

## ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

### GYPSIES, TRAMPS, AND TENORS:

Thursday, October 1, 2015 6:00 pm **EVENINGS WITH THE MAESTRO:**

Friday, October 2, 2015 11:00 am **MORNINGS WITH THE MAESTRO**

The perfect gateway to understanding opera, these 90-minute programs are themed to enhance your experience in an engaging and entertaining way. Live performances by professional singers and instrumentalists accompany Sforzini's witty and insightful explorations of plot, character, and musical devices. All programs end with an opportunity to socialize with the cast at a local restaurant.

Evenings at 6:00 p.m. at the Music Gallery, 5990 Ulmerton Rd., Clearwater.

Mornings at 11:00 at Museum of Fine Arts, One255 Beach Dr., N St. Petersburg



**OCTOBER 16,**

**7:30 pm,**

**OCTOBER 18,**

**2:00 pm**

**OCTOBER 20,**

**7:30 pm**

“Love is a gypsy’s child, it has never, ever, known a law; love me not, then I love you; if I love you, you’d best beware!”

With these words and the sexy rhythms of the Habanera, Carmen begins seducing Don José, a hapless soldier who already has a sweet, country-girl fiancée. He should have been wary because it’s a fast ride to throwing it all away for Carmen. Enter Escamillo, the dashing bullfighter, and you get a love triangle with tragic consequences.

Tickets for all SPO events can be obtained by calling 727-823-2040 or by visiting the SPO website, [www.stpeteopera.org](http://www.stpeteopera.org)

## Pinellas Opera League

P.O. Box 763

Largo, Fl. 33779-0763

[www.pinellasoperaleague.com](http://www.pinellasoperaleague.com)

[pinellasoperaleague@gmail.com](mailto:pinellasoperaleague@gmail.com)

*Dedicated To Promoting a Greater Interest*

*In Opera and Musical Theater*

President: Christina Alexander

Vice President: Marcia Lork

Treasurer: Dot Naegle

Recording Secretary: Sarah Roberts

Corresponding Secretary: Alyse Siegrist

We are working on organizing transportation for POL members and guests for the Sunday matinee (October 18) of *Carmen*. IF we get 14 participants, we can get a real bus.

Have a safe healthy and wonderful opera season. We hope to see you Wednesday, October 7, when our new season begins.

Compiled by Richard Davidson  
Layout and printing by Nancy Preis



## The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter  
of  
Pinellas Opera League

**OCTOBER 2015**

### Luncheon Meeting:

**Wednesday, October 7, 2015**

Social time begins at 11:00 am, business meeting at 11:30 am, program at 11:45 am, and lunch is served at 12:30 pm.

Dunedin Country Club, 1050 Palm Boulevard, Dunedin, FL 34698

**Menu: Salad, rolls, pot roast with vegetables, warm berry cobbler.**

**LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS MUST** be made by **FRIDAY, October 2** and cancellations by **Saturday MORNING, October 3**. Contact Nancy @727-738-4007. Please be sure to call in your reservations on time.

The price of the luncheons is \$22 for members and \$25 for non-members, payable in cash or check made out to Pinellas Opera League. Please have exact change if paying in cash.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR 50/50 AT THE DOOR.**

**SILENT AUCTION-** Please be sure to bring your jewelry, art objects, videos and pictures to donate to the auction. If they do not sell, please be prepared to take them home with you that day.

## PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER LUNCHEON:



Susan Hellman Spatafora has performed with companies such as Palm Beach Opera, St. Petersburg Opera, Sarasota Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, and Central City Opera. Her featured roles have included Susannah in Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*, Micaëla in  *Carmen*, Mimì in *La Bohème*, Clotilde in *Norma*, and Giannetta in *L'Elisir d'Amore*. She has been a prize winner in competitions including the Florida Grand Opera Young Patronesses of the Opera competition, the Palm Beach Opera International Vocal Competition, and the National Society of Arts and Letters Voice Competition. Upcoming engagements in the 2015-2016 season include appearances with the Tampa Oratorio Society in Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* and Dvorak's *Stabat Mater*, as well as concerts with *IlluminArts* in Miami, St. Petersburg Opera and the Tampa Bay Symphony.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends of the Pinellas Opera League:

Welcome to the Pinellas Opera League's 2015-16 season. I hope all of you enjoyed a restful and pleasant summer break and are ready for an exciting opera season as we resume our group programs and community outreach. We are planning to enjoy many opera performances this season, and are looking forward to seeing you at our next luncheon meeting on the first Wednesday In October.

