



Lyric Opera of Chicago
2014/15 Season Annual Report

Lyric

Honorary Chairmen of the Board

The Honorable Bruce Rauner
The Honorable Rahm Emanuel

Co-Chairman Emeritus

James W. Cozad
Edgar D. Jannotta
Allan B. Muchin

Chairman, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

Richard P. Kiphart

President-Elect

David T. Ormesher

Chairman of the Executive Committee

Lester Crown

General Director and Chief Operating Officer

Anthony Freud

Vice Presidents

James L. Alexander
Sir Andrew Davis
Renée Fleming
Shirley Welsh Ryan
William C. Vance

Secretary

Donna Van Eekeren

Treasurer

Paul J. Carbone

Assistant Secretary

Mary Ladish Selander

Assistant Treasurer

Brent Fisher

LIFE DIRECTORS

Frank W. Considine
James W. Cozad
Edgar Foster Daniels
Richard J. Franke
Edgar D. Jannotta
George E. Johnson
Robert H. Malott
James J. O'Connor
Gordon Segal
Robert E. Wood II

DIRECTORS

Katherine A. Abelson
Whitney W. Addington, M.D. *
James L. Alexander *
John P. Amboian
Paul F. Anderson
Larry A. Barden
Julie Baskes *
James N. Bay, Jr.
Melvin R. Berlin
Sarah Billingham-Solomon
Gilda R. Buchbinder
Allan E. Bulley III
Marion A. Cameron *
Paul J. Carbone **
David W. Carpenter
Timothy L. Christen
Richard W. Colburn †
Michael P. Cole
Vinay Couto
John V. Crowe *
Lester Crown *
Marsha Cruzan
Andrew Davis *
Gerald Dorros, MD †
Alexandra Dousmanis-Curtis
Ann M. Drake
John D. Edelman
Stefan T. Edlis
Lois Eisen

W. James Farrell
Mark E. Ferguson
Michael W. Ferro, Jr.
Rick Fezell †
Russell W. Fisher
Renée Fleming *
Sonia Florian *
Anthony Freud **
Gordon P. Getty †
Ronald J. Gidwitz
Ruth Ann M. Gillis *
Brent W. Gledhill †
Ethel C. Gofen
Howard L. Gottlieb *
Avrum Gray
Melvin Gray
Maria C. Green
Dietrich M. Gross *
Mary Pat Hay
Carrie J. Hightman
Eric L. Hirschfield
J. Thomas Hurvis *
Gregory K. Jones
John W. Jordan II
Stephen A. Kaplan †
Kip Kelley II
Richard P. Kiphart *
Nancy W. Knowles *
Fred A. Krehbiel †
Josef Lakonishok *
Robert W. Lane †
Richard A. Levy †
Robert A. Livingston
James W. Mabie *
Craig C. Martin *
Maura Ann McBreen
Robert J. McCullen
Blythe J. McGarvie
Andrew J. McKenna
Frank B. Modruson †
Robert S. Morrison
Allan B. Muchin *

Linda K. Myers
Jeffrey C. Neal
Sylvia Neil
John D. Nichols †
Kenneth R. Norgan
Sharon F. Oberlander
John W. Oleniczak **
Olufunmilayo I. Olopade, M.D.
David T. Ormesher **
William A. Osborn *
Matthew J. Parr
Jane DiRenzo Pigott
Don M. Randel
Anne N. Reyes
J. Christopher Reyes
Thomas A. Reynolds III
William C. Richardson, Ph.D. †
Collin E. Roche
Ricardo Rosenkranz, M.D.
Edward B. Rouse
Joseph O. Rubinelli, Jr.
Shirley Welsh Ryan *
John F. Sandner
Claudia M. Saran
Rodd M. Schreiber
Jana R. Schreuder *
Marsha Serlin
Brenda M. Shapiro *
Eric S. Smith *
Pam F. Szokol
Franco Tedeschi
Mark A. Thierer
Cherryll T. Thomas
William C. Vance *
Donna Van Eekeren *
Mark A. Wagner †
Roberta L. Washlow
Miles D. White

* Executive Committee
† Audit Committee
‡ National Director



Sonia Florian accepts the Carol Fox Award at the 2014/15 Board of Directors Annual Meeting.

Front Cover: Mariusz Kwiecień and Marina Rebeka in *Don Giovanni*.

Back Cover: *The Passenger*

Photography: Michael Brosilow, Andrew Cioffi, Robert Kusel, Dan Rest, Todd Rosenberg, Jaclyn Simpson, and Cory Weaver.

Lyric's Board of Directors and management are working diligently to build on the achievements of the past and to ensure a successful and vibrant future for our company.



Duke Kiphart

Richard P. Kiphart, Chairman of the Board, Interim President, and Chief Executive Officer

At the start of the 2014/15 season, Kenneth G. Pigott was in his fourth year as President of Lyric's Board of Directors. All of us were stunned and profoundly saddened by Ken's sudden death on February 13, 2015. When I agreed to reassume the position of Interim President and CEO in addition to my position as Chairman of the Board for the duration of the season, I did so with a heavy heart, but with the desire to see through to fruition numerous projects which Ken and the entire Lyric Board had embarked.

Wisdom, commitment, dedication, and generosity made Ken an exceptional Board leader. Those qualities were combined with an extraordinary passion for and knowledge of the art form of opera. Ken embraced both emotionally and intellectually Lyric's absolute commitment to world-class excellence. It would be impossible to overstate his contribution to our organization. The company's highest honor, the Carol Fox Award, was bestowed on revered member of the Executive Committee Sonia Florian, director of the NIB Foundation, and on Ken posthumously, at the 2015 Annual Meeting. As a tribute to the extraordinary contribution Ken made to the institution in so many ways, the stage of the Ardis Krainik Theatre has been renamed in perpetuity The Ken Pigott Stage, ensuring that Ken's presence will be felt forever at Lyric.

Ken was instrumental in the development of our new strategic plan, *Breaking New Ground*. This was the result of a strategic planning process to help Lyric achieve continued excellence, relevance, and fiscal responsibility. Key building blocks were the appointments of Renée Fleming as Creative Consultant in 2010, Anthony Freud as General Director in 2011, and the extension of Sir Andrew Davis's contract as Music Director in 2012 through 2020. Each brought an extraordinary set of new assets and points of view to layer upon Lyric's rich history.

Excitement and momentum were palpable under the inspired leadership of Anthony and Sir Andrew, and with Renée's vital and ongoing magic touch. The entire company demonstrated Lyric's dedication to producing artistic excellence onstage, from the renowned principal artists to our extraordinary orchestra and chorus.

At the same time, Lyric became more relevant and meaningful to the vast Chicago community through Lyric Unlimited, which had another dynamic season, broadening our demographic through inventive programming that speaks to new audiences. Those audiences are not only becoming larger, they are becoming more diverse. This is an integral part of our mission.

The American Musical Theater Initiative continues to be a vital part of the plan that gives us the opportunity to showcase iconic works in grand Lyric Opera fashion. In doing so, we are broadening the company's fan base by attracting large and new audiences. We were thrilled by a spectacular new production of *Carousel*. It's particularly exciting—and gratifying—to note that more than half of the *Carousel* ticket-buyers were experiencing Lyric for the first time.

The number of subscribers grew, responding to great performances and an appealing repertoire. We are working hard to maintain and grow subscribers, particularly in today's challenging business environment when so many of our sister companies are also experiencing a contraction in audiences.

Our donor base also expanded. The annual fundraising campaign was highly successful, exceeding the \$25.4 million goal thanks to the generosity of the Lyric Opera family. The sensational proceeds for the 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball and the 2015 Wine Auction reached an all-time high. Special thanks to the Lyric Women's Board for their extraordinary effort!

Ongoing financial sustainability is, of course, essential to Lyric's future. The company's *Breaking New Ground* campaign is supporting the strategic initiatives we have put in place and adopted as integral to our mission. While building the endowment to a level representing best practices, we must at the same time modernize Lyric's stage and equipment; update media, marketing, and audience development programs; produce new and revived major productions of the highest caliber; and strengthen the balance sheet. We have made tremendous progress in the campaign in the past two years, having received broad-based and generous support from our Board of Directors and extended donor family.

Lyric's Board and management are working diligently to build on the achievements of the past and to ensure a successful and vibrant future for our company. The entire company displays a dedication to embracing the priorities laid out in Lyric's strategic plan. It is paramount to Lyric's success that we continue to function in a fiscally responsible manner that maximizes our ability to create and produce great art.

It is an honor and a privilege to work closely with Lyric's incredible Board of Directors, whose leadership, dedication, and expertise are exceptional. Special thanks to Lester Crown, Chairman of the Executive Committee for 39 years, and the entire Executive Committee; President-Elect David Ormesher, who is extremely qualified to serve as our next leader; and Vice Presidents James L. Alexander, Shirley W. Ryan, and William C. Vance, Secretary Donna Van Eekeren, Treasurer Paul Carbone as well as committee chairs James L. Alexander (Production Sponsorship), Marion Cameron (Investment), John W. Oleniczak (Audit), Paul Carbone (Finance), Eric S. Smith (Lyric Unlimited), Brent Gledhill (Innovation), Ruth Ann Gillis (Compensation), and Marsha Cruzan (Civic Engagement) for their hard work and endless dedication. Our gratitude goes to Craig C. Martin and Jenner & Block for their counsel and pro bono services throughout the year. Lyric's solid reputation is due in large part to the dedication, generosity, and leadership from its steadfast Board of Directors, and all six volunteer boards.

Thanks to Sir Andrew Davis, Creative Consultant Renée Fleming, the Lyric staff, and everyone contributing to our productions, as well as our extraordinary volunteer boards, all of us will recall the 60th Anniversary season with joy and gratitude for many years to come.



Anthony Freud
General Director

Lyric Opera of Chicago celebrated its 60th Anniversary in 2014/15 with a season that any major international opera company would envy. It acknowledged our past while savoring our present and looking forward to an exciting future. It was a joy for me to work with music director Sir Andrew Davis in presenting the season to our devoted Lyric audience, who responded with great enthusiasm from first production to last.

Mozart's *Don Giovanni* has a special association with this company: we produced it for the legendary "calling card" performances in 1954, and half a century later it opened our 50th anniversary season. It was only fitting to launch our season-long celebration of Lyric's 60th anniversary by premiering a new production of this masterpiece. A wonderful preview was provided at the annual *Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park* concert, which showcased the entire *Don Giovanni* cast. Mariusz Kwiecień starred in the title role, which he has made his own internationally. Among the other exceptional Mozartians collaborating with him onstage were Ana María Martínez, Marina Rebeka, and Kyle Ketelsen. The production, in a brilliant contemporary updating by Goodman Theatre artistic director Robert Falls, was superbly conducted by Sir Andrew, one of today's pre-eminent Mozart interpreters.

For only the second time in our history we were able to program *Capriccio*, the glorious final stage work of Richard Strauss. With this production, our desire to present Renée Fleming in one of her incomparable Strauss portrayals came to fruition at long last. Renée's radiant characterization of Countess Madeleine was the focal point of a stellar cast featuring Bo Skovhus, William Burden, Peter Rose, Audun Iversen (debut), and — in a welcome return to Lyric after 25 years — Anne Sofie von Otter. Sir Andrew's passion for this work resulted in luminous playing by the Lyric orchestra for a production lovingly directed by Peter McClintock.

After successes at The Metropolitan Opera and San Francisco Opera, Sir David McVicar's blazing production of Verdi's *Il Trovatore* returned to Lyric, where it had premiered in 2006.

Authoritatively conducted by Asher Fisch, it was strongly cast with artists who had all triumphed previously at Lyric: Yonghoon Lee, Stephanie Blythe, Andrea Sivistrelli, and two Ryan Opera Center alumni who now enjoy impressive international careers — Amber Wagner and Quinn Kelsey.

Audiences in 2008 were so enthralled by Francesca Zambello's production of the Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* that its return engagement was assured. Joining conductor Ward Stare were an unforgettable couple, Eric Owens and Adina Aaron (debut), who broke all hearts in the title roles. Memorable, too, were Eric Greene and Jermaine Smith from the 2008 cast, as well as a current member of Lyric's Ryan Opera Center Ensemble, Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi (debut).

Certain works await revival on Lyric's stage until the company can engage the right protagonist. One of those works, *Anna Bolena*, previously heard here in only one season (1985, with Dame Joan Sutherland), returned starring Sondra Radvanovsky, who in recent years has made a specialty of the title role. In a thought-provoking production by Kevin Newbury, we welcomed back Jamie Barton and John Relyea while also presenting the Lyric debuts of Bryan Hymel and conductor Patrick Summers.

After his magnificent *Parsifal* at Lyric (2013/14), director John Caird returned with a riveting staging of Puccini's *Tosca*. Lyric's revival boasted a debuting conductor, Dmitri Jurowski, and two casts of internationally celebrated artists, each closely associated with this opera: Tatiana Serjan/Hui He, Brian Jagde/Jorge de León, and Evgeny Nikitin/Mark Delavan.

Wagner's *Tannhäuser* brought back to the Lyric stage a work unheard here since the 1988/89 season. As with *Anna Bolena*, we waited for a singer who could truly command the central role. We were fortunate indeed in the performance of Johan Botha, widely regarded as today's most successful *Tannhäuser*. Joining him in Tim Albery's profoundly moving production were Amber Wagner, Gerald Finley, Michaela Schuster, and John Relyea. This quintet of principals provided a feast of thrilling singing, matched by the Lyric orchestra and chorus led by Sir Andrew in his first *Tannhäuser*.

All of us at Lyric were immensely gratified by the critical and public acclaim accorded the company premiere of Weinberg's *The Passenger*. This musically and dramatically stunning work, which had languished unperformed until as recently as 2010, was based on a novel by Holocaust survivor Zofia Posmysz. Her visit to Chicago for this production made the final rehearsals and the opening-night performance doubly memorable. The extraordinarily dedicated ensemble onstage—headed by Amanda Majeski, Daveda Karanas, and Brandon Jovanovich—gave heart and soul to David Pountney's magnificent production, as did Sir Andrew on the podium.

