan Hoover
- Dr. Kari L. Horsey
- Mr. Monte Huber
- Ms. Minden Humphrey
- Rick and Elena Hungar
- Ms. Kelle Illyusov
- Mr. Arthur Ikis
- Kent and Amy Jidov
- Chacoma Johnson
- Mr. George Johnson
- Peter and Danaille Karmanos
- Mrs. Alla Khankin
- Ms. Emily Krajnak
- John and Mary Krakowiak
- Ms. Mary Kramer
- Mr. Jack Krasula
- Michael and Barbara Kratckman
- Arthur and Nancy Ann Krolieowski
- Lear Corporation
- Ronald and Fifi Levin
- Linda and Edward Levy
- Mr. Derrick Lewis
- Arthur and Nancy Liebler
- Stephan and Marian Loginsky

**Additional Supporters**

- Alphonse Lucarelli
- Mr. Jim Luckey
- Donald Manvel
- Jack Martin and Bettye Arrington-Martin
- Mr. Joei G Maruskin
- Mr. Bill Mcclad
- Mrs. Rebecca McGrane
- Mr. David McNulty
- Jef and Amy Messino
- Dr. & Mrs. Alireza Meyssami
- MGM Grand Detroit
- Mr. Meilin & Mr. Minch
- Ali Mosin and William Kupsky
- Joe and Myra Moreland
- Ms. Lisa Morin
- Ms. Doyle Mosher
- Stephen and Barbara Munk
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mylod
- Allan and Joy Nachtman
- Ms. Payam Naghashbazar
- Mr. Fred Nederlander
- Neil Neumeier
- Mr. Michael Neuman
- Nexlink Communications
- Northern Trust Bank
- Graham and Sally Orle
- Robert and Marcie Orle
- Spencer and Myrra Partners
- Penske Corporation
- Mr. D. Roe Petersans
- Platinum
- Mr. David Pankett
- Charlotte and Charles Podowski
- Mrs. Waltraud Prechter
- W. James and Patti Prowse
- Paul and Amy Ragheb
- Mrs. Ruth F. Ratsiner
- Anthony and Suzanne Rea
- Claude and Sandi Retelien
- Ms. Alina Rits
- The Ronald & Fifi Levin Family Fund
- Mr. Brian Roney
- Ms. Prudence Rosenhall
- Ms. Rene M Roth
- Bernard and Donna Rubin
- Amu & Mansi Mauseen
- Bydown
- Edith Ruscello
- Dr. Alla Sakhrova
- Hershel and Dorothy Sandberg
- Saroiki
**General Information**

**PHOTOGRAPHY, RECORDING & COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES**

Photography or recording during any performance is strictly prohibited. You are welcome to take photographs in the lobby before or after a performance and during intermission. As a courtesy to our guests, please switch all electronic devices to silent mode and refrain from using them during the performance.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

Doctors and parents are advised to leave their seat location (located on ticket) and our emergency number, (313) 237-3257, with their service or sitter in case of an emergency. Please observe the lighted exit signs located throughout the theater. In the event of an emergency, please remain calm and walk – do not run – to the nearest exit. Our ushers are trained to lead you out of the building safely. A trained Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) is onsite during most events. Please see an usher or staff member to contact the EMT.

**RESTROOMS**

Ladies’ restrooms are located off the Ford Lobby (Broadway Street entrance), down the stairs; and on the third floor (Madison Street entrance) – press “3R” on the elevator to reach this facility. Gentlemen’s restrooms are located under the Grand Staircase and also on the third floor (Broadway Street side) – press “3” on the elevator to reach this facility. All third floor restrooms are wheelchair accessible. A unisex, wheelchair accessible restroom is located in the Cadillac Opera Cafe.

**NO SMOKING**

The Detroit Opera House is a smoke-free facility. Ash receptacles are provided at the exterior of all entry doors for those who wish to smoke.