Warmest regards.,  
Christina Alexander  
President

Christina Alexander, will be presenting her published research on student veterans in higher education at a qualitative research conference at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, FL In January, 2016. She has been working on this research project in cooperation with the Pinellas County Office of Veterans Services.

**OPERA DVDs** The DVD opera showing will resume again on Sunday October 25, at 1:00 pm In Room A and B at the Safety Harbor Library with the DVD showing of Franco Zeffirelli's production of "*La Traviata* by Giuseppe Verdi. The library is located at 101 2<sup>nd</sup> St. N. Safety Harbor, FL (diagonally across from the Safety Harbor Spa). There is parking in back of the library and admission is free. The library will open at 1:00 pm and the showing begins at 1:30 pm. For information call Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Membership applications/renewal forms may be downloaded from our website [www.pinellasoperaleague.com](http://www.pinellasoperaleague.com) and will also be available at the luncheon. Please send application/renewal form to this revised address:

Pinellas Opera League  
P.O. Box 763  
Largo, Fl. 33779

New members-We welcome new members Miguel and Jorgelina Solari.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**-It is once again time to nominate and elect the following officers: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. We have elections every two years. Those interested need to submit a letter of intent and qualifications to the nominating committee by the first of October. Members of the committee are Richard Davidson, chairman, Kay Slade, and Ron Regan. The nominating committee shall submit one nominee for each league office at the November business luncheon meeting. The election shall take place at the December meeting and the newly elected officers shall be installed at the January meeting. (Please look in our new directory under by-laws for the duties of each officer.)

**SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE:** Talia Vasquez is the recipient of the Pinellas Opera League scholarship of \$500.00 in partnership with the St. Petersburg College Foundation. She is a student at the operatic voice workshop and is planning to pursue her master's degree. Talia will be performing for us at an upcoming luncheon to be announced.

**MATINEE OPERA PLAYERS:** The Matinee Opera Players give four to six performances each year. They do not perform an entire opera; rather, they perform arias from well-known operas and a few well-known tunes. The entire cast consists of volunteers and the performances are free but donations are greatly appreciated. The next performance is at the Performing Arts Center, 4951 78<sup>th</sup> Ave., Pinellas Park. Dates and program to be announced.

## RUTH ECKERD HALL / CAPITOL THEATER:

At Ruth Eckerd Hall: Tickets 727-791-7400.

At The Capitol Theater, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater: 727-712-2717

The Pinellas Opera League will again have tables for the new opera season next year to hand out materials publicizing our events.

**LIVE FROM THE MET:** Saturday, October 3 at 12:55 pm: *Il Trovatore* by Giuseppe Verdi, encore Wednesday, October 7 at 6:30 pm Saturday, October 17, 2015 at 12:30 pm: *Otello*, by Giuseppe Verdi. Encore is Wednesday, October 21 at 6:30 pm.

At the AMC Woodlands Square in Oldsmar, Pinellas Park Regal Theaters, and at the Regal Citrus Park in Tampa. Tickets for seniors are \$23.

**OPERA AT THE DALI** concert series is held on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. Emerging opera artists give a 20 minute performance on the spiral staircase at the museum, FREE. The Dali Museum is at 1 Dali Blvd. (Bayshore Dr.) SE and 5<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, St. Petersburg, FL. Call 727-823-3767 for the weekly opera performers singing.

Check our website under local opera for other programs being offered at our area venues for Tarpon Springs Cultural Center, St. Petersburg Opera, Opera Tampa, and Sarasota Opera.



Like us on Facebook