

the *Coloratura*

Mission: To stimulate interest and participation in opera for the benefit of cultural, educational and musical life in all of Oregon and to assist artists in the arts and aid in the production of opera

Don't Miss 'Cocktails With Chris'

Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy performances by the Portland Opera Resident Artists, accompanied by Nicholas Fox, along with hors d'oeuvres, fine wines and more. Chris Mattaliano will share some previews of Portland Opera's Fiftieth Anniversary season in an intimate setting, on Saturday, October 4, 2014.

The event takes place in the lovely Willamette Room of Mirabella, 3550 Bond Street, Portland, 97239 at 6:30 pm. Free parking is available directly across the street from Mirabella after 6:00 pm at the OHSU permit lot, the Whitaker Street entrance.

Tickets are \$100 per person, and proceeds benefit Portland Opera and the Portland Opera Resident Artist Program. Call Jeanne Buschbach at 503.347.1490 (or leave her a message at 503.659.5046 and she will return your call.) Alternatively, sign up online at www.portlandoperaguild.com. Scroll down to 'Cocktails with Chris Mattaliano', and click on "Read More" to register.

October 12th -MONC Oregon Auditions

MONC Oregon Auditions at PSU's Lincoln Performance Hall on Sunday, October 12th begin at 1:00 pm. Chances are excellent that one or more of our current Resident Artists will compete in that event; from there...who knows!

Long-time MONC Chairperson, Jutta Allen, a former Portland Opera Guild President, promises another memorable afternoon of opera arias at PSU that Sunday. Opera Guild supporting members at the \$50 level or above are invited to attend this event at no cost; for others, the cost of admission is \$15.

Again this year, we expect to hear the usual superior piano accompaniment of Rodney Menn for most, if not all, the singers. In addition, we are pleased to have Janet Day as our gracious and professional emcee.

This event is surely one of the highlights of the Opera season and always very popular with Guild members. The Guild will be selling light refreshments as a fundraiser. (Cont. Page 3)

Save the Date for the Bootlegger's Ball

The Portland Opera Guild fundraiser supporting Portland Opera and the Portland Opera Resident Artist Program will be held this year on **April 4, 2015** at Waverley Country Club.

Pop! Fizz! Clink! Toast to Spring with this fabulous party –. Shine your shoes, don your finest period attire, and dance the night away to John Bennett's jazz band. We will enjoy delicious dining, fine wines and the opportunity to bid on unique and exclusive silent and live auction items. Questions? Contact Jeanne B. 503.347.1490

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The Coloratura Editor

Norman Krasne • nkrasne@comcast.net

A Message from the President

Hello to all Guild Members, Friends of the Opera and all of you other Opera aficionados!

A warm welcome to you all. An exciting Opera Season is just around the corner. Yes, this will be an Opera Season to remember and treasure for years to come!

The Portland Opera has announced its calendar of performances, and you need to get them written into your calendar; from Die Fledermaus, beginning in November through The Elixir of Love, beginning in July, you don't want to miss a single one.

Scintillating... Exciting... Romantic... Awe Inspiring and Touching are all feelings I think of when I think of our glorious Opera opportunities ahead!

Your Portland Opera Guild Board will keep you informed of all of the upcoming events and I look forward to seeing you and visiting with you at many of the performances, luncheons and recitals. Also, get ready for an amazing, one-of-a-kind Gala you won't forget – and don't want to miss!

Please allow me to share with you as the newly elected President of the Portland Opera Guild, I consider it a privilege to be associated with this wonderful organization of passionate supporters of the arts and I am looking forward to doing all that I can to build on the legacy that has been established for us all over the past years.

See you at the Opera!
Rodney Mazour, President

Portland Opera Guild Executive Committee and Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Rodney Mazour, President
Jeanne Buschbach, Vice President
Paul Riedel, Vice President,
Marketing and Communications
Susan Muccigrosso Vice President–Events
Doris Pascoe, Secretary
Steve Lidston, Treasurer
Patricia Holloway, Past President

Directors

Kayla Guitierrez • Robert Haley • Jan Kem
Norman Krasne • Laura Newton
Louise Skyler • Don Sveta
Lacey Rowberg – POA Liaison

Portland Opera Celebrates its 50th Season

Portland Opera celebrates its 50th year with a five-opera 2014-15 season as it did in its very first season a half century ago, Johann Strauss' delightful *Die Fledermaus* sung in English will open the season.