Following the opera season was the much-praised third installment of Lyric's American Musical Theater Initiative, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*. The exceptionally talented artistic team—conductor David Chase, director Rob Ashford, and designers Paolo Ventura, Catherine Zuber, and Neil Austin—created a magical production. Onstage was a coming-together of major figures from Broadway (Steven Pasquale, Laura Osnes, Jenn Gambatese), film (Tony Roberts), and opera (Denyce Graves).

Our 60th Anniversary was celebrated in a dazzling gala on November 1, hosted by the marvelous Jane Lynch. Onstage were such renowned artists as Stephanie Blythe, Renée Fleming, Christine Goerke, Susan Graham, Ana María Martínez, Marina Rebeka, Amber Wagner, Johan Botha, Quinn Kelsey, Mariusz Kwiecień, and Eric Owens, with Sir Andrew conducting. In addition, the evening featured appearances by jazz legend Ramsey Lewis, the Ryan Opera Center Ensemble, and performers from The Second City.

Also highlighting the season were two other special events: the world premiere of Lyric's second mariachi opera, *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina (The Past Is Never Finished)* by Pepe Martínez and Leonard Foglia, which elicited enormous enthusiasm for performances at Lyric as well as in Pilsen and Waukegan; and the second Lyric recital by Lang Lang, one of the world's most gifted and charismatic pianists.



Amanda Majeski, Daveda Karanas, and Brandon Jovanovich in *The Passenger*.

This message would not be complete without my paying tribute to Ken Pigott, our remarkable president, who died unexpectedly on February 13, 2015. Collaborating with Ken was one of my greatest pleasures at Lyric. I will miss his brilliance, his imagination, his enthusiasm for opera, and his devotion to the company more than I can say. I am very grateful to Dick Kiphart for returning to his position of President and CEO on an interim basis while remaining Chairman.

I would like to express my gratitude to Sir Andrew Davis, Creative Consultant Renée Fleming, the Lyric staff, and everyone contributing to our productions—both onstage and backstage—as well as to our extraordinarily hardworking volunteer boards and, of course, to the entire Lyric audience. I know all of us will recall the 60th Anniversary season with joy and gratitude for many years to come.

It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of Lyric Opera of Chicago's 60th Anniversary Season as its Creative Consultant.

I made my Lyric debut in 1993 singing the title role in Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*, and as this great company celebrated its 60th Anniversary, I was thrilled to be part of this wonderful milestone.

To celebrate this auspicious occasion, on Saturday, November 1, 2014, I joined my friend, Emmy and Golden Globe Award winner Jane Lynch (*Glee*, *Hollywood Game Night*), who served as the master of ceremonies for the 60th Anniversary Concert, with a galaxy of stars and the matchless Lyric Opera Chorus and Orchestra. I loved singing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" with jazz legend Ramsey Lewis, and sharing the stage with the hilarious cast of *The Second City*, for an evening that celebrated Lyric's pre-eminent place among the astounding riches of Chicago's cultural life.

Leading up to the anniversary gala, it was a pleasure to be at Lyric singing Countess Madeleine in Richard Strauss's *Capriccio*, one of my favorite roles (my ninth at Lyric). As always at Lyric, we had a world-class cast, which included Bo Skovhus, Anne Sofie Von Otter, Peter Rose, and William Burden, and Sir Andrew Davis conducted the Lyric Opera Orchestra.

As part of my role with Lyric, I have the opportunity to help develop the next generation of opera lovers. On every trip to Chicago, I try to incorporate a visit with the Lyric Young Professionals. I have also worked with students at local music schools. These talented young individuals are the future, and I enjoy sharing my love for music with them. To insure that arts education is part of the Chicago Public Schools curriculum, I have helped launch and promote the CPS Arts Education Plan, in collaboration with Mayor Emanuel, Yo-Yo Ma, and Damien Woetzel and beyond.

Another rewarding role for me is that of Advisor to the Ryan Opera Center. This top-notch training program nurtures young artists on the verge of major careers, and this is where we will find the new stars who will keep audiences coming to the opera house.

On a sorrowful note, I was deeply saddened by the loss of Ken Pigott, who was my mentor, cheerleader, and hero. Ken was a rarity among heads of major cultural institutions, with an abiding love for the art form, inexhaustible creativity and energy, and absolute dedication to making Lyric Opera of Chicago the great North American opera company of the 21st century.

Finally, I'd like to express my sincerest gratitude to the "Renée Brigade" for their continued, generous support in making my role at Lyric possible.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Renée Fleming".

Renée Fleming
Creative Consultant



RENÉE FLEMING INITIATIVE SPONSORS

- Anonymous
- Mr. and Mrs. John V. Crowe
- The Crown Family
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Hurvis
- Richard P. and Susan Kiphart
- John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols
- Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan
- Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance



Renée Fleming coaches Ryan Opera Center Ensemble member Laura Wilde at a master class.
Renée Fleming performs with Ramsey Lewis at Lyric's 60th Anniversary Concert.

Annual Meeting Dinner

Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
Strategy&, Formerly Booz & Company

Backstage Tours

Paul and Amy Carbone

Lyric Opera of Chicago Broadcasts

The Hurvis Family Foundation

With Matching Funding by:

The Matthew and Kay Bucksbaum Family
The John and Jacolyn Bucksbaum Family
Richard P. and Susan Kiphart

Carousel Celebration

Mr. and Mrs. Todd D. Mitchell
Collin and Lili Roche
Patrick G. and Shirley Welsh Ryan
Rodd Schreiber and Susan Hassan Schreiber/
Skadden
Nancy S. Searle

Champagne On Stage

Albert and Rita Lacher

Choral Concerts

Lieselotte N. Betterman
Shawn M. Donnelley and Christopher M. Kelly
Mr. and Mrs. Tom W. Olofson

Grand Benefactor Dinners

Latham & Watkins LLP

Innovation Initiative

Patrick G. Ryan and Shirley Welsh Ryan

Lang Lang in Recital

Robert and Evelyn McCullen
McDonald's of Greater China

Lyric Signature Events

Baker & McKenzie
PwC

Official Airline

American Airlines

Opening Night Gala

Aon

Opening Night Gala Dinner

Anonymously sponsored in memory
of Debby Jannotta

Operathon

Ardmore Associates
Walgreens
98.7WFMT

Operathon Challenge Grants

Anonymous (2)
Amsted Industries Foundation
Julie and Roger Baskes
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Beata
Dr. and Mrs. Tapas K. Das Gupta
Sir Andrew Davis and Lady Gianna Rolandi Davis
Renée Fleming
Anthony Freud and Colin Ure
Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich M. Gross
Edgar D. Jannotta
Richard P. and Susan Kiphart
Lyric Opera Chapters
Lyric Opera Overture Society
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marjan
Mr. and Mrs. James McClung
Egon and Dorothy Menker
Allan and Elaine Muchin
Lloyd E. Rigler—Lawrence E. Deutsch Foundation
Dr. David Thurn
Joan and Marco Weiss/Bill Melamed and
Jamey Lundblad

**Operathon
Merchandise Sponsors**

Fellowes, Inc.
Sidley Austin LLP

**Operathon
Trip Auction**

American Airlines

Overture Society Luncheons

Mr. and Mrs. Merrill E. Blau
Rhoda L. and Henry S. Frank
Susan M. Miller

Planned Giving Seminars

BMO Harris Bank
Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC
Morgan Stanley
William Blair & Company

Projected English Titles

Lloyd E. Rigler—Lawrence E. Deutsch Foundation

Renée Fleming Initiative

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. John V. Crowe
The Crown Family
J. Thomas Hurvis
Richard P. and Susan Kiphart
John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols
Patrick G. and Shirley Welsh Ryan
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance

Season Preview Concert

Komarek-Hyde-McQueen Foundation/
Patricia Hyde
Lake Geneva Chapter

**Stars of Lyric Opera at
Millennium Park**

Lead Sponsor:
closerlook, inc.
Cosponsors:
Anonymous (2)
AT&T
Christine and Paul Branstad Family Foundation
Crain-Maling Foundation
Ernst & Young LLP
Rhoda L. and Henry S. Frank
Greg and Annie Jones/The Edgewater Funds
Lois B. Siegel
Music Performance Trust Fund and Film Funds



Patrick and Meredith Wood-Prince

2014/15 SEASON PRODUCTION SPONSORS

Mozart's *Don Giovanni*

New Lyric Opera production generously made possible by **Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich M. Gross**, the **Abbott Fund**, **Randy L. and Melvin R. Berlin**, **Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Gidwitz**, and **The Negaunee Foundation**.

Strauss's *Capriccio*

Lyric Opera presentation generously made possible by an **Anonymous Donor**, **Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Hurvis**, **Nancy W. Knowles**, and **Margot and Josef Lakonishok**.

Verdi's *Il Trovatore*

Lyric Opera Production generously made possible by an **Anonymous Donor**, **Julie and Roger Baskes**, the **Howard Family Foundation**, and the **Mazza Foundation**.

The Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess*

This Lyric Opera presentation's generous sponsors are the **Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust**, **The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust**, **Cherryl T. Thomas and Ardmore Associates**, **Roberta L. and Robert J. Washlow**, and the **National Endowment for the Arts**



- 1 Melvin and Randy Berlin
- 2 Ron and Christina Gidwitz
- 3 Dietrich Gross with Ana María Martínez
- 4 David Pountney, Susan and Richard Kiphart
- 5 Guests of Adam Mickiewicz Institute

- 6 Brandon Jovanovich with Dan Fischel and Sylvia Neil
- 7 David Carpenter, Zofia Posmysz, and Orit Carpenter
- 8 Amanda Majeski and Brenda Shapiro
- 9 J'Nai Bridges, Fern and Manfred Steinfeld
- 10 Cherryl T. Thomas and Eric Owens

- 11 Curtis Drayer, Ward Stare, and James L. Alexander
- 12 Roberta and Bob Washlow
- 13 Marion Cameron and Donald Cameron
- 14 Amber Wagner and Sonia Florian
- 15 Marlys A. Beider and Dmitri Jurowski



16



17



18



19



20



21



22



23



24



25



26



27



28



29



30

Donizetti's *Anna Bolena*

Lyric Opera's coproduction generously made possible by **The Monument Trust (UK)** and the **Donna Van Eekeren Foundation**.

Puccini's *Tosca*

Lyric Opera coproduction generously made possible by the **Harris Family Foundation**, **Marlys A. Beider**, **Stefan Edlis** and **Gael Neeson**, **ITW**, and **Mr. and Mrs. Michael Polsky**

Wagner's *Tannhäuser*

Lyric Opera presentation generously made possible by an **Anonymous Donor**, the **NIB Foundation**, and **Marion A. Cameron**.

Weinberg's *The Passenger*

Lyric Opera presentation generously made possible by **Richard P. and Susan Kiphart**, **Sylvia Neil** and **Daniel Fischel**, **Earl and Brenda Shapiro Foundation**, **Sidley Austin LLP**, **Manfred and Fern Steinfeld**, **Helen and Sam Zell**, and the **Adam Mickiewicz Institute** as part of the **Polska Music Program**.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Carousel*

New production generously made possible by **The Negaunee Foundation**, **The Davee Foundation**, **Robert S. and Susan E. Morrison**, **Mr. and Mrs. J. Christopher Reyes**, **Liz Stiffel**, **Mrs. Herbert A. Vance** and **Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance**, **Jim and Vicki Mills/ Jon and Lois Mills**.

16 Brian Jagde, Gael Neeson, and Stefan Edlis

17 Pam Szokol, William Szokol, Kathy Harris, Kim Szokol, and Joe Szokol

18 Joseph Tyler, Brenda Russell, Maria Green, Evgeny Nikitin, Adele Martel, and Roland Martel

19 Tanya and Michael Polsky with Tatiana Serjan

20 Howard Gottlieb with Amber Wagner and Barbara Greis

21 Roger Baskes, Yonghoon Lee, and Julie Baskes

22 Joseph Rubinelli, Jane Rubinelli, Nick Lavezzorio, Liz Lavezzorio, William Schneidwind, Joan Schneidwind, and Michael Minieka

23 Stewart Grimshaw, Jamie Barton, and Kevin Newbury

24 Donna Van Eekeren, Sondra Radvanovsky, and Dale Connelly

25 Julie Hurvis, Emily Birsan, and Tom Hurvis

26 Renée Fleming with Margot and Josef Lakonishok

27 Wendy Whiteside, Jim Dugdale, Rose Dugdale, Charlotte D'Amboise, Linda Grannon, Jenn Gambatase, Craig Grannon, Ann Murray, and Mike Hurbtise

28 Steven Pasquale and the Morrison family

29 Denyce Graves, Richard Colburn, and Tony Roberts

30 Abigail Simon, Laura Osnes, and Liz Stiffel

NEW LYRIC OPERA PRODUCTION

Don Giovanni

By: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(In Italian with projected English titles)



Cast of *Don Giovanni*.



Mariusz Kwiecień and Andriana Chuchman

Conductor: Sir Andrew Davis
Director: Robert Falls
Assistant Director: Matthew Ozawa
Set Designer: Walt Spangler
Costume Designer: Ana Kuzmanic
Lighting Designer: Duane Schuler
Chorus Master: Michael Black
Choreographer: August Tye
Wig and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):
Kyle Ketelsen, Marina Rebeka, Mariusz Kwiecień/Richard Ollarsaba (Oct. 8),
Andrea Silvestrelli, Antonio Poli, Ana María Martínez, Andriana Chuchman,
Michael Sumuel

10 Performances:
Sept. 27, 30; Oct. 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 24, 29.

“[Robert] Falls’s fast-moving staging has an eye for the opera’s comedy and even more for its sexuality...”

— **George Loomis, *Financial Times***

“Mariusz Kwiecień inhabited his signature role with rich baritone aplomb, throwing himself into Giovanni’s athleticism in this staging with enough volatile, sinister charm to rivet the audience’s attention.”

