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Pinellas Opera League P.O. Box 4855

Clearwater, Fl. 33758

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Dedicated To Promoting a Greater Interest
On Opera and Musical Theater

President: Richard Davidson Vice President: Marcia Lork Treasurer: Jennie Belsanti Recording Secretary: OPEN Corresponding Secretary: Laurette Schmitt

OPERA AT THE DALI: Emerging opera artists give FREE 20-minute performances on the spiral staircase at the museum on THURSDAYS at 6:00 pm. For information on who will be singing call 727-823-3767. The Dali Museum is located at 1 Dali Blvd. (Bayshore Dr.) SE and 5th Avenue SE, St. Petersburg, FL.

SHOULD YOU NEED A RIDE TO POL EVENTS, you may wish to avail yourself of these services:
Uber at www.uber.com (sign up on-line with a credit card; no tip necessary)
Care Ride (Clearwater) 727.866.1193
Neighborly Care Network 727.888.0231

CHECK YOUR OPERA IQ: Do you know your opera ABCs continues! Name operas whose oneword titles begin with these letters (N, O, P, R) and identify the composers.

Answers to the December quiz: Some one-word opera titles and their composers:

I: Idomeneo (Mozart), Iolanta (Tchaikovsky); J: Jocelyn (Godard); K: Khovanshchina (Mussorgsky); L: Lakmé (Delibes), Louise (Charpentier), Lohengrin (Wagner), Lulu (Berg); M: Macbeth (Verdi), Manon (Massenet), Mefistofele (Boito)



The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter of the Pinellas Opera League JANUARY 2017

Luncheon Meeting: Wednesday, January 4

Dunedin Country Club, 1050 Palm Blvd., Dunedin, FL 34698

11:00 am: Social time

11:30 am: Business meeting 11:45 am: Music program 12:30 pm: Lunch is served

Menu: Onion soup, rolls, pecan crusted chicken, mixed veggies, red potatoes, warm caramel bread pudding

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ARE RE-QUIRED and MUST be made AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE but no later than MONDAY, January 2 and cancellations by Tuesday, January 3. Contact Nancy @727-738-3447. Please note that this is a NEW PHONE NUMBER and 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 NOTE THAT THE COST OF THE LUNCHEON WILL BE \$25.00 FOR ANYONE WHO HAS NOT RENEWED MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017 ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 4.

NO SILENT AUCTION: The POL Board has decided to suspend the silent auction until further notice.

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY:



Mezzo-soprano JULIA GLICKS-BERG is a fresh face from the USF School of Music Voice Performance program. Her stage experience includes the role of Casilda in Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers*, Edith in *Pirates of Penzance*, recit-

als with the USF chamber singers, school performances under the direction of Dr. Robyn Rocklein and working with the St. Pete Opera chorus. Ms. Glicksberg has also performed in the Opera Tampa chorus accompanying Andrea Bocelli.



Soprano MORGAN LEAH RYAN recently graduated with her BM in Voice Performance from the University of South Florida studying under Dr. Warren Jaworski. While at USF, she sang the roles of the Mother (Hansel & Gretel) and Mrs. Todd (The Old Maid and the

Thief), as well as Contessa (Le Nozze di Figaro) in the scenes program. She also participated in the Sherrill Milnes VOICExperience and with Opera Tampa. She currently studies with Dr. Robyn Rocklein.

Constantine Grame will be the accompanist.

MEMBERSHIP: "THANK YOU" to all members who have renewed their POL membership for 2017 and an extra "THANK YOU" to those who also have contributed to our "Circles"!

RENEWALS AND DUES FOR 2017 WERE <u>DUE IN</u> <u>DECEMBER!</u> ANNUAL POL DUES: Individual \$25.00, couple \$40.00.

Application/renewal forms may be downloaded from the POL website--www.pinellasoperaleague.com--and will also be available at the luncheon. Please send your applications/renewals and dues to the address on the form or submit them to Herma at the luncheon. In order to ensure that you will receive all POL mailings and notifications, PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND/OR EMAIL ADDRESS.

POL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 4855, Clearwater, FL 33758. EMAIL ADDRESS: hm4pol@gmail.com
The POL by-laws with revisions proposed by the by-laws committee will be mailed to all members in January. The vote by the membership on the proposed revisions will be held during the business meeting at the luncheon on February 1st.