In February 2015, perhaps the most popular opera in the entire repertory, George Bizet's *Carmen*, will be featured on the Keller stage. Showcasing 20 seasons of Broadway productions for Portland Opera, May will bring the great Hammerstein/Kern musical *Show Boat* to the Keller.

June will be another exciting month for Portland Opera. For the very first time in its history, Igor Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*, the composer's tribute to Mozart combining comedy and drama a la *Don Giovanni*, will receive three showings. This opera, too, will be sung in English. Moreover, running concurrently with the opera there will be an exhibition of drawings, watercolors and designs by the renowned artist, David Hockney who designed the sets and costumes for this opera.

The fifth opera of this fabulous season will take place in July-August. Donizetti's beautiful, light-hearted *Elixir of Love* will have six performances at the Newmark Theater with the Portland Opera Resident Artists singing all the leading roles.

If you have not yet renewed or ordered a subscription for the 2014-15 50th anniversary season, you can do so now by calling Portland Opera at 503.241.1802 or going online to www.portlandopera.org. Guild group rates are available.

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Portland Opera Guild Board



Standing: Jan Kem, Norm Krasne, Jutta Allen, Louise Skyler, Paul Riedel, Kayla Guitierrez, Rodney Mazour, Jeanne Buschbach. Seated: Doris Pascoe, Lacey Rowberg, Patricia Holloway, Laura Newton, Don Sveta. Not pictured: Susan Muccigrosso, Bob Haley, Steve Lidston.

MONC Auditions Continued from Page 1

This year, the esteemed panel of judges, all with long experience in that capacity, are Canadian mezzo-soprano Judith Forst, who at 24 debuted in *Rigoletto* at the Met in September, 1968, the same year she won at the MONC National Final Auditions, David Gately, who has been Stage Director of several recent productions at Dallas, Seattle, and Florida Grand Operas, and Richard Harrell, who “currently serves as ‘Director of Heroes’ Voices, a service organization for veterans which produces music and poetry workshops and facilitates collaborations with other service organizations that serve returning veterans.” Mr. Harrell was previously Director of the Julliard and San Francisco Opera Centers.

For us, in the Portland area, the first step along the road Ms. Haslett traveled last year is at the MONC Oregon District Auditions.

None of us who were in the audience in Seattle’s Benaroya Hall last January 19th will ever forget the excitement generated by our “rookie” soprano, Nicole Haslett, stepping onto the stage as the very first (of twelve) singers in the Metropolitan Opera National Council (MONC) Northwest Regional Auditions. After delivering two stunning arias by Donizetti and Verdi, Ms. Haslett had to wait for the others in the competition to perform two arias each, a 30-minute intermission, and perhaps another half hour for the judges to make and present their collective decision.

We Portlanders were thrilled at the announcement that Nicole was named recipient of the \$5,000 first prize and the only one to advance to the National Council Semi-Finals in New York. Indeed, a few members of the Portland Opera Guild followed her to New York and watched her move on from that competition into the Grand Finals Concert on the Met stage the following week. At the age of 26, Ms. Haslett is on the current roster of Metropolitan Opera sopranos after a single year as a Portland Opera Resident Artist!



While we’ll miss seeing her in Portland this season, we are very proud to know that she will sing during the current Met season.

MONC Oregon District Fundraiser

MONC Oregon District plans to produce the opera *Bon Appetit* by Lee Hoiby a one-woman opera transcribed from a classic Julia Child television broadcast – on January 31, 2015 at the Multnomah Athletic Club.

Our 'own' Christine Meadows will be starring as Julia. In this “episode” we find the master chef teaching the makings of a classic French chocolate cake as only she can, and spectators who rarely find their way to an opera house will be surprised and delighted by a fully sung production with familiar musical themes and a hilarious, feverishly whisking chef who creates a masterpiece with flour flying and egg-beaters racing.