— **John von Rhein, *Chicago Tribune***

New Lyric Opera
production
generously made
possible by



Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich M. Gross



Randy L. and Melvin R. Berlin



Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. Gidwitz

**The Negaunee
Foundation**

Capriccio

By: Richard Strauss
(In German with projected English titles)



Audun Iversen, Renée Fleming, and William Burden



Renée Fleming

Conductor: Sir Andrew Davis
Original Director: John Cox
Revival Director: Peter McClintock
Set Designer: Mauro Pagano
Costume Designer and Interior Décor: Robert Perdziola
Lighting Designer: Duane Schuler
Choreographer: Val Caniparoli
Ballet Mistress: August Tye
Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten
Assistant Director: Elise Sandell

Production owned by The Metropolitan Opera

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

William Burden, Audun Iversen, Peter Rose/David Govertsen (Oct. 15), Renée Fleming, Bo Skovhus, Anne Sofie von Otter, Juan José de León, Emily Birsan, Matthew DiBattista, Jesse Donner, Anthony Clark Evans, John Irvin, Jonathan Johnson, Will Liverman, Richard Ollarsaba/Kenneth Nichols (Oct. 15), Bradley Smoak, David Govertsen/Richard Ollarsaba (Oct. 15), Keith Jameson

7 Performances:

Oct. 6, 9, 12, 15, 22, 25, 28.

“From start to finish, [Renée] Fleming allowed the audience to enter into the drama, combining phrasing, intonation, and tone in a persuasive interpretation, before the finesse of her concluding monologue.”

—James L. Zychowicz, *Seen and Heard International*

“Highly recommended... Andrew Davis, always a superb Strauss conductor, and the Lyric Orchestra may have outdone themselves...”

—Andrew Patner, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Lyric Opera
presentation
generously made
possible by

An Anonymous Donor



Mr. and Mrs.
J. Thomas Hurvis



Nancy W. Knowles



Margot and Josef Lakonishok

Il Trovatore

By: Giuseppe Verdi
(In Italian with projected English titles)



The anvil chorus of *Il Trovatore*



Yonghoon Lee and Stephanie Blythe

Conductor: Asher Fisch
Original Director: Sir David McVicar
Revival Director and Choreographer: Leah Hausman
Set Designer: Charles Edwards
Costume Designer: Brigitte Reiffenstuel
Lighting by: Jennifer Tipton
Chorus Master: Michael Black
Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten
Assistant Director: Elise Sandell

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):
Andrea Silvestrelli, J’Nai Bridges, Amber Wagner, Quinn Kelsey,
Yonghoon Lee, Stephanie Blythe, Kenneth Nichols, Timothy Bradley,
Jonathan Johnson

8 Performances:
Oct. 27; Nov. 5, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 29.

“Everything that opera lovers dream of encountering onstage... Tall, slim and handsome, Lee unleashed his agile tenor with youthful ardor... [Stephanie Blythe’s] big, rich mezzo-soprano combined both ringing clarity and smoky depths...”

—Wynne Delacoma, *Chicago Sun-Times*

“Amber Wagner spun reams of gorgeous, creamy tone... [Quinn] Kelsey has now fully graduated into the leading Verdi baritone roles he was clearly born to sing.”

—Mark Thomas Ketterson, *Chicago Tribune*

Lyric Opera
production
revival
generously made
possible by

An Anonymous Donor



Julie and Roger Baskes



Howard Family Foundation



Mazza Foundation

Porgy and Bess

By: George Gershwin, DuBose and Dorothy Heyward, and Ira Gershwin



Cast of *Porgy and Bess*



Eric Owens and Adina Aaron

Conductor: Ward Stare
Director: Francesca Zambello
Assistant Director: Garnett Bruce
Set Designer: Peter J. Davison
Costume Designer: Paul Tazewell
Lighting Designer: Mark McCullough
Chorus Master: Michael Black
Choreographer and Associate Director: Denni Sayers
Ballet Mistress: August Tye
Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Production originally created for Washington National Opera

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi, Chase Taylor, Jermaine Smith, Norman Garrett, Karen Slack, Bernard Holcomb, Earl Hazell, Curtis Bannister, Veronica Chapman-Smith, Gwendolyn Brown, Eric Owens, Eric Greene, Adina Aaron, John Lister, Brian McCaskill, Kenneth Nichols, Will Liverman, Leah Dexter, Anthony P. McGlaun, Samantha McElhaney, Jermaine Brown, Jr., Dev Kennedy

13 Performances:

Nov. 17, 19, 23, 26, 28; Dec. 2, 5, 8, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20.

“...a splendid revival that demonstrated why the Gershwins’ masterpiece is considered one of the great American artistic achievements. As Porgy, Eric Owens turned in one of his finest performances at Lyric to date... Adina Aaron nailed the character [of Bess] in a winning Lyric debut.”

—Mark Thomas Ketterson,
Opera News

This Lyric Opera presentation’s generous sponsors are



The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust



Cherryl T. Thomas and
Ardmore Associates



Roberta L. and
Robert J. Washlow



LYRIC OPERA CO-PRODUCTION

Anna Bolena

By: Gaetano Donizetti
(In Italian with projected English texts)



Cast of *Anna Bolena*



Bryan Hymel and Sondra Radvanovsky

Conductor: Patrick Summers
Director: Kevin Newbury
Assistant Director: Matthew Ozawa
Scenery and Properties designed by: Neil Patel
Costume Designer: Jessica Jahn
Lighting Designer: D. M. Wood
Chorus Master: Michael Black
Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Production owned by The Minnesota Opera and Lyric Opera of Chicago

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

Jamie Barton, Kelley O'Connor, Sondra Radvanovsky/
Tracy Cantin (Jan. 16; Act 2: Scenes 2 & 3), John Relyea, Richard Ollarsaba,
Bryan Hymel, John Irvin

8 Performances:

Dec. 6, 9, 12, 15, 21; Jan. 7, 10, 16.

"[Sondra Radvanovsky] has the volume, flexibility and personality to carry off big bel canto statements, and her culminating mad scene was riveting... With her opulent mezzo, Jamie Barton delivered on Jane's complexities... The women's Act II confrontation was a high point of the evening."

—Heidi Waleson, *The Wall Street Journal*

Lyric Opera
coproduction
generously made
possible by

THE · MONUMENT · TRUST



Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Tosca

By: Giacomo Puccini
(In Italian with projected English texts)



Chorus of *Tosca*



Brian Jagde and Tatiana Serjan

Conductor: Dmitri Jurowski
Director: John Caird
Assistant Director: Shawna Lucey
Scenic and Costume Designer: Bunny Christie
Costume Designer: Jessica Jahn
Lighting Designer: Duane Schuler
Chorus Master: Michael Black
Children's Chorus Master: Josephine Lee
Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Production owned by Houston Grand Opera and Lyric Opera of Chicago

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

Richard Ollarsaba, Dale Travis, Brian Jagde/
Jorge de León (Feb. 27-Mar. 14), Tatiana Serjan/Hui He (Feb. 27-Mar. 14),
Evgeny Nikitin/Mark Delavan (Feb. 27-Mar. 14), Rodell Rosel/
David Cangelosi (Feb. 27-Mar. 14), Bradley Smoak, Annie Wagner,
Anthony Clark Evans

10 Performances:

Jan. 24, 27, 30; Feb. 2, 5, 27; Mar. 3, 8, 11, 14.

"[Tatiana Serjan's] soprano is a remarkable instrument, her top notes gleaming and confident, her lower register equally powerful but tinged with dusky smoke. Slim and lithe, she also is a superb actress, ideal for Tosca... Brian Jagde's Cavaradossi is Serjan's equal both vocally and dramatically..."

—Wynne Delacoma, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Lyric Opera
coproduction
generously made
possible by



Harris Family Foundation



Marlys A. Beider



Stefan Edlis and
Gael Neeson



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Polsky



Tannhäuser

By: Richard Wagner
(In German with projected English titles)



Ballet of *Tannhäuser*



Johan Botha and Michaela Schuster

Conductor: Sir Andrew Davis
Director: Tim Albery
Assistant Director: Garnett Bruce
Set Designer: Michael Levine
Costume Designer: Jon Morrell
Lighting Designer: David Finn
Chorus Master: Michael Black
Choreographer: Jasmin Vardimon
Associate Choreographer: Mafalda Deville
Ballet Mistress: August Tye
Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Production owned by The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

Michaela Schuster, Johan Botha/Richard Decker (Feb. 26, Mar. 2),
Angela Mannino, John Relyea, Jesse Donner, Daniel Sutin,
Gerald Finley, Corey Bix, Richard Wiegold, Amber Wagner

7 Performances:

Feb. 9, 14, 18, 22, 26; Mar. 2, 6.

“Andrew Davis, drawing floods of sumptuous sound and deep-piled lyricism from the admirable Lyric Opera Orchestra... Michael Black’s finely disciplined chorus singing its collective heart out... Botha is today’s definitive Tannhäuser... [Gerald Finley] made the hymn to the evening star one of the evening’s musical highlights..”

— John von Rhein, *Chicago Tribune*

Lyric Opera
presentation
generously made
possible by

An Anonymous Donor



Marion A. Cameron

The Passenger

By: Mieczysław Weinberg

(In Russian, German, Polish, French, Yiddish, Czech, and English with projected English titles)



Cast of *The Passenger*



Amanda Majeski

Conductor: Sir Andrew Davis
 Director: David Pountney
 Assistant Director: Paula Suozzi
 Set Designer: Johan Engels
 Costume Designer: Marie-Jeanne Lecca
 Lighting Designer: Fabrice Kebour
 Chorus Master: Michael Black
 Movement Director: August Tye
 Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Production owned by the Bregenser Festspiele, Austria, Teatr Wielki Opera Narodowa Warszawa, English National Opera ENO, London, and Teatro Real, Madrid

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

Brandon Jovanovich, Daveda Karanas, Wilbur Pauley, Géraldine Dulex, Bradley Smoak, Richard Ollarsaba, John Irvin/Jonathan Johnson (Mar. 4), Amanda Majeski, Nina Warren, Uliana Alexyuk, J'Nai Bridges, Julie Miller, Liuba Sokolova, Agnieszka Rehlis, Kelly Kaduce, Joshua Hopkins

6 Performances:

Feb. 24, 28; Mar. 4, 9, 12, 15.

*"A virtually flawless performance and [David] Pountney's definitive production justify the decision of Lyric general director Anthony Freud to bring *The Passenger* to Chicago."*

— John von Rhein, **Chicago Tribune**

"...gripping music theater, that kind that keeps you awake for half the night and then haunts your dreams..."

— Sarah Bryan Miller, **St. Louis Post-Dispatch**

Lyric Opera presentation generously made possible by



Richard P. and Susan Kiphart



Sylvia Neil and Daniel Fischel



Earl and Brenda Shapiro Foundation



Manfred and Fern Steinfeld



Helen and Sam Zell

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
SIDLEY

ADAM MICKIEWICZ INSTITUTE

POLSKA MUSIC

LYRIC OPERA PREMIERE & NEW PRODUCTION

CAROUSEL

By: Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein II

“...a Carousel starring a slew of Broadway, television, opera and ballet stars alongside the cream of Chicago’s theatrical and vocal talent...a production that is huge, audaciously daring, and bracingly human. And yes, one that is immediately legendary...what this show and this epic production really do is illuminate the human condition...”

— Paul W. Thompson, *Broadwayworld.com*



Laura Osnes and Steven Pasquale



Denyce Graves

New production
generously made
possible by

The Negaunee Foundation

The Davee Foundation



Robert S. and Susan E. Morrison



Mr. and Mrs.
J. Christopher Reyes



Liz Stiffel



Mrs. Herbert A. Vance and
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance



1



2



3



4



Steven Pasquale



5



6



7

Conductor: David Chase
 Director and Choreographer: Rob Ashford
 Assistant Director: Matthew Ozawa
 Set Designer: Paolo Ventura
 Costume Designer: Catherine Zuber
 Lighting Designer: Neil Austin
 Sound Designer: Mark Grey
 Chorus Master: Michael Black
 Wigmaster and Makeup Designer: Sarah Hatten

Cast (in order of vocal appearance):

Jenn Gambatase, Laura Osnes, Charlotte D'Amboise, Steven Pasquale/
 Rob Hunt (May 1), J. Michael Finley, David Lively, Pamela Williams,
 Denyce Graves, Matthew Hydzik, Jarrod Emick, Emily Rohm, Rob Hunt/
 Dane Thomas (May 1), Ronald Watkins, George Andrew Wolff, McKinley Carter,
 Tony Roberts, Abigail Simon, Martin Harvey, Robby Kipferl, Eliza Palasz,
 Rosie Jo Neddy, Spencer Curnutt, Betsy Farrar, Laura Savage, James Romney,
 Jessye Wright, Tony Roberts

25 Performances:

April 10, 11, 12, 16*, 17, 18*, 19, 21, 22, 23*, 24, 25*, 26, 28, 29, 30*: May 1, 2*, 3
 (*matinee and evening)



Jim and Vicki Mills/Jon and Lois Mills

- 1 Anthony Freud with Mindy the Monkey
- 2 Ally Bulley with his two daughters and their friends
- 3 Carouse/ Gala Co-Chair Nancy S. Searle, G.P. and Kristin Searle
- 4 Eileen and Chris Murphy

- 5 Shirley W. Ryan
- 6 Guests of Skadden, Arps, Slate Meagher & Flom LLP
- 7 David and Sheila Ormesher

STARS OF LYRIC OPERA AT MILLENNIUM PARK 2014



Lead Sponsor:



Cosponsors:
Anonymous (2)
AT&T
Christine and Paul Branstad Family Foundation
Crain-Maling Foundation
Ernst & Young LLP
Rhoda L. and Henry S. Frank
Greg and Annie Jones/The Edgewater Funds
Lois B. Siegel
Music Performance Trust Fund and Film Funds





LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO

The 2014/15 season marked a successful third year of Lyric Opera's redefined and reinvigorated education and community engagement initiative, Lyric Unlimited.



Memory & Reckoning

Lyric Unlimited offers a multifaceted program of expanded community engagement and artistic initiatives that includes Lyric's longstanding education programs.