**USHERS**

Ushers are stationed at the top of each aisle. If you have a question or concern, please inform an usher, who will contact management. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer usher, please call the house manager at (313) 237-3252.

**LATE SEATING**

Latecomers may be seated only during an appropriate pause in the program. Late seating policies are at the discretion of the production, not Opera House management.

**LOST & FOUND**

Lost and Found is located in the Safety and Security Department. Please see an usher if you have misplaced an article, or call (313) 961-3300 if you have already left the theater. Items will be held in Lost and Found for 30 days.

**PARKING**

We encourage all our guests to take advantage of the Detroit Opera House Parking Center, located next to the Detroit Opera House. Pre-paid parking is available for all guests and can be purchased with tickets online or through the Detroit Opera House ticket office. This facility is reserved specifically for Detroit Opera House patrons during regularly scheduled performances. Entrances and exits are located on both John R. Street and Grand River Ave. Call (313) 237-7464 for more information.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

Accessible seating locations for patrons in wheelchairs are located in all price ranges on the orchestra level. When purchasing tickets, please ask about these locations if you require special accommodations.

Assisted Listening Devices are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please see an usher to request this service, or visit the Guest Services desk located in the Vincent Lobby (Madison Street entrance). Although this is a complimentary service, we will hold a piece of personal identification while you are using the device. Please contact the ticket office at (313) 237-7464 should you desire special consideration.

**CHILDREN**

Children are welcome; however, all guests are required to hold a ticket, regardless of age. In all cases, babes in arms are not permitted.

**SERVICES**

Concessions stands are located on all levels. Please note that food and drinks are not permitted in the auditorium at any time. Coat Check is located at the Guest Services desk in the Vincent Lobby (Madison Street side). Please note that the Detroit Opera House does not accept responsibility for any personal articles that are not checked at the coat check.

**CONCEALED WEAPONS**

Be advised that, for purposes of Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 28.4250(1)(h), this is an entertainment facility which has a seating capacity of more than 2,500 individuals. It is therefore against the law to carry a concealed pistol on the premises.

**RENTAL INFORMATION**

The Detroit Opera House is available for rent by your organization. Please call (313) 961-3300, and ask to speak with the Director of Booking & Events Management.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

The Detroit Opera House ticket office hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. On performance days, hours are 10 a.m. through the first intermission of the performance, except weekends, when the ticket office will open two hours prior to curtain time. Tickets are available online at www.MichiganOpera.org. Tickets for all public events at the Detroit Opera House are also available through all TicketMaster outlets, by phone at (800) 745-3000, or at www.TicketMaster.com.

**DETROIT OPERA HOUSE TOURS**

Come join the Opera House Ambassadors for a backstage tour of the Detroit Opera House! Learn about the history of the Opera House and its restoration, meet the people behind the scenes, tour the stage and see how it operates. Tours are $10 per person, for groups of 20 or more. For more information, please call (313) 237-3279, or visit www.MichiganOpera.org.

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Website: .........................www.MichiganOpera.org
EMERGENCIES ............(313) 237-3257
Michigan Opera Theatre .......(313) 961-3500
General Information ...........(313) 961-3500
Lost and Found ............(313) 961-3500
Ticket Office ............(313) 237-SING (7464)
Theater Rental Information ......(313) 961-3500
Detroit Opera House Fax ...........(313) 237-3412
Press and Public Relations ......(313) 237-3403
Detroit Opera House Parking Center ........(313) 965-4052
It's time to see what Metro Trading has to offer you and your family!

Bartering is a simple easy way to bring new customers to your business. When you join MTA, a new market of thousands of potential clients opens up to you. There are also thousands of local businesses ready to do work for you and your company when you are ready to use your trade dollars. Our staff works to make trade easy among clients in an efficient, easy-to-use and cost-effective way.

We want to help you improve your business outlook and enhance your lifestyle.

Call Today!
248-244-0000
www.metrotrading.com