The opera is 18 minutes long and along with dinner will be a delightful time spent in support of Metropolitan Opera National Council Oregon District. Further details will be available in the next newsletter.

San Francisco Opera in HD

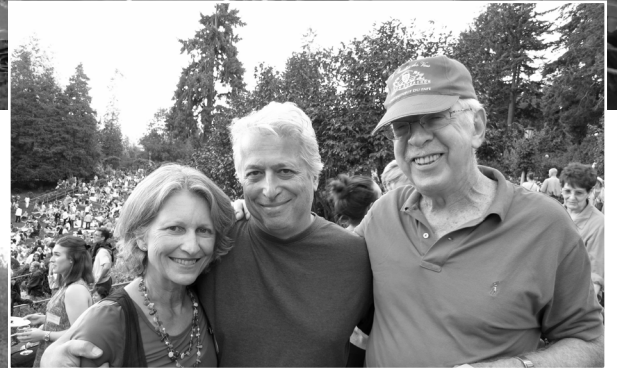
Portland Opera and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) will collaborate to present “Opera on Screen,” a series of high-definition film screenings featuring recent productions from the San Francisco Opera. The series opens on Friday, September 5 with Puccini’s *Madame Butterfly* and continues with Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*, Puccini’s *La Rondine*, and *Sampson and Delilah* by Camille Saint-Saens.

The screenings take place at OMSI’s recently renovated Empirical Theater, which features a four-story tall screen and a Dolby Atmos sound system, making it the most technologically advanced venue in the state. Each screening will be preceded by a special introduction given by a Portland Opera staff member.

General admission tickets for the complete series and individual screenings now on sale at www.oms.edu/emperical-theater. Portland Opera subscribers and OMSI members receive significant discounts on subscriptions and single tickets.



The annual Washington Park SummerFest with Jocelyn Bates, Chris Mattaliano, and Norm Krasne.



An Angela Meade Summer in Oregon



Allan Glassman, Carla Dirlikov, Jeannine Cowles, Angela Mead



Jeannine Cowles, Angela Mead, Richard Zellar, Jocelyn Bates, Elizabeth Baldwin

Ah – summer in Oregon: long, warm, sunny days and a great time for outdoor events. For opera lovers in our area, it is a special time indeed. Appearing not once, but twice, on Oregon stages in June and August, 2014, was the northwest’s reigning diva, a Centralia, Washington native and one of the world’s outstanding sopranos, Angela Meade.

We, who live in this area, are so fortunate that Ms. Meade has been willing and able to get back here from time to time to perform in front of her local fan base. A standing-room only auditorium saw Ms. Meade and a stellar roster of cast members perform an abridged concert version of Giuseppe Verdi’s *La Traviata* at Astoria, OR’s Liberty Theater on June 14th. Singing her very first Violetta in that opera, Ms. Meade brought down the appreciative house on what was the opening day of the annual Astoria Music Festival.

The performance of *La Traviata* was made possible through the generosity of Jeannine B. Cowles, a lifetime member of the Portland Opera Guild and a major supporter of Portland Opera. The opera scene in our area would not be the same without Jeannine!

A much larger crowd, thousands strong, filled the Rose Garden amphitheater in Portland’s Washington Park on a lovely Friday evening in August (the 8th) for Portland SummerFest’s annual opera-in-the-park

event. Ms. Meade sang the title role in Vincenzo Bellini’s bel canto masterpiece, *Norma*, a role which she sang at the Met last season and which has gained her world-wide acclaim! Richard Zellar, who sang Germont alongside Ms. Meade’s Violetta in Astoria, performed the role of Oroveso in *Norma*. Mezzo-soprano Carla Dirlikov and tenor Allan Glassman added their fabulous voices to the evening’s operatic event.

We cannot fail to note that Maestro, Keith Clark was at the podium directing the soloists, chorus, and orchestra in both Astoria and Portland. A connoisseur and superior interpreter of opera, Mr. Clark serves as Artistic Director of the Astoria Music Festival, which he co-founded along with long-time Opera Guild member Ruth Dobson. Mr. Clark directs the SummerFest opera production as well.