The main objectives of Lyric Unlimited are to deepen and broaden the cultural services we provide to communities throughout our city, to develop collaborative relationships and projects with other cultural and community organizations, and to explore the development of opera as an art form. Lyric Unlimited programs continually explore new ways through which opera can resonate with our public, and are redefining our audience base. In the 2014/15 season alone, Lyric Unlimited engaged more than 126,000 children and adults. Of those participants, 42,645 were children from throughout the Chicago region, and 12,909 were Chicago Public Schools students.



Vocal Partnership Program Master Class with Renée Fleming at Merit School of Music



Chicago Mariachi Project students performing in the Civic Opera House foyer prior to *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina*



Teacher Professional Development Workshop for *Carousel*



Lyric Uncorked

Lyric Unlimited Programs and Activities – Highlights

Lyric Unlimited was delighted to present its third annual family performance, *The Magic Victrola*, on Saturday, January 17, 2015. This nearly sold-out performance at Lyric’s Civic Opera House was highly successful and offered children and their families a unique and engaging introduction to opera. The brand-new production, which prominently featured members of The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center and members of the Lyric Opera Orchestra, wove together a variety of opera’s most familiar arias, offering the experience of grand opera to a new generation of music enthusiasts. By presenting a collection of arias from a range of composers and time periods, *The Magic Victrola* shared with the children in the audience the incredible depth and breadth of music and spectacle that opera has to offer.

Lyric Unlimited continued to grow and develop its ongoing relationships with the Latino communities in and around Chicago. During the 2014/15 season, Lyric Unlimited commissioned a new mariachi opera, *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina* (*The Past Is Never Finished*), featuring the renowned Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán in the production’s world premiere at the Civic Opera House. Lyric Unlimited offered preview performances in Chicago’s vibrant neighborhood of Pilsen, home to a deep-rooted Mexican-American community that has been an integral part of Chicago for more than half a century, and north suburban Waukegan, home to a large and diverse Latino population. The preview performances featured the award-winning Mariachi Aztlán from the University of Texas Pan-American. Performances concluded with the world premiere of *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina* at the Civic Opera House in downtown Chicago.

An array of education and engagement programs complimented the performances and further deepened the opera’s impact on the community. Through partnerships with a wide range of community organizations, schools, and cultural institutions, Lyric Unlimited implemented community-focused activities that helped to explore the themes of the new work while inviting true collaboration to enhance the presentation of the opera. Lyric Unlimited education and cultural engagement activities celebrated the cultural vibrancy of these communities while supporting and nurturing the development of young musicians studying the traditional music of Mexico.

In conjunction with Lyric’s premiere of Weinberg’s opera *The Passenger*, Lyric Unlimited offered a wide-ranging, curated set of activities entitled *Memory and Reckoning* to enhance the community’s experience of the production. The focal point of the series was a newly-commissioned klezmer opera called *The Property*, composed by Wlad Marhulets and based on Rutu Modan’s graphic novel of the same name. Performances of *The Property* took place at two community venues, the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts in Hyde Park and the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie.



The Magic Victrola – Jonathan Johnson

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS – 60th SEASON – LYRIC UNLIMITED

With major support from the

THE
ANDREW W.
MELLON
FOUNDATION



Opera in the Neighborhoods performance of *The Brothers Grimm* –
(L to R) Katy Compton, Sarah Ponder, Thomas Forde

PROGRAM SPONSORS

Commentaries

Patrick G. Ryan and Shirley Welsh Ryan
In Honor of their Parents

General Support

Leadership Funding:
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Additional Funding By:
Anonymous (2)
Archer Daniels Midland Foundation
The Barker Welfare Foundation
Baxter International, Inc.
BNY Mellon
Helen Brach Foundation
CNA Foundation
Nancy Dehmloew
Roger and Chaz Ebert Foundation
Richard B. Egen
Envestnet
Helyn D. Goldenberg
Goldman Sachs
The Hearst Foundations
The Dolores Kohl Education Foundation–
Morris and Dolores Kohl Kaplan Fund
Judith Z. and Steven W. Lewis Family
Daniel Lome
Morgan Stanley Foundation
Northern Trust
Matt and Carrie Parr
Maya Polsky
Andra and Irwin Press
Charles and M.R. Shapiro
Foundation, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Peter W. Stonebraker
The Wallace Foundation

El Pasado Nunca Se Termina

Lead Sponsor:
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Cosponsors:
Anonymous (2)
Maria C. Bechily and Scott Hodes
Douglas A. Doetsch and Susan Manning
Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation, Judy
Guitelman & ALAS–Wings
Exelon
The Field Foundation of Illinois
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Hay
The McDonald's Hispanic Owner/
Operators Association
Ken Norgan
OPERA America
The PrivateBank
Rosy and José Luis Prado
Mr. and Mrs. Alejandro Silva
United Scrap Metal, Inc.
Drs. Joan and Russ Zajtchuk

Lyric Express

Tawani Foundation

NEXT Student Ticket Program

Lead Sponsor:
The Grainger Foundation

Cosponsors:

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Anderson
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Atkinson, Jr.
T. G. Bligh Foundation Fund
The Brinson Foundation
Mark E. Ferguson and Elizabeth B.
Yntema Ferguson
Elaine Frank
J. Douglas Gray
Patricia A. Kenney and Gregory J. O'Leary
Komarek-Hyde-McQueen Foundation/
Patricia Hyde
NiSource
Satter Family Foundation
Mary Sue and Michael Shannon
Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Pre-Opera Talks

Mr. and Mrs. Edward O. Boshell, Jr.
The Kip Kelley Family
James and Michele Young

Program Evaluation

The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust

Memory and Reckoning/The Property

Anonymous
Goldman Sachs
Mr. and Mrs. Eric L. Hirschfield
Seymour Persky
Mary Stowell

Anonymous

Katherine A. Abelson Educational
Endowment Fund
Joyce E. Chelberg
Consulate General of the Republic of Poland
Polish Cultural Institute New York
Raymond and Inez Saunders
Penelope and Robert Steiner

Senior Matinee

Buehler Family Foundation
Shirley and Benjamin Gould Endowment Fund
Louise H. Landau Foundation
Lannan Foundation
Dr. Sondra C. Rabin
The Retirement Research Foundation
The Siragusa Foundation
Adam and Harriette Swierz Donor–
Advised Fund

Student Backstage Tours

John Edelman and Suzanne Krohn
Shirley and Benjamin Gould
Endowment Fund
Daniel T. Manoogian

Vocal Partnership Program

Bank of America

Youth Opera Council

Terry J. Medhurst
Michael Welsh and Linda Brummer

WITH MAJOR SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE NANCY W. KNOWLES STUDENT AND FAMILY PERFORMANCES FUND

The Magic Victrola

Lead Sponsor:
Dr. Scholl Foundation

Cosponsors:

Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
Bulley & Andrews LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Sanfred Koltun
Nuveen Investments
Sage Foundation
U.S. Bank

Opera in the Neighborhoods

Anonymous

Opera Residencies for Schools

Anonymous
Robert and Isabelle Bass Foundation, Inc.
BNY Mellon
CME Group Foundation
Polk Bros. Foundation

Performances for Students

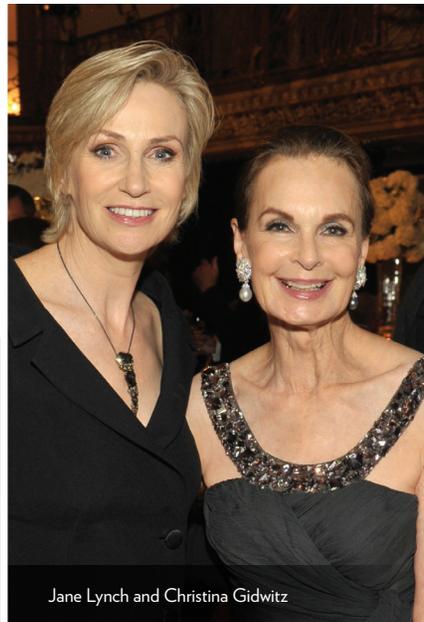
Baird
John W. and Rosemary K. Brown Family
Foundation
The Jacob and Rosaline Cohn Foundation
Dover
Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation
General Mills Foundation
John Hart and Carol Prins
Dr. Scholl Foundation
Segal Family Foundation
Bill and Ori Staley Foundation
Penelope and Robert Steiner
Donna Van Eekeren Foundation
Mrs. Roy I. Warshawsky
Michael Welsh and Linda Brummer

“The evening fielded a treasure trove of performances from a seemingly endless array of luminaries, including Lyric’s Creative Consultant Renée Fleming, jazz great Ramsey Lewis, members of Chicago’s The Second City, and a host of many among the most celebrated singers active on the international opera stage today.”

– Mark Thomas Ketterson, *Chicago Tribune*



Elizabeth and Michael Cole with Paul and Amy Carbone



Jane Lynch and Christina Gidwitz



Susan Graham and Liz Stiffel



Jack and Peggy Crowe



Renée Fleming and Nancy Knowles



Jane and Ken Pigott with Ann Ziff



Linda and Dennis Myers

Concert Lead Sponsor

Kirkland & Ellis

Diamond Ball Sponsors

ITW

Northern Trust

Event Co-Chairs

Amy and Paul Carbone

Elizabeth and Michael Cole

Diamond Patrons

Anonymous (2)

Randy and Melvin Berlin

Paul L. and Amy R. Carbone

Elizabeth and Michael Cole

Sonia Florian

John R. Halligan Charitable Fund

Kay and Fred Krehbiel

Prince Charitable Trusts

J. Christopher and Anne N. Reyes

Patrick G. and Shirley Welsh Ryan

Liz Stiffel

Emerald Patrons

Anonymous (2)

Katherine A. Abelson and Robert J. Cornell

James N. and Laurie V. Bay

Henry M. and Gilda R. Buchbinder

Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Colburn

Mr. and Mrs. A. Steven Crown

The Crown Family

GRAFF Diamonds

Harris Family Foundation

Edgar D. and Deborah R. Jannotta Family

Richard P. and Susan Kiphart

John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Osborn

Jamie D. Rigler

Sapphire Patrons

Ada and Whitney Addington

James L. Alexander and Curtis D. Drayer/
Kenneth R. Norgan

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Buck

Dover Corporation

Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson

Stephen and Lois Eisen

Exelon

Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Hurvis

Jenner & Block LLP

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory K. Jones and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Knight III

Nancy W. Knowles

KPMG LLP

Blythe Jaski McGarvie

Allan and Elaine Muchin

Jeffrey C. Neal and Susan J. Cellmer

Kenneth R. Norgan

Sharon and Lee Oberlander

Betsy and Andy Rosenfield

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Segal

Sipi Metals Corporation

Spencer Stuart

Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Weiss

Ann Ziff

Ruby Patrons

Anonymous

AT&T

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Barden

Julie and Roger Baskes

David and Orit Carpenter

Greg and Mamie Case

Mr. and Mrs. John V. Crowe

John Edelman and Suzanne Krohn

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Elden

Mark E. Ferguson and Elizabeth B. Yntema

Daniel Fischel and Sylvia Neil

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew A. Fisher

Brent and Catherine Gledhill

Ethel and Bill Gofen

Andrea and Jim Gordon/The Edgewater

Funds

JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Dr. and Mrs. Mark F. Kozloff

Josef and Margot Lakonishok

Jim and Kay Mabie

Francine Manilow and Caroline Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Todd D. Mitchell

Nuveen/John and Ann Amboian

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Oleniczak

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Parr

Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Potempa

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Sandner

Brenda M. Shapiro

Mr. and Mrs. Alejandro Silva

Carl and Marilyn Thoma

Paul Wood and The Honorable Corinne Wood

US Bank

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wood II

Arie and Bozena Zweig

Additional Gifts

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP

Craig and Janet Duchossois

Mr. and Mrs. W. James Farrell

Gucci America, Inc.

Walter E. Heller Foundation



Christine Goerke and Jamie Rigler

“The 400-plus guests included the city’s philanthropic elite, who were seated on the grand stage itself. . . . But the toast? That has to be reserved for the \$1.8 million raised that night, bringing the three-month total secured for the company by the Women’s Board to \$4.5 million. Ladies: Brava!”

– David Zivan, *Modern Luxury*



Mimi Mitchell, Caroline Huebner, Todd Mitchell, and Clement Durkes



Jana Schreuder with Scott and Nancy Santi



Miles and Kim White



The guests onstage for dinner.



Erica L. Sandner, Chair, and Marilyn Thoma, Vice-Chair



Guests bidding during Silent Auction in the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Grand Foyer.



Toasting to success onstage at the Wine Auction dinner.

Presenting Sponsor



Catalogue and Onstage Auction Sponsor

Guggenheim Partners

Dinner Wine Sponsor

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Sandner

SONG Commemorative Wine Sponsor

Abbott

Platinum Grand Benefactors

An Anonymous Women's Board Member

James N. and Laurie V. Bay

Mr. and Mrs. A. Steven Crown

Michael and Jacqueline Ferro/*Chicago*

Sun-Times Foundation

Richard P. and Susan Kiphart

J. Christopher and Anne N. Reyes Foundation

Patrick G. Ryan and Shirley Welsh Ryan

Nancy S. Searle

Golden Grand Benefactor

Anonymous (2)

Bain & Company

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP

Dr. and Mrs. Mark Bowen

R. Robert and Sally D. Funderburg

Charitable Trust

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. Gidwitz

Harris Family Foundation

ITW

Jenner & Block LLP

Ann and Gregory K. Jones

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Knight III

Mayer Brown LLP

Blythe Jaski McGarvie

Mr. and Mrs. Todd D. Mitchell

Susan and Nicholas Noyes and

Make It Better Media

Kenneth Porrello and Sherry McFall

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Osborn

Lisbeth Stiffel

Carl and Marilyn Thoma

Underwriters Laboratories

Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Kim and Miles D. White

BREAKING NEW GROUND

A CAMPAIGN FOR LYRIC



For 60 years, Lyric Opera of Chicago has produced world-class opera with many of the world's greatest artists. With decades of dedicated support from donors and subscribers, the company has flourished, gaining global recognition for its artistic excellence and fiscal stability.

Building our reputation for the future will rely on continued commitment to the broad, deep, and relevant cultural service we provide to our city, while also advancing the development of opera as a vital art form. With dynamic and visionary leadership from General Director **Anthony Freud**, Music Director **Sir Andrew Davis**, and Creative Consultant **Renée Fleming**, Lyric is seizing new opportunities to present opera at the highest level, redefine our audiences, and enhance our infrastructure.

Our vision is to be **the great North American opera company for the 21st century**, stimulating creativity and cultural awareness, and enhancing Chicago's global reputation as an international metropolitan center of art and culture.

After a year-long strategic planning process led by Lyric's Board and management, the **Breaking New Ground** campaign has been launched to implement the company's blueprint for a world-class, 21st century opera company. *Breaking New Ground* is allowing Lyric to continue to produce major productions of the highest caliber while also modernizing the stage of the Civic Opera House with state-of-the-art equipment. The campaign is also contributing towards updated media, marketing, and audience development programs, and plans to strengthen the company's financial position, including continued efforts to build Lyric's endowment.

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Hurvis
The Monument Trust (UK)
The Negaunee Foundation
John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols
J. Christopher and Anne N. Reyes Foundation
Patrick G. Ryan and Shirley Welsh Ryan

Julie and Roger Baskes
David and Orit Carpenter
Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich M. Gross
Nancy W. Knowles
Earl and Brenda Shapiro Foundation

Anonymous
Abbott and Abbott Fund
The Crown Family
Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson
Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Anonymous (2)
Randy L. and Melvin R. Berlin
The Henry and Gilda Buchbinder
Family Foundation

Julius Frankel Foundation
Gramma Fisher Foundation of
Marshalltown, Iowa

The Harris Family Foundation
Richard P. and Susan Kiphart
Josef and Margot Lakonishok
Robert H. Malott

Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Morrison
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Redfield
Lloyd E. Rigler-Lawrence E. Deutsch Foundation
Lisbeth Cherniack Stiffel
Anne Zenzer

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Crowe
Maurice and Patricia Frank
ITW
Edgar D. Jannotta Family
Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Krehbiel
NIB Foundation
Pritzker Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance

James N. and Laurie V. Bay
Paul and Amy Carbone
Brent and Katie Gledhill
Ethel and William Gofen

Jenner & Block LLP
Jim and Kay Mabie
Sylvia Neil and Daniel Fischel
Nuveen Investments

OptumRx
Sheila and David Ormesher
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Osborn
PwC
David Ramon

Ada and Whitney Addington
John and Ann Amboian
Robert and Evelyn McCullen
Allan and Elaine Muchin
Northern Trust
Susan and Robert E. Wood II

Anonymous (2)
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP
Bulley & Andrews LLC
The Barker Welfare Foundation
Marion A. Cameron
Nancy Dehmlow
John Edelman and Suzanne Krohn

The Ferguson-Yntema Family Charitable Trust
Sue and Melvin Gray
Stephen A. Kaplan and Alyce K. Sigler
Mr. and Mrs. George D. Kennedy
Lavin Family Foundation
Blythe Jaski McGarvie
Jeffrey C. Neal and Susan J. Cellmer
Mr. and Mrs. James J. O'Connor
Edward B. Rouse and Barbara R. Rouse
Roberta L. Washlow and Robert J. Washlow
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Weiss

Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Beata
John W. and Rosemary K. Brown Family
Foundation

Vinay Couto and Lynn Vincent
Ann M. Drake
Lois Eisen

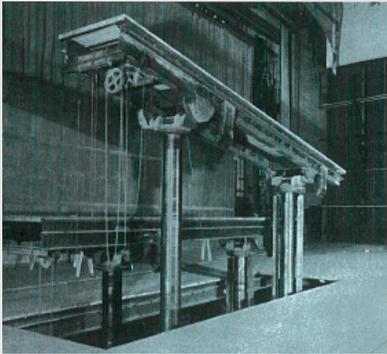
Anthony Freud and Colin Ure
Ruth Ann M. Gillis and Michael J. McGuinnis
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney L. Goldstein
Komarek-Hyde-McQueen Foundation/
Patricia Hyde

William C. and Nancy Richardson
Collin and Lili Roche
Marsha Serlin
Mary Stowell

Erika E. Erich
James R. Grimes
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Hay
James and Mary Houston
Mr. and Mrs. Roger B. Hull
Frank B. Modruson and Lynne C. Shigley
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Oberlander
Joseph O. Rubinelli, Jr.

Gifts as of April 1, 2015

Stage lifts



Past:

This historic photo illustrates what the lift mechanism underneath the stage looked like when the Civic Opera House was built in 1929.



Current:

The stage crew must create "ad hoc" stage lifts specifically tailored to each production, like this one, from Lyric's 2013 *Parsifal*.

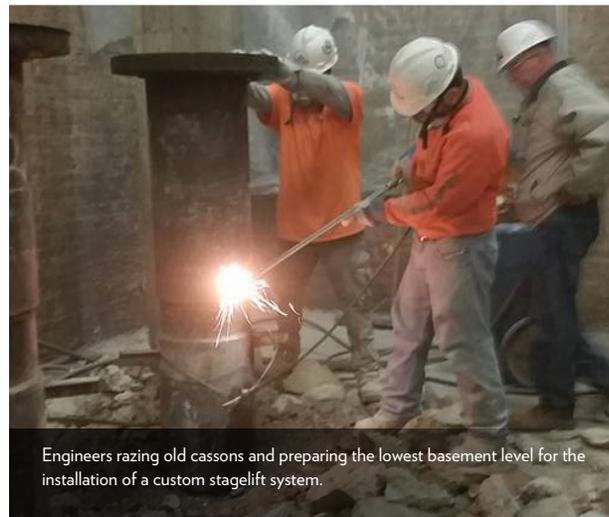


Future:

Lyric will install a custom-designed telescopic scissor-lift system below the stage to make the stage easily adaptable to the technical demands of every production.



The Robert W. Galvin Family (Michael, Dawn, Mary, Pam and Chris) named the Mary B. Galvin Gallery as part of their generous gift to *Breaking New Ground*. The gallery features multi-media exhibits on Lyric's wide-ranging programming and artistic offerings.



Engineers razing old caissons and preparing the lowest basement level for the installation of a custom stagelift system.



Stage Renovation funders Gael Neeson and Stefan Edlis



Stage Renovation funders Bill and Carol Vance

(\$100,000 and above)

Anonymous (8)
 Abbott Fund
 Katherine A. Abelson and Robert J. Cornell
 Ada and Whitney Addington
 American Airlines
 Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
 Ardmore Associates
 Julie and Roger Baskes
 James N. and Laurie V. Bay
 Marlys A. Beider
 Melvin R. and Randy L. Berlin
 Carolyn S. Bucksbaum
 The John and Jackie Bucksbaum Family
 Marion A. Cameron
 Amy and Paul Carbone
 David and Orit Carpenter
 The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Cole
 Estate of Nelson D. Cornelius
 Mr. and Mrs. John V. Crowe
 The Crown Family
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Steven Crown
 The Davee Foundation

Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson
 Exelon
 Mr. and Mrs. W. James Farrell
 Julius Frankel Foundation
 Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust
 Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. Gidwitz
 Brent W. and Catherine H. Gledhill
 Estate of Carlyn E. Goettsch
 Ethel and William Gofen
 The Grainger Foundation
 Gramma Fisher Foundation of Marshalltown, Iowa
 Mr. & Mrs. Dietrich M. Gross
 Guggenheim Partners
 Estate of Betty Guttman
 John R. Halligan Charitable Fund
 Harris Family Foundation
 Walter E. Heller Foundation
 Howard Family Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Hurvis
 ITW
 The Edgar D. Jannotta Family
 Jenner & Block LLP
 JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Mr. and Mrs. George D. Kennedy
 Richard P. and Susan Kiphart
 Kirkland & Ellis LLP
 Nancy W. Knowles
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Krehbiel
 Josef and Margot Lakonishok
 Estate of Arthur B. Logan
 Jim and Kay Mabie
 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
 Robert H. Malott
 Mazza Foundation
 The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
 Jim and Vicki Mills/Jon and Lois Mills
 The Monument Trust (UK)
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Morrison
 The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust
 Allan and Elaine Muchin
 Linda K. and Dennis M. Myers
 National Endowment for the Arts
 The Negaunee Foundation
 Sylvia Neil and Daniel Fischel
 Jerome and Elaine Nerenberg Foundation
 NIB Foundation
 John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols

Northern Trust
 Mr. and Mrs. William A. Osborn
 Richard Pearlman Trust
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Polsky
 Prince Charitable Trusts
 Pritzker Foundation
 PwC
 J. Christopher and Anne N. Reyes Foundation
 Betsy and Andy Rosenfield
 Patrick G. Ryan and Shirley Welsh Ryan
 Dr. Scholl Foundation
 Earl and Brenda Shapiro Foundation
 Sidley Austin LLP
 Manfred and Fern Steinfeld
 Liz Stiffel
 Cheryl T. Thomas
 Donna Van Eekeren Foundation
 Mrs. Herbert A. Vance
 Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance
 The Wallace Foundation
 Roberta L. and Robert J. Washlow
 Helen and Sam Zell
 Ann Ziff



The Morrison Family at the *Carousel* cast party



Betsy Rosenfield and Anne Reyes



Members of The Davee Foundation with Denyce Graves



Stephanie and Matthew Fisher

CORPORATE SUPPORT

Platinum Grand Benefactor
(\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Aon
Baxter International, Inc.
closerlook, inc.
Dover
GRAFF Diamonds
Latham & Watkins, LLP
Make It Better Media
Nuveen Investments
OPERA America

Golden Grand Benefactor
(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

AT&T
Bain & Company
Baker & McKenzie
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP
Bank of America
Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar
& Scott LLP
Bulley & Andrews
Catamaran
Ernst & Young LLP
Fellowes, Inc.
Goldman Sachs
KPMG LLP
Mayer Brown LLP
McDonald's of Greater China
Morgan Stanley
NiSource
Sipi Metals Corp.
Skadden
Spencer Stuart
Stepan Company
Strategy&, Formerly Booz & Company
Tamsen Z, LLC
Underwriters Laboratories
United Scrap Metal, Inc.
US Bank
Walgreens

Silver Grand Benefactor
(\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Alexander & Alexander, Attorneys at Law
BNY Mellon
Chicago Title and Trust Company
Foundation
DLA Piper LLP (US)
The McDonald's Hispanic Owner/
Operators Association
The PrivateBank
Quarles & Brady LLP
William Blair & Company

Premier Benefactor
(\$7,500 - \$9,999)

Amsted Industries Foundation
Archer-Daniels-Midland Foundation
BMO Harris Bank
Chicago White Metal Charitable
Foundation
Envestnet
Starshak Winzenburg & Co.

Benefactor
(\$5,000 - \$7,499)

Baird
BBJ Linen
CNA Foundation
General Mills Foundation
Gucci America, Inc.
Italian Village Restaurants
Sahara Enterprises, Inc.
Shure Incorporated

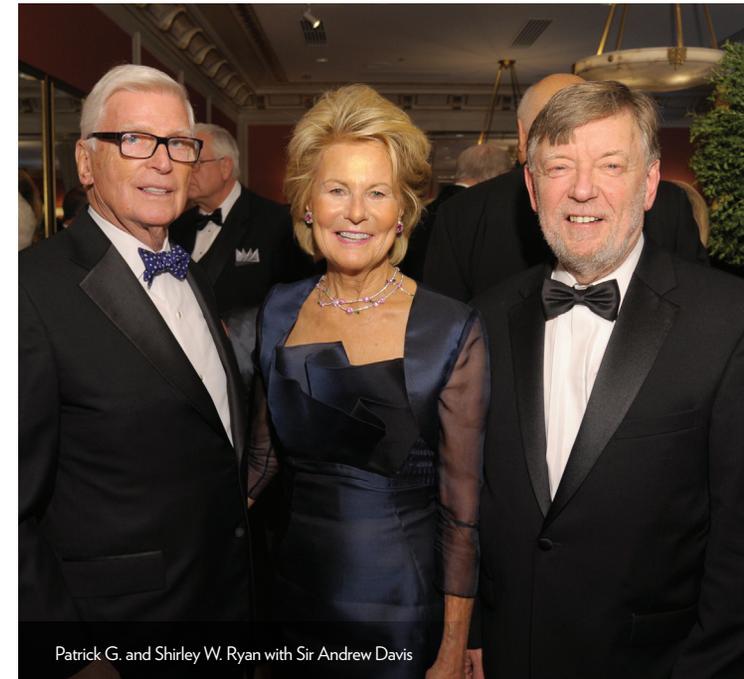
Bravo Circle
(\$3,500 - \$4,999)

American Funds
Bessemer Trust
Robert Bosch Tool Corporation
Corporate Suites Network
Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC
Nordstrom
Old Republic International Corporation

**INDIVIDUAL,
FOUNDATION, AND
GOVERNMENT
SUPPORT**

Platinum Grand Benefactor
(\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Anonymous (6)
The Brinson Foundation
Henry M. and Gilda R. Buchbinder
Cellmer/Neal Foundation Fund
The Chicago Community Trust
City of Chicago Department of
Cultural Affairs and Special Events
Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Ferro, Jr.
Rhoda L. and Henry S. Frank
Brent and Katie Gledhill
Sue and Melvin Gray
The Hearst Foundations
Illinois Arts Council
Greg and Annie Jones/The Edgewater
Funds
Mr. and Mrs. Lester Knight III
The Knowles Foundation
Chauncey and Marion D. McCormick
Family Foundation
Nancy Lauter McDougal
Blythe Jaski McGarvie
Adam Mickiewicz Institute
Estate of Renate Moser
Polk Bros. Foundation
Lloyd E. Rigler-Lawrence E. Deutsch
Foundation
Collin and Lili Roche
Sandra and Earl Rusnak, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Sandner
Nancy S. Searle
Segal Family Foundation
Howard Solomon and Sarah Billingham
Solomon
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Weiss



Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan with Sir Andrew Davis

Golden Grand Benefactor
(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

Anonymous (4)
John and Ann Amboian
Paul and Mary Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Larry A. Barden
Robert and Isabelle Bass Foundation, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Bowen
Christine and Paul Branstad Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Buck

Greg and Mamie Case
 The Jacob and Rosaline Cohn Foundation
 The Cozad Family
 Crain-Maling Foundation
 Sir Andrew Davis and Lady Gianna
 Rolandi Davis
 Mr. and Mrs. James M. Denny
 Ann M. Drake
 Drs. George and Sally Dunea
 John Edelman and Suzanne Krohn
 Eisen Family Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Eugene F. Fama
 The Ferguson-Yntema Family Charitable Trust
 Elaine Frank
 Maurice and Patricia Frank
 Lloyd A. Fry Foundation
 R. Robert and Sally Funderburg
 Charitable Trust
 Ruth Ann M. Gillis and Michael J. McGuinnis
 Avrum Gray Family
 Mary Ellen Hennessy
 Estate of Margot S. Hertz
 Martha A. Hesse
 Mr. and Mrs. Eric L. Hirschfield
 Mr. and Mrs. George E. Johnson
 Estate of Phyllis A. Jones
 Joseph M. Kacena Endowed Fund
 Stephen A. Kaplan and Alyce K. Sigler
 The Kip Kelley Family
 Patricia A. Kenney and Gregory J. O’Leary
 Mr. and Mrs. Sanfred Koltun
 Komarek-Hyde-McQueen Foundation/
 Patricia Hyde
 Dr. and Mrs. Mark F. Kozloff
 Mr. and Mrs. Burt Lewis
 Jim and Kay Mabie
 Jeanne Randall Malkin Family Foundation
 Judith W. McCue and Howard M. McCue III
 Robert and Evelyn McCullen
 Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. McKenna
 Susan M. Miller
 Mr. and Mrs. Todd D. Mitchell
 Frank B. Modruson and Lynne C. Shigley
 Kenneth R. Norgan

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Oberlander
 Matt and Carrie Parr
 Seymour H. Persky
 Ingrid Peters
 The C. G. Pinnell Family
 J. B. and M. K. Pritzker Family Foundation
 Sage Foundation
 Estate of Margaret R. Sagers
 Rodd M. Schreiber and Susan Hassan
 Schreiber
 Barbara and Barre Seid Foundation
 Estate of Dr. Joseph J. Semrow
 Charles and M.R. Shapiro Foundation, Inc.
 Rose L. Shure
 Lois B. Siegel
 Morris Silverman and Lori Ann Komisar
 Bill and Orli Staley Foundation
 Dusan Stefoski and Craig Savage
 Mary Stowell
 Joseph and Pam Szokol
 Carl and Marilyn Thoma
 Mrs. J. W. Van Gorkom
 Walter Family Foundation
 Kim and Miles D. White
 Paul Wood and The Honorable
 Corinne Wood

**Silver Grand Benefactor
 (\$10,000 - \$24,999)**

Anonymous (8)
 Mr. and Mrs. James S. Aagaard
 Kenneth Aldridge
 Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Applebaum
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian S. Arbetter
 L. Robert Artoe
 Dr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Atkinson, Jr.
 Juliette F. Bacon
 E. M. Bakwin
 Paul and Robert Barker Foundation
 The Barker Welfare Foundation
 Judith Barnard and Michael Fain
 Mr. and Mrs. William H. Baumgartner, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron Beata
 Ross and Patricia D. Bender

Mr. and Mrs. Merrill E. Blau
 Heidi Heutel Bohn
 Mr. and Mrs. John Jay Borland
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward O. Boshell, Jr.
 Helen Brach Foundation
 Betty Bradshaw
 Thomas Broadie
 John W. and Rosemary K. Brown Family
 Foundation
 Buehler Family Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Allan E. Bulley, Jr.
 The Butler Family Foundation
 Marie Campbell
 Joyce E. Chelberg
 Marcia S. Cohn
 Ann and Reed Coleman
 Lawrence O. Corry
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Crawford, Jr.
 Susan E. Cremin
 Rosemary and John Croghan
 Dr. and Mrs. Tapas K. Das Gupta
 M. Dillon
 Edward and Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski
 Shawn M. Donnelley and
 Christopher M. Kelly
 Mr. and Mrs. Allan Drebin
 Richard Driehaus
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Elden
 Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation/
 Judy Guitelman & ALAS Wings
 Erika E. Erich
 Estate of Richard A. Livingston
 Marilyn D. Ezri, M.D.
 Joan and Robert Feitler
 The Field Foundation of Illinois
 Sonja and Conrad Fischer
 Russell W. and Christina Fisher
 Mr. and Mrs. Matthew A. Fisher
 Richard and Barbara Franke
 Don Funk and Abby Zanarini
 Carl A. and Fern B. Gaensslen Charitable
 Giving Fund
 Susan J. Garner
 Virginia and Gary Gerst



Joan and George Johnson with granddaughter Katya Galli

Bruce A. Gober, M.D.
 Mr. and Mrs. Rodney L. Goldstein
 Andrea and Jim Gordon/The Edgewater Funds
 Mrs. William B. Graham
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gray
 Mrs. Mary Winton Green
 Mr. and Mrs. Louis E. Gross
 Estate of Richard Halvorsen
 Mr. and Mrs. William J. Hank
 Dr. James and Mrs. Susan Hannigan
 Joan W. Harris
 John Hart and Carol Prins
 Mr. and Mrs. William E. Hay
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Heagy
 Mrs. Thomas D. Heath
 Mrs. John C. Hedley
 Dr. Judith and Mr. Mark C. Hibbard
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne J. Holman III
 Miriam U. Hoover
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Huebner
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger B. Hull

James Huntington Foundation
 Capt. Bernardo Iorgulescu, USMC
 Memorial Fund
 Susan Ipsen
 Laurie and Michael Jaffe
 Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Jorndt
 Mr. and Mrs. George D. Kennedy
 Albert and Rita Lacher
 Daniel H. Lome
 Philip G. Lumpkin
 Francine Manilow
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marjan
 Robert C. Marks
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Mayer
 Jean McLaren and John Nitschke
 Erma S. Medgyesy
 Terry J. Medhurst
 Dawn G. Meiners
 Martha A. Mills
 Estate of Beth Ann Alberding Mohr
 MRB Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. William J. Neiman
 John K. Neundorf Charitable Remainder
 Unitrust
 Fredric G. and Mary Louise Novy Foundation
 Martha C. Nussbaum
 Julian and Sheila Oettinger
 Mr. and Mrs. John W. Oleniczak
 Estate of Mary G. Oppenheim
 Pasquinelli Family Foundation
 Mrs. Vernon J. Pellouchoud
 Marian Phelps Pawlick
 Maya Polsky
 Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Potempa
 Andra and Irwin Press
 Dr. and Mrs. James C. Pritchard
 Dr. Sondra C. Rabin
 Mary and John Raitt
 Merle Reskin
 The Rhoades Foundation
 William C. and Nancy Richardson
 Candace and Gary Ridgway
 Dr. Petra and Mr. Randy O. Rissman
 John W. and Jeanne M. Rowe
 Joseph O. Rubinelli, Jr.

Susan and David Ruder
 Richard O. Ryan
 Mrs. Robert E. Sargent
 Raymond and Inez Saunders
 Alan Schriesheim and Kay Torshen
 Richard W. Shepro and Lindsay E. Roberts
 The George L. Shields Foundation, Inc.
 The Shubert Foundation
 Louis and Nellie Sieg Fund
 Mr. and Mrs. Alejandro Silva
 Larry G. Simpson and Edward T. Zasadil
 Philip and David Slesur Family Trust
 Dr. Cynthia V. Stauffacher
 Penelope and Robert Steiner
 Jennifer L. Stone
 Tawani Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Thomas
 Mrs. Theodore D. Tieken
 Howard and Paula Trienens Foundation
 Tully Family Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Underwood
 Elizabeth Upjohn Mason
 Mr. and Mrs. Peter Van Nice
 Dan and Patty Walsh
 Marilee and Richard Wehman
 Michael Welsh and Linda Brummer
 Dr. and Mrs. Peter Willson
 Mrs. John A. Wing
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wood II
 Debbie K. Wright
 James and Michele Young
 Drs. Joan and Russ Zajchuk
 Anne Zenzer and Dominick DeLuca
 Arie and Bozena Zweig

Premier Benefactor
 (\$7,500 - \$9,999)
 Anonymous (3)
 Kelley and Susan Anderson
 Robert S. Bartolone
 Mark and Judy Bednar
 Mr. and Mrs. D. Theodore Berghorst
 Lieselotte N. Betterman
 Patrick J. Bitterman
 Dr. Charles Bower

Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden
 Joy Buddig
 Estate of Elizabeth Capiluppo
 Mrs. Laurence A. Carton
 Dr. Robert W. Carton
 Mrs. Warren M. Choos
 Lynd W. Corley
 Anne Megan Davis
 Decyk Charitable Foundation
 Nancy Dehmow
 Jon W. DeMoss
 Estate of Josephine S. Dryer
 Harvey S. and Sheila Dulin
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Durkes
 Roger and Chaz Ebert Foundation
 Richard B. Egen
 Robert F. Finke
 Lafayette J. Ford
 The Foster Charitable Trust
 Dr. Jorge Galante
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Jeffery Geldermann
 Mary Ann and Lloyd Gerlach
 George and Maureen Gilmore
 Mr. and Mrs. Stanford Goldblatt
 Helyn D. Goldenberg
 Mr. and Mrs. William M. Goodyear, Jr.
 Phillip and Norma Gordon
 Chester A. Gougis and Shelley Ochab
 Dr. Doris Graber
 Joan M. Hall
 Katie Hazelwood and Todd Kaplan
 Mrs. Richard S. Holson, Jr.
 James and Mary Houston
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Jaffee
 Irene Jakimcius
 Mr. and Mrs. William R. Jentes
 Mr. and Mrs. John A. Karoly
 Nancy Rita Kaz
 Kate T. Kestnbaum
 The Dolores Kohl Education Foundation-Morris
 & Dolores Kohl Kaplan Fund
 Martin and Patricia Koldyke
 MaryBeth Kretz and Robert Baum
 Louise H. Landau Foundation
 Lannan Foundation

Mrs. T. E. Leonard
 Bernard and Averill Leviton
 Julius Lewis
 Jim and SuAnne Lopata
 Daniel T. Manoogian
 Shari Mayes
 Mr. and Mrs. James A. McClung
 Egon and Dorothy Menker
 Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Milliken
 David J. and Dolores D. Nelson
 Bobbie Newman
 Mr. and Mrs. James J. O'Connor
 Barbara and Jerry Pearlman
 Harvey and Madeleine Plonsker
 Irene D. Pritzker
 Mr. and Mrs. James T. Reid
 The Retirement Research Foundation
 Daryl and James Riley
 J. Timothy Ritchie
 Edgar Rose
 Burton X. and Sheli Rosenberg
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. Rouse
 George and Terry Rose Saunders
 Mary and Stanley Seidler
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. L. Senior
 Mary Beth Shea
 The Siragusa Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. John R. Siragusa
 Patricia Arrington Smythe
 Dorie Sternberg
 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Struthers
 Bolton Sullivan Fund
 Angela Tenta, M.D.
 Dr. David Thurn
 Christian Vinyard
 Marilou and Henry von Ferstel
 Cynthia Walk
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Weinberg
 Dr. David H. Whitney and Dr. Juliana Chyu
 Donna and Phillip Zarcone

Benefactor
 (\$5,000 - \$7,499)
 Anonymous (7)
 Mrs. Roger A. Anderson

María C. Bechily and Scott Hodes
 David Quentin Bell
 Estate of Velma Berry
 Helen and Charles Bidwell
 Richard and Heather Black
 Norman and Virginia Bobins/The Robert Thomas
 Bobins Foundation
 Wiley and Jo Caldwell
 Thomas A. Clancy and Dana I. Green
 David and Carolyn Colburn
 Jane B. and John C. Colman
 Francie Comer
 Doris Conant
 B. A. Coussement
 Marsha Cruzan
 The Dancing Skies Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Avrum H. Dannen
 Douglas A. Doetsch and Susan Manning
 Thomas Doran
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Douglas
 Fred L. Drucker and Hon. Rhoda Sweeney
 Craig and Janet Duchossois
 Jim and Pati Ericson
 James and Deborah Fellowes
 Renée Fleming
 Dr. Anthony W. Gargiulo and Mrs. Jane
 Duboise Gargiulo
 Mrs. Willard Gidwitz
 John F. Gilmore
 Mr. Gerald and Dr. Colette Gordon
 David W. Grainger
 James and Brenda Grusecki
 Mrs. John M. Hartigan
 Regina Janes
 Howard E. Jessen
 Susie Karkomi
 Gerould and Jewell Kern
 Annette Kleinman
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Lennard
 Judith Z. and Steven W. Lewis Family
 Barbara and Frank Lieber
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Livingston
 Estate of Eva Lutovsky
 Mr. and Mrs. Philip Marineau

Thomas A. Marshall
 William Mason and Diana Davis
 Maura Ann McBreen
 James G. and Laura G. McCormick
 Thomas J. McCormick
 Lois Melvoin
 Jack and Goldie Wolfe Miller Fund
 Mr. and Mrs. Newton N. Minow
 Kate B. Morrison
 Arthur C. Nielsen, Jr. Family Charitable Trust
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Patterson
 Mr. and Mrs. James N. Perry Jr.
 Estate of Bendix L. Peterson
 Genevieve Phelps
 Rosy and José Luis Prado
 Charles B. Preacher Foundation
 Tom and Karen Rafter
 Charles and Marilyn Rivkin
 Rocco and Cheryl Romano
 Rita and Norman Sackar
 Dr. and Mrs. Edwin C. Salter
 Satter Family Foundation
 Julie Schwertfeger and Alexander Zajczenko
 George and Joan Segal
 Phyllis W. Shafron and Ethan Lathan
 Ilene and Michael Shaw Charitable Trust
 Kit and Bob Simon
 Del Snow
 Mrs. John Stanek
 Ellen and Jim Stirling
 Dr. and Mrs. Peter W. Stonebraker
 Mrs. Robert D. Stuart, Jr.
 Adam and Harriette Swierz Donor-Advised Fund
 Andrea and Mark Taylor
 Mrs. Vernon B. Thomas, Jr.
 L. Kristofer Thomsen
 Lawrence E. Timmins Trust
 John and Patricia Tunstall
 Ksenia A. and Peter Turula
 Jean Morman Unsworth
 John H. Utley, Jr. and Mary L. Utley Trust
 Claudia Winkler
 Charles Yager

