

## ST. PETERSBURG OPERA NEWS:

Join us for a salute to the holidays filled with glittering melodies and festive rhythms. It's not just another holiday program - it's a celebration of great music! *Seasonal Sparkle*, our holiday extravaganza, will include parts of *The Messiah*, *The Nutcracker* (with dancers), popular holiday songs, and opera favorites from *Madama Butterfly*, *Lohengrin*, *Tannhauser*, and *Der Rosenkavalier*! The fabulous St. Petersburg Opera Chorus and Orchestra will perform with soloists.

In January, St. Petersburg Opera will welcome Carlisle Floyd and his magnificent *Susannah*. Performances are on January 31, February 2 and 4. Based on the story of Susannah and the Elders, this opera is the most frequently performance American opera. We'll have special events where you can meet the composer and the stars in addition to our three performances.

Both *Sparkle* and *Susannah* are fully staged at the Palladium Theater, 253 Fifth Ave., N., St. Petersburg Call 727-823-2040 or visit our website at [www.stpeteopera.org](http://www.stpeteopera.org) for tickets.

**EVENINGS WITH THE MAESTRO:** "What Makes Opera Opera?" November 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Music Gallery, 5990 Ulmerton Road, Clearwater. Tickets are \$15 for seniors (\$20 general admission) There is no Evening with the Maestro program in December.

## Pinellas Opera League

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*Dedicated To Promoting a Greater Interest  
In Opera and Musical Theater*

*Christina Alexander, M.A., President*

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Voting for officers will take place at the December luncheon. The nominating committee, chair Patti Baldwin, Nancy Jewitt and Kay Slade, have nominated, with the board approval, the following people to be elected for the next two years:

President: Christina Alexander

Vice President: Marcia Lork

Treasurer: Dot Naegele

Recording Secretary: Sarah Roberts

Corresponding Secretary: Alyse Siegrist

**LIVE FROM THE MET-** Sat, Dec. 14, 12:55 p.m. Verdi's "Falstaff". The LIVE IN HD broadcasts will be at the AMC Woodlands Square in Oldsmar, Pinellas Park Regal Theaters, and Regal Citrus Park.

## Happy Holidays to All

Compiled by Richard Davidson  
Designed and printed by Nancy Preis



## The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter  
of  
Pinellas Opera League

DECEMBER, 2013

### Luncheon Meeting:

**Wednesday, December 4, 2013**

Social time begins at 11:00 a.m., business meeting at 11:30 a.m., program at 11:45 a.m., and lunch is served at 12:30 p.m.

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

Menu: Salad, Rolls, Steak, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Chocolate Sundae

**LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS MUST** be made by Sunday, December 1, and cancellations by Monday, December 2. Contact Nancy @727-738-4007. Cost \$20.00 cash or check only made out to Pinellas Opera League, payable at the door. Please come after 10:30 a.m.

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

Dita Charlton, our photographer, will again be taking pictures at the December luncheon.



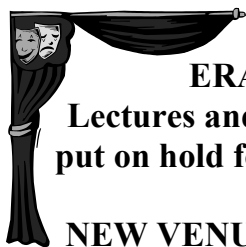
## PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER LUNCHEON:

St. Petersburg Opera and Maestro Mark Sforzini will present a holiday program with Susan Hellman, star of the upcoming *Susannah*, and Chris Romeo, one of "The Operators," who will be featured in the *Seasonal Sparkle* program in December. These singers have been in many SPO productions and will thrill you with their beautiful voices.



**LUNCHEON SPONSORS:** . If you sponsor our luncheon, you get to sit at the performers' table and chat with the artists. Please contact Nancy Jewitt at 727-738-4007. Sponsorship money is used to help pay for the performers' meals.

**DUES WERE DUE IN OCTOBER!**  
**PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES** to Ursula Wignall at the luncheon or mail to 2407 Flint Lock Dr.. Clearwater, FL 33765-1726. Phone 727-796-7260. Dues for one year is \$25.00; family/couple \$40.00. The membership form is on our website-  
[www.pinellasoperaleague.com](http://www.pinellasoperaleague.com)



## ADVENTURES IN OP- ERA AND MUSIC:

Lectures and performances have been put on hold for six months .

**NEW VENUE: OPERA ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON** will continue on January 5, 2014 at the Safety Harbor Public Library, 101 2nd Street N, Safety Harbor, FL 34695 Telephone (727) 724-1525. Note that this is the **FIRST** Sunday of the month. The featured DVD is Johann Strauss Jr.'s *Die Fledermaus*. The library door opens at 1:00 p.m. and the video begins at 1:30 p.m. There is **NO FEE** at this venue. There is no December DVD..

**NEW MEMBERS AND DONATIONS-**  
We would like to welcome former members Kathleen Carothers and Rosemarie Sadovnik. We would also like to welcome new members Judith McLeod, and Susan Luehrs. Thank you to Patti Baldwin, Diane Dubendorff, and Susan Luehrs for their donations to the Verdi Circle and to Joan and Harry McCreary for their donation to the Puccini Circle and for donating their raffle winnings.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:** We have 2 positions open on the board: **WAYS AND MEANS** and **PUBLICATIONS**.

**OPERA TAMPA NEWS:** Once again, Opera Tampa will be offering the Florida Opera Festival package with special prices, for a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. It will include tickets to the two operas, Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, on Sunday, Feb, 9, 2014, and Bizet's *Carmen*, Sunday March 16, 2014, and another program "*L'amour toujours*", a popera concert, Sunday Feb, 23, 2014. The total price for the package is \$145.00, with single tickets at \$65.00. The package includes seating at price level B, service fees and roundtrip transportation via luxury motor coach to the Straz Center in Tampa. Diane Wood has put the package together at special prices for us. Reservation deadline is Jan. 8, 2014. Bus pick up at Clearwater Mall (US 19 and Gulf to Bay in the Lowe's garden center parking lot )at 12:30 p.m. Send checks made payable to Pinellas Opera League to Wayne Green 1340 Bayshore Blvd. #407, Dunedin FL 34698, or pay at the luncheon. Maestro Daniel Lipton, artistic director of Opera Tampa attended our November luncheon, where he promoted the opera festival package. Everyone enjoyed seeing him again.

**PLEASE DONATE ITEMS FOR A SILENT AUCTION FOR A DECEMBER FUNDRAISER.** Thanks to all of you who donated items in November and to those who participated.