The Portland Opera Guild is a sizable supporter of Portland SummerFest, contributing \$3,000 to help bring great talent and exquisite music to the Rose City. The Guild was a definite presence at the August 8 opera, with a “membership table” to distribute materials and “talk opera” to potential new members. Quite a few of us were among the thousands who enjoyed the memorable opera-in-the-park festivities.

Membership Information

Contact Jan Kem 503.799.6871

Or, renew or apply online: portlandoperaguild.com

Portland Opera Resident Artists

Portland Opera's new Resident Artist, soprano Katrina Galka, will join returnees, tenor Ian José Ramirez and baritone Alexander Elliott, for the 2014-15 opera season. Ms. Galka will "replace" Nicole Haslett, who, after winning the 2014 Metropolitan Opera National Council (MONC) competitions in Portland and Seattle, was chosen as one of ten Grand Finalists in New York and now has joined the Met roster of performing sopranos for the coming season! Neither will mezzo-soprano Melissa Fajardo be returning to Portland for a second year. Portland Opera has decided not to enlist a new mezzo for the season.

Ms. Galka received an MA in Vocal Performance from Boston University earlier this year and has appeared with Opera Theatre of St. Louis for the past two seasons. She will appear on the Keller stage in two of the season's operas and is scheduled to give a recital at the Art Museum's Whitsell Auditorium on Tuesday, March 31, 2015.



Returning tenor, Mr. Ramirez will sing roles in four of five Portland operas after having spent part of the summer at the Caramoor Center's Bel Canto Opera Program. Previous to that, he appeared with The Oregon Symphony and Opera Theater of Oregon. Ian will be the first Resident Artist recitalist, appearing at the museum on Tuesday, October 21st.



Alexander Elliott returns to Portland Opera Residency after a busy and productive summer as a participant in San Francisco Opera's renowned Merola Program. Like Mr. Ramirez, the young baritone will be on stage for four Portland Opera productions this season. Alex completed his August singing as a soloist with the Oregon Symphony at its Waterfront Concert on the 28th of that month. Mr. Elliott's recital date is May 12, 2015.



For many Guild members, and others involved with Portland Opera, the Resident Artist Program is the most important aspect of the Company's undertaking. Indeed, the Opera Guild's major fund-

raising event each year is to support this very fine program! Moreover, how exciting it is to watch these young singers grow as artists.

Opera Volunteers

The vast majority of Arts organizations in this country would not exist without the support and effort of volunteers. Portland Opera is no exception to the "rule." From supernumeraries who are on stage at every performance to those who go into the office to help with mailings, the company could not bring quality opera to our city without these wonderful people.

Several of the Guild's Board and many from our membership do volunteer work for Portland Opera. Perhaps you might wish to join this joyous troupe. Your participation would certainly be welcomed and the pleasure would be yours! Please go to <http://portlandopera.org/volunteer> and fill out an application. If you have any questions regarding this potential endeavor, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Marilyn Crilley: mcrilley@portlandopera.org. Only one word can describe the job that Marilyn and her "army" play in Portland Opera: AMAZING!

On a larger scale, the Portland Opera Guild is affiliated with Opera Volunteers International (OVI) along with most other such opera volunteer groups in the United States and several around the world. Indeed, Past President Annette Farmer was involved in the establishment of Opera Guilds International, precursor to the present OVI, and the Guild's past President, Mary Sveta, is currently Vice President/Communications of OVI and has given many years to OVI's efforts. In addition, Board member and Coloratura editor, Norm Krasne, a liaison to OVI from Portland Opera Guild, has signed on to attend OVI's "focus meeting" in Omaha this October. For more information about OVI go to www.operavolunteers.org

Die Fledermaus Luncheon

October 31, 2014 - \$30.00

Columbia Edgewater Country Club

2220 NE Marine Drive, Portland

Reservations: Jan Kem 503.799.6871

Please join us for our 2014–2015 Luncheon Series

A Portland Tradition for over 50 years!