Bravo Circle
 (\$3,500 - \$4,999)
 Anonymous (2)
 Dr. and Mrs. Herand Abcarian
 Katherine Abele
 Eric A. Anderson
 Mychal P. Angelos
 Peter and Lucy Ascoli Family Fund
 Susann Ball
 C. Bekerman, M.D.
 Meta S. and Ronald Berger Family
 Foundation
 Nicholas Bridges and Margaret McGirr
 Mr. and Mrs. Allan Bulley III
 Mr. and Mrs. Stanley D. Christianson
 Heinke K. Clark
 Consulate General of the Republic of Poland
 Dr. and Mrs. Richard Davison
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Denison
 Drs. Donald and Helen Edwards
 Chereilyn A. Elliott
 Deane Ellis
 David S. Fox
 Dr. and Mrs. James L. Franklin
 Anthony Freud and Colin Ure
 Peter G. O. Freund
 James R. Grimes
 Mr. and Mrs. Heinz Grob
 Sandra L. Grung
 Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Heestand, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Milan Hornik
 Mr. and Mrs. Peter Huizenga
 Joseph and Rebecca Jarabak
 Carolyn and Paul Jarvis
 Joy Jester
 Douglas M. Karlen
 Gerald and Judith Kaufman
 Tyrus L. Kaufman
 Kenneth Douglas Foundation
 John and Mary Kohlmeier
 Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Lee
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Levin
 Pamela Forbes Lieberman
 Marilyn and Myron Maurer
 David E. McNeel

Bill Melamed and Jamey Lundblad
 Mr. and Mrs. Gregory L. Melchor
 Pamela G. Meyer
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig R. Milkint
 John H. Nelson
 Zehava L. Noah
 Drs. Funmi and Sola Olopade
 Sheila and David Ormesher
 Jonathan F. Orser
 Mr. and Mrs. Bruce L. Ottley
 Dr. Pat and Lara Pappas
 Mrs. Harold E. Pendexter, Jr.
 Jean Perkins and Leland Hutchinson
 Karen and Richard Pigott
 Dr. Joe Piszczor
 Dr. and Mrs. Lincoln Ramirez
 Edward and Leah Reicin
 J. Kenneth and Cheryl Rosko
 Curt G. Schmitt
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schriesheim
 The Schroeder Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shea
 Bill and Harlan Shropshire
 Adele and John Simmons
 Ilene Simmons
 Craig Sirls
 Joan M. Solbeck
 Glenn and Ardathe Solsrud
 Michael and Salme Harju Steinberg
 Michael Tobin, MD
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Toft
 Marianne Tralewski
 Mr. and Mrs. James M. Trapp
 Phil and Paula Turner
 Elizabeth K. Twede
 Lori L. and John R. Twombly
 Scott D. Vandermyde and Julie T. Emerick
 David J. Varnerin
 Mr. and Mrs. Todd Vieregg
 Jacqueline Villa
 Howard Walker
 Dr. Catherine L. Webb
 David and Linda Wesselink
 Sarah R. Wolff and Joel L. Handelman
 Dr. Robert G. Zadylak and James C. Kemmerer

This 60th Anniversary Season included many exciting Overture Society activities, including an Operathon Challenge Grant from Overture Society members totaling more than \$120,000, four appreciation luncheons, three estate planning seminars, and many large bequests to Lyric Opera.

Planned givers continue to be very devoted to Lyric Opera. Many of the *Overture Society's* 554 members have committed multiple planned gifts to Lyric, thus representing in excess of 650 actual gifts. In addition, 109 of our planned givers are *Bel Canto Benefactors* who have made major planned gifts while continuing to contribute generously to Lyric's annual campaign. This year, we received a significant increase in the number of planned givers who committed to new planned gifts to Lyric, both great and small.

Overture Society members rallied to the cause in October by raising a record \$125,236 for the Operathon 2014 *Overture Society* Challenge Grant. This was the *Overture Society's* 17th Operathon Challenge Grant, and the best ever. The *Overture Society's* members' magnificent achievement showed their eagerness to support Lyric Unlimited's many successful education and community engagement programs.

Some of our *Overture Society* members and estates elect to be production cosponsors of operas, using cash and planned gifts to Lyric. This opera season, ten of Lyric's planned givers became production sponsors. *Overture Society* members are encouraged to become production sponsors and enjoy the spectacular benefits available to this elite group.

In 2014/15, Lyric received over \$2 million in bequests from 28 estates. The thoughtfulness and foresight of these dedicated Lyric Opera patrons exemplifies the dedication and generosity of all *Overture Society* members and the importance of planned gifts to the growth of Lyric's annual fund, endowment, and long-range planning. We are deeply grateful to all *Overture Society* members for establishing the cornerstone of Lyric's financial future.

BEL CANTO BENEFACTORS

Anonymous (15)
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Aagaard
Valerie and Joseph Abel
Louise Abrahams
Whitney Addington, M.D.
Karen G. Andreae
Catherine Aranyi
L. Robert Artoe
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Beata
Marlys A. Beider
Julie Anne Benson
Merrill and Judy Blau
Ann Blickensderfer
Dr. Gregory L. Boshart
Danolda (Dea) Brennan
George F. and Linda L. Brusky
David W. Carpenter
James W. Chamberlain
Paula Hannaway Crown
Renée Crown
Thomas Doran
Marianne Deson-Herstein in memory
of Samuel and Sarah Deson
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Ericson
Marilyn D. Ezri, M.D.
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Y. Feng
Robert F. Finke
Jack M. and Marsha S. Firestone
Roy Fisher
Elaine Frank
Maurice J. and Patricia Frank
Rhoda and Henry S. Frank
Richard J. Franke
George and Mary Ann Gardner
James K. Genden and Alma Koppedraijer
Sue and Melvin Gray
Harry J. Griffiths, M.D.
Julian W. Harvey
William E. and Mary Gannon Hay
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Heagy
Mrs. John C. Hedley
Josephine E. Heindel
Concordia Hoffmann
Edgar D. Jannotta
John and Kerma Karoly
Kip Kelley
James C. Kemmerer
LeRoy and Laura Klemt
Nancy W. Knowles
Dr. Petra B. Krauledat and
Dr. W. Peter Hansen
Dr. William R. Lawrence
Thomas and Lise Lawson
Carol L. Linne
Daniel T. Manoogian
Robert C. Marks
Paul Mavros
Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Mayer
Nancy Lauter McDougal
Bill Melamed
Margaret and Craig Milkint
Susan M. Miller
David and Justine K. Mintzer
James and Mary Beth Morehouse
Allan and Elaine Muchin
Mr. and Mrs. Michael E. Murphy
David J. and Dolores D. Nelson
John H. Nelson
John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols
William A. Osborn
Joan L. Pantsios
Irma Parker
André and Julia Pernet
Frances Pietch
Kenneth Porrello and Sherry McFall
Nathaniel W. Pusey
Dr. Sondra C. Rabin
Lyn and Bill Redfield
Joan L. Richards
Chatka Ruggiero
Mary T. Schafer
Martha P. Schneider
Charles Chris Shaw
Rose L. Shure
Lois B. Siegel
Larry G. Simpson
Craig Sirls
Mrs. Jay Spaulding
Lisbeth Cherniack Stiffel
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Stirling
Mary Stowell
Gerald Sunko, M.D.
Carla M. Thorpe
Lawrence E. Timmins Trust
Phil and Paula Turner
Mrs. Elizabeth Upjohn-Mason
Joan and Marco Weiss
Mrs. Robert G. Weiss
Claudia L. Winkler
Florence Winters
Dr. Robert G. Zadylak
Dr. Joan and Russ Zajtchuk
Edward T. Zasadil



Members of the *Overture Society* with soprano, Amber Wagner.



Soprano Karen Slack with *Overture Society* luncheon sponsor Susan Miller.



Chapters' Executive Board members Mary and Howard Robins welcomed Johan Botha, who performed the title role of Wagner's *Tannhäuser*.

I am thrilled to report that in the 2014/15 season the Women's Board raised a record-breaking \$7.7 million dollars through solicited and personal gifts, and proceeds from our special events and projects, most notably the historic 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball and, just a few months later, Wine Auction 2015. I am grateful to each and every Women's Board member for playing a vital role in the success of Lyric Opera in this special anniversary season.

Due to the 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball, we abbreviated our traditional Opening Night timeline on September 27. Gala Chair Betsy Bergman Rosenfield transformed the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Grand Foyer for a black-tie cocktail reception followed by dinner in the William B. and Catherine Graham Room. Guests then enjoyed box seating for the sparkling performance of *Don Giovanni* followed by an intermission reception on the American Airlines Mezzanine. In place of the Opera Ball, gala attendees and production sponsors enjoyed a cast party with the evening's stars in the Civic Opera House. Thank you to an anonymous Women's Board member for sponsoring the Opening Night dinner in memory of our beloved Debby Jannotta and to Aon for once again sponsoring the Opening Night Gala.

In November, just over one month later, Lyric celebrated its 60th Anniversary with an evening of operatic proportion: a stage full of today's biggest stars, a celebrity emcee, our brand new Pritzker Family Concert Shell, and a ballroom dressed to the nines. At the Ball, we were surprised with spectacular performances by Jenn Gambatese and Jane Lynch. This evening would not have been possible without our Anniversary Concert Lead Sponsor, Kirkland & Ellis, or our Diamond Ball lead sponsors, ITW and Northern Trust. At the helm of this legendary event were our Co-Chairs, Elizabeth and Michael Cole and Amy and Paul Carbone, whose collaborative vision culminated in a staggering \$3.2 million for Lyric! We are deeply grateful for the immeasurable support of our many Jewel patrons whose generosity made the evening come to life.

It was a banner year as well for our educational efforts. I extend a special thank you to Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan for sponsoring the Commentaries Project in honor of their parents. A project very dear to the Women's Board is our collaboration with Lyric Unlimited's



Mimi Mitchell

Mimi Mitchell
President

Opera in the Neighborhoods. We were honored to be a part of a special performance of *The Brothers Grimm* at Have Dreams, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children with autism. It is always so moving to see the power of opera in action. The *Opera in the Neighborhoods* touring production went to 15 different venues, and nearly 18,000 students in grades 3-6 saw their first live opera production thanks to this program.

And then there was Wine Auction 2015! Led by the dynamic pair of Chair Erica Sandner and Vice Chair Marilyn Thoma, this spectacular event held onstage in the Ardis Krainik Theatre raised \$1.8 million in net proceeds. This herculean endeavor featured the most exceptional wine, luxury, fine dining, and once-in-a-lifetime experiences. We offer our most heartfelt thanks to our Presenting Sponsor, Northern Trust, for making this event possible. We are also most grateful to Guggenheim Partners for their major support as our Onstage and Catalogue Sponsor. Counting our event in 2015, the total of funds raised since the 1988 Wine Auction debut is \$9 million!

Just two months after our February festivities, we continued our American Musical Theater Initiative with a third celebration, this time in honor of *Carousel*. Chair Nancy Searle and her committee put forth a night of good old-fashioned fun including a *Carousel*-inspired menu, carnival decorations, a photo booth, and last but not least, our special guest, Mindy the monkey.

What an honor it has been to serve as President in this extraordinary year! We strove to define the season through themes of collaboration, momentum, and visibility. As I reflect on all we have accomplished, I must thank each and every Women's Board member for bringing those themes to life. It is my sincere pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated and remarkable group of women who so staunchly support this great institution we all love so dearly.

WOMEN'S BOARD REPORT



Meredith Wood-Prince, Susan Canmann, Elizabeth Cole, Stephanie Fisher, Jacqueline Ferro, Eileen Murphy



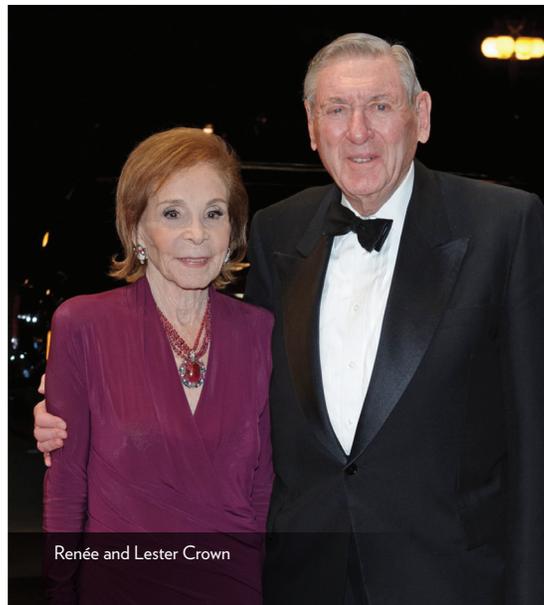
Opening Night Gala Chair Betsy Rosenfield with husband Andy Rosenfield



Paul and The Honorable Corinne Wood



Joseph and Pam Szokol, King and Caryn Harris of the Harris Family Foundation



Renée and Lester Crown



Nancy and Steve Crown

2014/15 was not only a milestone year for Lyric Opera—it also marked the 40th Anniversary of The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center!

Throughout the year, under the leadership of Director Dan Novak, Music Director Craig Terry, and Advisor Renée Fleming, our artist-development program fulfilled its mission of providing the highest level training and performance opportunities to our Ensemble of 12 singers and one pianist.

The Ryan Opera Center season began with the second collaborative concert with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. What a treat it was to witness the full ensembles of both organizations sharing the stage. Other performance highlights included a summer workshop production of *Don Giovanni* as well as appearances with the Grant Park Music Festival, Rush Hour Concerts, and Art Institute of Chicago.