POL OPERA DVD SHOWING:

On WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21st: Donizetti's comic opera *L'Elisir d'Amore* starring Anna Netrebko and Rolando Villazón. Running time 136 minutes. On WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18th: Boito's opera *Mefistofele* starring Samuel Ramey with the San Francisco Chorus and Orchestra.

The showings start at 1:30 pm in Room A and B at the SAFETY HARBOR LIBRARY (diagonally across from the Safety Harbor Spa) at 101 2nd Street N. Parking is available and admission is FREE. For information call Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

LIVE FROM THE MET BROADCASTS IN HD at the Woodland Theater in Oldsmar, Citrus Mall in Tampa and in Pinellas Park. Admission for seniors: \$22 Pinellas Park is \$25 SATURDAY, JANUARY 21st at 12:55 pm: A new production of *Roméo et Juliette* by Charles Gounod starring Diana Damrau and Vittorio Grigolo. Running time: 3 h 20 min. ENCORE: Wednesday, January 25th at 6:30 pm.

MATINEE OPERA PLAYERS (Artistic Director Mario Laurenti):

Sunday, January 8 at 3 pm. "Happy New Opera Year" will include a few show tunes from American musicals, perhaps something from the Silver Screen, opera from well-known and sometimes not so well-known operas. Songs recorded by Elvis have also been heard at many shows. All performances are directed by Mario Laurenti and accompanied by pianist Rena Massey.

Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave., Pinellas Park 33781 There is plenty of free parking and the Center is wheelchair accessible. Snacks are available at intermission. Admission is Pay-What-You-Can. Contact: 727.204.4163 or www.TBOpera.net

URGENTLY NEEDED: RECORDING SECRETARY. Regrettably Beverly Hand has to resign from this position due to a conflict with her work schedule. If interested, please contact Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

Along with new member Nancy Scott, Vice President Marcia Lork spoke about opera at the Pinellas Central Elementary School during the GREAT AMERICAN TEACH-IN on Thursday, November 16. Lork urges everyone to encourage young people to listen to and hopefully acquire an appreciation for opera.

OPERA TAMPA: 813.229.7827 or operatampa.org

The Opera Tampa 2017 season will feature Romeo and Juliet on Jan. 22, Cinderella on Feb. 12 and Tosca on April 9. All performances are on Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm. The Opera Tampa package for POL is \$169 which includes level 2 seating for all three performances, service fees and round-trip transportation from/to the Clearwater Mall. Single performance tickets are also available for Romeo and Juliet and Tosca at \$60 each and for Cinderella at \$55 which include all the same benefits as the package tickets. Order forms will be available at our monthly luncheons and will be emailed to all members for whom POL has an email address on file. If you have further questions, please contact Wayne Green (Special Events Coordinator) at 727.470.9537. RESERVATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 13.

Upcoming Events at the STRAZ CENTER:

Dec. 17 & 18: Ballet: *The Nutcracker*Dec. 20 – 25: Musical: *An American in Paris*Jan. 8 at 2 pm: "Discover Opera," an interactive forum about *Romeo and Juliette* with Maestro Daniel Lipton.

RSVP@strazcenter.org, 813.222.4890 Jan. 5, 9, 12 6:30-8:30: Open Rehearsals for Romeo and Juliette. In the Rehearsal Hall, \$10 Jan. 24, 26, 30 6:30-8:30: Open Rehearsals for Cinderella. In the Rehearsal Hall, tickets \$10

RUTH ECKERD HALL: Tickets 727-791-7400 or www.rutheckerdhall.com

Dec. 31 at 8 pm: Salute to Vienna Jan. 8, 15, 22 at 7:30 pm: The Florida Orchestra

TARPON SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER: 324 Pine Street (inside City Hall) 727.942.5605 and www.tarponarts.org

Dec. 18 at 3 pm: Menotti's Amahl and the Night Visitors

Jan. 8 at 2 pm: Amernet String Quartet

CHECK THE POL WEBSITE—

www.pinellasoperaleague.com--under "Local Opera" for other programs being offered at our area venues or contact them directly as follows: