

BEL CANTO

Newsletter of the Manatee Opera Guild

April 2024

<https://manateeoperaguild.org>

OUR LAST MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2023-2024

Celebrating All Our New Members

Wednesday, April 17
Palm Aire Country Club

Coffee and Conversation at 10:00
Business Meeting at 10:30
Optional Luncheon at 11:30

Menu

Pasta Primavera With Grilled Chicken (Grilled Chicken
And Grilled Mixed Vegetables Over Pasta)

Pasta Primavera Vegetarian (Grilled Mixed Vegetables
Over Pasta)

Dessert: Fig And Pear Pie

**To make reservations for lunch, please call,
write or email Cathy Knobel at:**

787 Ben Franklin Drive #8

Sarasota, Fl 34236

Knobelwd@Aol.Com

941-706-2490 Or 941-666-3253 (Cell)

Lunch is \$35 per person. Reservations due by
April 12, please.

New Members for 2023-2024 are:

Christopher Bird, Rafael DeGennaro, Jolie
Dunham, Donna Fournier, Rae and Sandy Frankel,
Valerie Giuliani, Linda Greene, Ann Haddad,
Jeanne Lourey, Marla Perlstein, Sara and Paul
Osher, Janis Rauch, Kathleen Ulman, Diana
Walters, and Jeanne Scacchetti.

A MESSAGE FROM JEANNE

This has been a record-setting year for our Guild, in terms of new members, money raised and donated to Sarasota Opera, and good times. We are on a roll!

My sincerest thanks go out to you all for your participation in our events, your overall helpfulness, and your presence at our meetings and events.

Special thanks to our hard-working and congenial Board of Directors: Richard DeGennaro, co-President and Stars of Tomorrow Chair; Maryanne Hazen, Treasurer, hostess, florist, and chef; Angela Korsmo, Secretary, hostess, and barista; Syble DiGirolamo, Vice-President for Special Events, Chair of the On-Stage Concert and Fashion Show; Cathy Knobel, Hospitality Chair and our 2024 Valentine; Elizabeth Aversa, Education Chair, *Bel Canto* monthly contributor, and Prelude Speaker; Brenda Ianiro, Publicity Chair; and Linda Buchhart, Tributes Chair; Carolyn Doyle, Asst. Treasurer, luncheon sponsor and centerpiece provider. All these people really pitch in to get it done, and deserve all our gratitude.

You probably noticed on reading the paragraph above that these are multi-taskers. Please lend them a hand and volunteer to help with some of these jobs. If any area appeals to you, get in touch with the person listed above.

Along with many of you, I was so impressed with our Helen Jepson Deller Award Winner, Jake Stamatis. Not just a rich and resonant baritone and great actor, he also showed us his humility and gratitude to his mentors, including his middle school chorus teacher, and to Maestro DeRenzi who led him into unknown vocal territory to great results. What a truly exceptional young man. So proud to help him along his journey to stardom.

Have a wonderful summer, and see you in September.

DON'T SUFFER SUMMER OPERA WITHDRAWAL!

By Elizabeth Aversa

Our wonderful Winter Opera Festival has ended. Now we are ordering our 2024-2025 subscriptions to Sarasota Opera and waiting for next season to begin. But we needn't live without opera since there are summer opera opportunities all across North America.

An opera road trip may be just what you need to cure seasonal withdrawal symptoms. This column provides some choices for a summer opera vacation, along with links to festival information and to videos for something you might hear when you get there. ENJOY!

- **Aspen Music Festival, Aspen, CO**

June 30 – Renee Fleming concert

August 12 – *Marriage of Figaro*

Music link: Sull'aria from *Marriage of Figaro* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7bflW3M9yRU>

Program & tickets: <https://www.aspenmusicfestival.com/events/>

- **Chautauqua Opera, Chautauqua, NY**

July 16 & 18 – *Alcina*

Music Link: Morgana's aria from *Alcina* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGYZRywk24>

July 24 – *Hansel and Gretel*

July 29 – *I Due Timidi*

Program & tickets: <https://www.chq.org/chautauqua-opera-company/chautauqua-opera-company-and-conservatory-announces-2024-season/>

- **Central City Opera, Central City, CO**

June 29-August 4 - *The Pirates of Penzance*

June 29 – August 4 – *Girl of the Golden West*

June 29 – August 4 – *Street Scene*

Music Link: Lonely House from *Street Scene* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6NTQvMC4As>

Program & tickets: <https://centralcityopera.org/>

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- **Forth Worth Opera, Fort Worth, TX**

April 5 & 7 – *La Boheme*

Music Link: Musetta's waltz from *La Boheme* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=360M9RXb_Xs

Program & tickets: <https://www.fwopera.org/>

- **Glimmerglass Opera, near Cooperstown, NY**

July 22 – August 19 - *Pirates of Penzance*

July 27- August 18 – *Pagliacci*

July 23 – August 17 – *La Calisto*

Music Link: Excerpt from *La Calisto* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTnJ0XJmaLU>

July 28 – August 20 – *Elizabeth Cree*

Program & tickets: <https://glimmerglass.org/festivals/2024-festival/>

- **Santa Fe Opera, Santa Fe, NM**

June 28 – August 4 – *La Traviata*

June 29 – August 23 – *Don Giovanni*

July 13 – August 13 – World Premier - *The Righteous*

July 20 – August 15 – *Der Rosenkavalier*

Music Link: Excerpts from final trio from *Der Rosenkavalier* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWoXyXH4KPE>

July 27 – August 22 – *The Elixir of Love*

Program & tickets: <https://www.santafeopera.org/tickets/>

- **Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap National Park, VA**

June 21, 23,27,29 – *Così fan tutte*

July 14 – *Jamie Barton Recital*

July 19 – *La Boheme*

August 9,11, 15, 17 – *Silent Night*

Music Link: About *Silent Night* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAq0zofzRVk>

Music Link: Sleep from *Silent Night* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5awIEsXWtTM>

Program & tickets: <https://www.wolftrap.org/>

SARASOTA OPERA ANNOUNCES 2024-2025 SEASON



Season

Enjoy this thrilling Youth Opera production!



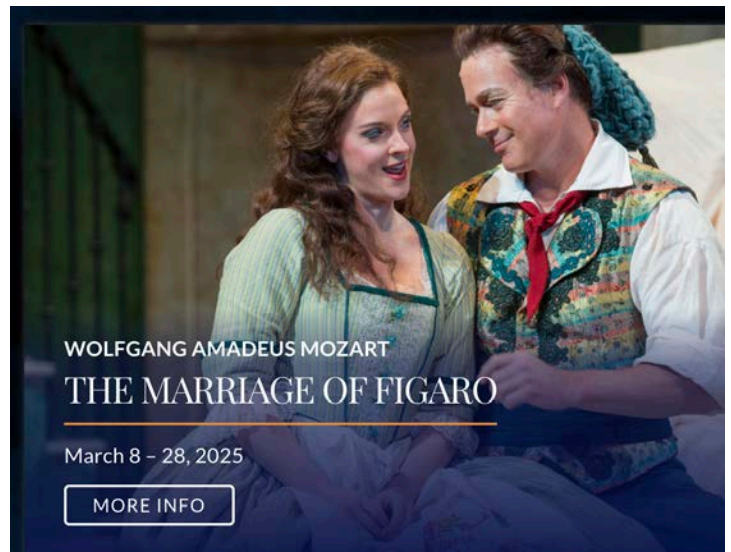
Orchestral and vocal selections of works by the great Italian composer.



A double bill of tragic verismo operas.



A joyful rom-com. Who will marry Rosina?



Another joyful rom-com. Shenanigans from the Count.



A tragic tale of infidelity and conscience.

Subscriptions now on sale. Series purchased prior to May 10 enjoy a 15% savings.

MEMBER NEWS

Please welcome new members:

Jeanne Scacchetti (REG)
7139 Boca Grove Place, Unit 203
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
jasjeanne@zoom.internet.net
330-518-2990

Marilyn Carminio (SUS)
12610 Sorrento Way, #101
Bradenton, FL 34211
941-251-9566, 516-242-6242
mollycarm@icloud.com

Diana Walters (SUS)
3876 Wilshire Drive
Sarasota, FL 34238
724-992-1511
singit@comcast.net

Tributes:

To **Gretchen Littlefield**: Happy Birthday from your daughter Laura Williams

In honor of **Bill and Ginny Anderson** from Suzanne Drake.

Dues for 2024-2025

Our fiscal year will soon be over, and we encourage you to send in your dues for next year as soon as you can.

Our membership application is on the next page. If you are already a member, and your name, address, phone and email are correctly listed on our membership list on website <https://manateeoperaguild.org>, then there is no need to fill out the entire form. It is enough just to write "Same" on the form. Do fill in places where the information is incorrect. Thank you.

“**Jake Stamatis**, born and raised in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, has performed a variety of roles on the operatic stage. His quick, kind, and lovable demeanor has charmed audiences in such roles as Papageno in *Die Zauberflöte*, Figaro in both *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, Marcello and Schaunard in *La Bohème*, and The Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*. His varied repertoire also includes Zurga in *Les pêcheurs de perles*, La Bête in *La belle et la bête* (Glass), Escamillo in *La Tragédie de Carmen* (Constant/Bizet), Sam in *Trouble in Tahiti*, and Anthony in *Sweeney Todd*.

Jake has been a studio artist at Sarasota Opera, a fellow at the Music Academy of the West, an emerging artist at Seagle Music Colony, an artist in residence with Tri-Cities Opera and Opera Memphis, and even served as a performer and staff choreographer with Bel Cantanti Opera’s Summer Festival. Jake received his Bachelors Degree in Vocal Performance from Susquehanna University, and his Masters Degree in Opera from Binghamton University.”

Quoted from Jake’s website

We are happy to report that Jake will return to Sarasota Opera next season as a Principal Artist.

To hear more from Jake, go to his website: <https://www.jakestamatis.com/>



HJD Award winner Jake Stamatis and MOG Co-President Richard DeGennaro are all smiles as Jake accepts his \$3,000 award from MOG.



Annual Membership Application

Membership Level:

- Single Regular** Membership \$40
- Single Sustaining** Membership \$50
- Couple Regular** Membership \$60
- Couple Sustaining** Membership \$70

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

New Member

Renewing Member

I (we) can help the Manatee Opera Guild in these ways (please check all appropriate boxes)

Literature design

Publicity

Event planning

Refreshments

Fundraising

Serving on the Board

Greeting

Soliciting advertising and gifts

Developing membership

Telephoning

Photography

Editing (newsletters, brochures, letters)

Writing

Setting up/cleaning up Hosting parties

Modeling at fashion show

Hospitality

Other talent

Make checks payable to **Manatee Opera Guild**, or **MOG**

Send application and payment to:

Jeanne Yeagle