Ensemble members were notably featured in all eight Lyric mainstage productions, with current members singing 25 roles and understudying 35, as well as the company's 60th Anniversary Gala. Our artists comprised almost the entire cast of Lyric's third family production, *The Magic Victrola*, and were heard by thousands worldwide in the Ryan Opera Center's monthly WFMT recital series, the only such program of its kind in the country. Lyric patrons enjoyed attending our Final Auditions for the second time, and we all were thrilled to hear our singers perform alongside their senior colleagues and Craig Terry in the Harris Theater's inaugural *Beyond the Aria* series.

Behind the scenes, comprehensive training activities enhanced the Ensemble's talents and abilities to prepare them for international-level performing. Renée Fleming and Sir Andrew Davis provided invaluable guidance and support, several guest master artists shared their insights, and our fantastic resident faculty covered a broad range of skills. We also strove to assist our artists with practical needs, such as maintaining vocal health, and 21st-century career needs, such as learning the basics of self-marketing.

Our 40th Anniversary celebration was capped by *Rising Stars in Concert*, which showcased the entire Ensemble, including pianist Maureen Zoltek, with the Lyric Opera Orchestra, expertly



Susan R. Kiphart
Susan Kiphart
President

conducted by Michael Christie (who, coincidentally, had started off our season on the podium with the Civic Orchestra).

As a special addition to the year's events, in April the Ryan Opera Center hosted its inaugural International Residency as a means of identifying potential future candidates. Nine singers from seven countries came to Chicago for a week of voice lessons, vocal coachings, and acting sessions, culminating in an audition for Lyric's leaders.

Over the past four decades, the Ryan Opera Center has been blessed by the dedicated leadership of previous administrators and Board members in bringing us to this position of great strength. Thanks to them, and the commitment of our current staff, Board, and very generous supporters, we are able to aspire to become the great North American artist development program in the 21st Century.

Onward!



The 2014/15 Ensemble, standing left to right: (back row) Richard Ollarsaba, Bradley Smoak, Jesse Donner, Anthony Clark Evans, John Irvin, Jonathan Johnson, (middle row) Laura Wilde, Tracy Cantin, Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi, Julie Anne Miller, (front row) J'Nai Bridges, Maureen Zoltek and Will Liverman.



Final Auditions lead sponsor Allan Drebin and Elisabeth Geraghty of The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, with the 2015/16 Ensemble.



Rising Stars in Concert lead sponsor Donna Van Eekeren of the Donna Van Eekeren Foundation, with Dale Connelly and Ryan Opera Center bass-baritone, Richard Ollarsaba.



Soprano Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi performing in concert with the Civic Orchestra



The 2014/15 Ryan Opera Center Ensemble at Rising Stars in Concert.

ARTIST SUPPORT, SPECIAL EVENT AND PROJECT SPONSORS

Acting/Movement Coaching

Philip G. Lumpkin

Artistic Coaching

Richard Pearlman Trust

Bel Canto Workshop

OPERA America
Prince Charitable Trusts

Duds for Divas

Heidi Heutel Bohn
Lawrence O. Corry
Anne Gross

Final Auditions

The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Cozad

Foreign Language Instruction

Katherine A. Abelson and Robert J. Cornell
Erma S. Medgyesy

Guest Master Artist

The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation

Launchpad

Marcus Boggs
Leslie Fund, Inc.
Richard Pearlman Trust

Master Classes

Mrs. Thomas D. Heath
Martha A. Hesse

National Auditions

American Airlines

Renée Fleming Master Class

Jeanne Randall Malkin Family Foundation

Singer Sponsors/Cosponsors

Anonymous (3)
The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation
Maurice J. and Patricia Frank
Anne Gross
Susan and Richard Kiphart
Sanfred and Nancy Koltun
Robert C. Marks
Drs. Funmi and Sola Olopade
The Pauls Foundation
The C. G. Pinnell Family
Richard W. Shepro and Lindsay E. Roberts
Lois B. Siegel
Stepan Company
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance

Mrs. J. W. Van Gorkom
Debbie K. Wright
Drs. Joan and Russ Zajtchuk

Toasting Trovatore Reception

Susan and Richard Kiphart

Training Program

National Endowment for the Arts

Voice Instruction

Anonymous
Anne Gross
Mary Ellen Hennessy
Jennifer L. Stone

WFMT Recital Series

Julie and Roger Baskes

Workshop Performances

Martha A. Hesse

GENERAL SUPPORT

Aria Society

(\$100,000 and above)
Anonymous (2)
Richard Pearlman Trust
Patrick G. and Shirley Welsh Ryan

Platinum Distinguished Benefactors

(\$50,000 to \$99,999)
Anonymous
Nancy Lauter McDougal and Alfred L. McDougal

Distinguished Benefactors

(\$25,000 to \$49,999)
Ingrid Peters

Mentors

(\$10,000 to \$24,999)
L. Robert Artoe
Paul and Robert Barker Foundation
Heidi Heutel Bohn
Lawrence O. Corry
Joyce McFarland Dlugopolski
Erika Erich
Carl A. and Fern B. Gaensslen Charitable Giving Fund
Sue and Melvin Gray
Miriam U. Hoover
Illinois Arts Council
Capt. Bernardo Iorgulescu, USMC Memorial Fund

James Lancaster
Michael A. Leppen
Jean McLaren and John Nitschke
The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Neiman
Mrs. Vernon J. Pellouchoud
Beverly Persky
The George L. Shields Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Underwood
Howard A. Vaughan, Jr.
Dan and Patty Walsh
Mark and Kimbra Walter

Artist Circle

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Anonymous
Doris Conant
Anne Megan Davis
Thomas Doran
Lafayette J. Ford
Virginia and Gary Gerst
James and Mary Houston
Dr. Kamal Ibrahim
Genevieve Phelps
John and Betsey Puth
Julie Schwertfeger and Alexander Zajczenko
Marilee and Richard Wehman
Dr. David H. Whitney and Dr. Juliana Chyu
Jack and Goldie Wolfe Miller Fund

RISING STARS IN CONCERT

Lead Sponsor:

Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Sponsors:

Julie and Roger Baskes
Catamaran
Ann M. Drake
Sue and Melvin Gray
Patricia A. Kenney and Gregory J. O'Leary
Susan and Richard Kiphart
Chauncey and Marion D. McCormick Family Foundation
Frank B. Modruson and Lynne C. Shigley
Richard Pearlman Trust

Cosponsor:

Susan M. Miller

Rising Stars In Concert Broadcast

Donna Van Eekeren Foundation

Rising Stars In Concert Reception

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Drebin

Listings reflect gifts in direct support of The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center.

New Guild Board mission statement: To serve as ambassadors for Lyric Opera of Chicago, to identify and cultivate new audiences and to raise funds to support Lyric Opera.

The Guild Board created a new mission statement, revised its by-laws, and introduced a new organizational structure in an effort to support Lyric's mission to be the great North American opera company. Several initiatives included an aggressive commitment to increase membership; a continued enhancement of the beloved *Backstage Tours*, and the retirement of *The Fantasy of the Opera* black-tie fundraiser after 30 years of wonderful memories.

The Guild Board's popular *Backstage Tours* broke all records for attendance and monies raised, making them the most successful in Lyric history, with 1,639 visitors enjoying the behind-the-curtain journey through all nooks and crannies of the Civic Opera House. We extend our deep gratitude to Amy and Paul Carbone for their continued generous sponsorship of the tours and to the army of volunteers who spent their time introducing guests to the wonders of the opera world.

It has been a privilege to lead the Guild Board during this important year of introspection and strategic planning—in the company of an extraordinary group of men and women who continually display fierce commitment, deep reserves of generosity, and heartfelt passion for Lyric.



Oscar Tatosian

Oscar Tatosian
President



John Nelson leads a captive audience through a *Backstage Tour*.



Members of the Guild Board with Renée Fleming and Anthony Freud at the Board of Directors Annual Meeting

Lyric Young Professionals (LYP), a project of the Renée Fleming Initiative, is a group of 73 dynamic opera lovers dedicated to building a new generation of supporters for Lyric Opera of Chicago. We engage our members in various activities to fulfill the desires of the age group through networking and unique social events and after-event parties.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick M. Callahan".

Patrick Callahan
President

We kicked off this year with a summer party at Celeste, launched our *Medley* subscription series with more than 400 tickets sold and launched our pre-opera dinner series. Our *Cocktails and Conversation* series continued with guests Ward Stare, conductor of *Porgy and Bess*; Michael Black, Lyric's Chorus Master; and a collaborative event with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs discussing Weinberg's *The Passenger*, featuring Anthony Freud, Lyric's general director in conversation with Ambassador David Sheffer, who served as first United States Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues and now teaches at the Northwestern University School of Law.

It has been an honor to serve as President of the Lyric Young Professionals for the past year, and I look forward to next year. We are most grateful for the opportunity to serve Lyric.



Conductor Ward Stare with Lyric Young Professionals President Patrick Callahan



Lyric Young Professionals members at Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park



Martha Grant, Robert Iverson, and Madeline Unger

Our Chapters raised \$500,000 during Lyric's 2014/15 season! The Chapters represent Lyric Opera in their communities with more than 900 members in 14 Chapters located throughout Chicagoland and Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Our annual live-radio marathon fundraiser on 98.7 WFMT, Operathon, celebrated its 35th anniversary with a very successful 16-hour broadcast on Saturday, October 11. Under the leadership of Jonathan Eklund and Mary Houston, Operathon 2014 exceeded its goal and raised more than \$557,004 through challenge grants and merchandise sales. Our appreciation goes to Walgreens, Ardmore Associates, and 98.7 WFMT for their generous sponsorship. Special thanks to American Airlines, official airline of Lyric Opera, for their on-air auction. We also thank the generous challenge grant donors and our OperaShop kiosk and OperaShop online, which offer Lyric's exclusive merchandise to all audience members and opera fans around the world.

The Season Preview Concert in September, made possible by the Komarek-Hyde-McQueen Foundation and the Lake Geneva Chapter, was presented especially for first-time subscribers, and donors at the Member giving level. Ryan Opera Center Ensemble members thrilled the audience with arias from each of our 60th anniversary season's operas.

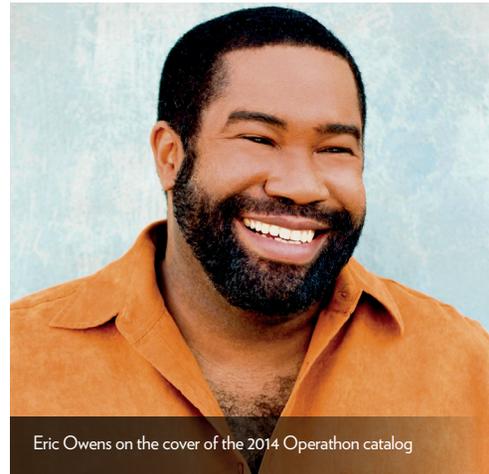
This has been an exciting year for the entire Chapter community and for me as I complete my first year as President of the Chapters' Executive Board. It was a pleasure to visit all 14 Chapter Boards this season and to see them all at work in their communities and neighborhoods. I extend my gratitude to Lyric Opera of Chicago, my fellow Chapters' Executive Board members, and the Chapter community for this wonderful experience.



Sherie Shapiro

Sherie Shapiro

President
Chapters' Executive Board



Eric Owens on the cover of the 2014 Operathon catalog



Our volunteers help make Operathon a success.

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO CHAPTER 2014/15 FUNDRAISING

**Aria Society
(\$100,000 and above)**

Lyric Opera Chapters'
Executive Board
Near North Chapter
Winnetka Chapter

**Golden Grand Benefactor
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)**

Evanston Chapter
Glencoe Chapter
Highland Park/
Deerfield Chapter
Hinsdale Chapter
Riverside Chapter
Wilmette Chapter

**Silver Grand Benefactor
(\$10,000 to \$24,999)**

Far West Chapter
Flossmoor Area Chapter
Hyde Park/Kenwood Chapter
Northwest Chapter

**Platinum Grand Benefactor
(\$50,000 to \$99,999)**

Barrington Chapter
Lake Geneva Chapter
Northfield Chapter

TREASURER'S REPORT

Fiscal 2015 marks Lyric Opera's 60th season of amazing opera and third year of musicals and Lyric Unlimited programming.

We ended our 2015 fiscal year with total revenue of \$74.8 million and breakeven results. With over 267,000 tickets sold, we generated \$25.9 million ticket revenue. Our operations were also supported with \$37 million in donor support, either through our annual campaign or through our *Breaking New Ground* fund.

We thank our generous Lyric donors and sponsors whose support allows us to produce an outstanding artistic season, exciting new productions and moving new commissions.

I am pleased to share some of the financial highlights from our fiscal year below. For a complete audited financial statement, visit www.lyricopera.org and click on "About Lyric," "Financial Statements".



Paul J. Carbone
Treasurer

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Periods Ending	12 months ended June 30, 2015	14 months ended June 30, 2014
Ticket Sales	\$25,880,310	\$28,877,637
Other Operating Revenue	11,755,779	11,486,510
Total Operating Revenue	37,636,089	40,364,147
Total Operating Support	37,161,055	30,995,568
Total Operating Revenue and Support	74,797,144	71,359,715
Total Operating Expenses	74,797,144	71,359,715
Change in Unrestricted Operating Net Assets	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
	As of June 30, 2015	As of June 30, 2014
Long-Term Investments	\$181,164,339	\$183,754,700
Total Assets	\$330,212,155	\$321,864,398
Total Net Assets	\$232,457,666	\$224,712,334
Operating Revenue as a percentage of Operating Expenses	50%	57%

NON-FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Opera, Musical and Lyric Unlimited Attendance	267,230	284,439
Number of Other Community Engagement and Education Events	545	627
Other Community Engagement and Education Event Attendance	126,209	107,476

Annual Meeting Sponsors:



BARTLIT BECK HERMAN PALENCHAR & SCOTT LLP

and

strategy&
Formerly Booz & Company

now a
part of **pwc**

Don Giovanni

Capriccio

Il Trovatore

Porgy and Bess

Anna Bolena

Tosca

Tannhäuser

The Passenger

Carousel

Lyric

Lyric Opera of Chicago
20 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
www.lyricopera.org





Lyric Opera of Chicago
2014/15 Season Annual Report

Lyric