

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT CHAUTAUQUA OPERA GUILD

Dear Opera Guild Members,

In this 2nd Annual Report for the Opera Guild, I'll be reviewing our successful 2018 Season.

The Guild's Mission is to support and advocate for the Chautauqua Opera Company (CO). Here are just a few of the ways we accomplished that in 2018:

- Our Guild gifted Young Artists' Awards totaling \$11,900 and purchased Opera America subscriptions for each Young Artist to help them further their careers.
- We financed CO advertisements in Opera America and Opera News magazines.
- We continued our financial support of the company's successful Opera Invasions that our General and Artistic Director, Steven Osgood, began in 2016.
- And we contributed funds to the CO's Opera Education initiative to bring Opera into the Chautauqua County Schools. In 2018, CO brought performances and classroom sessions to more than 4,500 students in 16 schools with this ambitious program. We will continue to assist with this effort in 2019.
- Our Fundraiser "It's a Grand Night for Opera" helped us raise the \$25,000 that we pledged to the CO for the 2019 90th Anniversary Celebration. [Jack Connolly, our long time supporter of the Guild gave us a generous donation that enabled us to exceed this Fundraising goal. Please join me in thanking Jack when you see him this summer.]

This coming season, along with the celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Opera Company and of Norton Hall, we continue with our ongoing efforts to expand Membership and Fundraising so that we can support new programs. One exciting example is that Chautauqua Opera's Young Artist program has been given the honor of presenting a recital on Opera America's *Emerging Artist Recital Series* this spring. The Guild approved the funds to support three Young Artists' participation in this recital. The recital will take place Thursday, March 14th in New York City and will be live streamed and digitally archived for future viewing. Additionally, the Guild is financing the expenses of Jerry Dye's visit to present his libretto workshop in 2019 for "The Summer Place", Chautauqua Opera's first commissioned piece. The development of this project is ongoing and the Opera Guild is positioning itself to help support this important and exciting endeavor.

A brief and approximate financial breakdown of Revenue and Expenses for 2018 follows:

### REVENUE

Membership	\$42,445
Boutique	\$ 1,613
Baskets	\$ 1,576
Pre-Opera Dinner	\$ 2,526

Adopt-an-Artist Picnic; Bank Interest	\$ 678
Fundraiser	\$34,825
<b>Approximate Total:</b>	<b>\$83,663</b>

**EXPENSES:**

General Expenses:

Archangel event, Soiree, Annual meeting (Printing, Postage, Brochure, Intern, Gift bags, Norton Hall, Board Retreat, PO Box)	\$ 3,742 \$ 3,266
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Boutique	\$ 1,361
Pre-Opera Dinner	\$ 2,526
Fundraiser expenses	\$ 7,688

Young Artist Expenses

Adopt-an-Artist (Welcome) Picnic	\$ 2,300
Artist Awards	\$11,900
Cast Parties	\$ 6,360
Opera America Memberships	\$ 1,260
Opera National Ad Campaign	\$ 6,000

Building Audiences expenses

Operalogue honoraria	\$ 150
Education Program at Children's school	\$ 103
Opera Invasion	\$ 750

**Total:** **\$47,406**

We have approximately \$144,021.59 in our 3 accounts. We continue to hold a reserve of \$45,000 in order to insure our financial stability. Steven Osgood, the General and Artistic Director of the Opera is full of ideas that he will reveal in more detail over the next few years. I can only say that I'm very excited and think that the money that the Opera Guild has raised over many years will allow us to be on the forefront of these exciting initiatives.

As always, we couldn't do this without you! Thanks for your ongoing support of Chautauqua Opera!

Mary Mitchell  
President of the Chautauqua Opera Guild