Luncheons begin at 11:30 AM on Fridays prior to opening of each Portland Opera series performance, and on other events as announced. The luncheons are held at private clubs in the Portland area. Entertainment features sparkling introductions and musical illustrations for upcoming operas by Portland Opera's Nicholas Fox and performances by the Portland Opera Resident Artists and others.

Please check each luncheon for which you request reservations:

October 31, 2014–*Die Fledermaus* Luncheon at Columbia Edgewater Country Club—reserve by Monday, October 27

Guest Name(s) (please print) _____

January 30, 2014–*Carmen* Luncheon at Multnomah Athletic Club—reserve by Monday, January 26

Guest Name(s) (please print) _____

April 24, 2014- *Showboat* Luncheon at Waverley Country Club—reserve by Monday, April 20

Guest Name(s) (please print) _____

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

All of the above three luncheons @ \$30 for a total of \$90 per member—due by Oct 27th,

To reserve, please send this form and payment to:

MAIL: Portland Opera Guild—Treasurer, PO Box 61823, Vancouver, WA 98666-1823

E-MAIL: Signed form to stevlidston@rocketmail.com

TELEPHONE: Jan Kem, Portland Opera Guild Luncheon Reservations - 503.799.6871

Payment must be **received** four days prior to the event. We cannot guarantee seating for unreserved members or guests. There is a \$5 surcharge for day-of-event accommodation if seating space permits.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail address _____

Request a special meal: Vegetarian Vegan

Payment for _____ members @ \$30; _____ guests @ \$30 for a total of \$ _____

Enclosed is my check payable to Portland Opera Guild in the amount of \$ _____

Please charge my credit card: VISA MasterCard Debit Card

Card # _____ VCode (3 digit code) _____

Exp.Date _____ / _____

Signature _____

The Coloratura

P. O. Box 61823

Vancouver, WA 98666-1823

www.portlandoperaguild.com

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Portland-Opera-Guild>

Make your Luncheon Reservations

The registration form for this year's luncheons may be mailed to the Guild's PO Box 61823, Vancouver, WA 98666-1823, or by e-mailing Guild Treasurer Steve Lidston at: stevlidston@rocketmail.com with your reservation and payment information, or call Jan Kem at 503.799.6871

Portland Opera Guild Member Calendar of Events 2014 - 2015 Season

OCTOBER 4, 2014 6:30 PM	[Saturday] Cocktails With Chris - fundraiser for Portland Opera Resident Artists - \$100 to benefit Portland Opera Resident Artists, Mirabella, 3550 Bond Ave., Portland
OCTOBER 12, 2014 1:00 PM	[Sunday] Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions - \$15 (Free to Sponsor level and above Portland Opera Guild Members) PSU Lincoln Performance Hall, 1211 SW Park Ave, Portland
OCTOBER 21, 2014 7:00 PM	[Tuesday] Resident Artist Recital, Ian Jose´ Ramirez- (\$20 donation suggested.) Whitsell Auditorium, Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park Ave, Portland, Seat reservations PAM website.
OCTOBER 31, 2014 11:30 AM	[Friday] <i>Die Fledermaus</i> Luncheon - \$30 Columbia Edgewater Country Club- 2220 NE Marine Dr, Portland,
DECEMBER 2014	Portland Opera Guild Holiday Gathering - TBA
JANUARY 30, 2015 11:30 AM	[Friday] <i>Showboat</i> Luncheon - \$30- Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St, Portland
MARCH 31, 2015 7:00 PM	[Tuesday] Resident Artist Recital, Katrina Galka - (\$20 donation suggested) Whitsell Auditorium, Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park Ave, Portland. Seat reservations PAM website.
APRIL 4, 2015 6:30 PM	[Saturday] Bootlegger's Ball Fundraiser - Waverley County Club, 1100 SE Waverly Dr, Portland
APRIL 24, 2015 11:30 AM	[Friday] <i>The Rake's Progress</i> Luncheon - Waverley County Club, 1100 SE Waverly Dr, Portland
MAY 12, 2015 7:00 PM	[Tuesday] Resident Artist Recital, Alexander Elliott, Whittell Auditorium, Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park Ave, Portland. Seat reservations PAM website.