

Elgin OPERA Newsletter

Fall 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

5th Annual Benefit Event October 25	1
Festival of Singers at Villa Verone	1
Sail on the Mediterranean with Elgin OPERA	2
Elgin OPERA on DVD and YouTube	2
Join Elgin OPERA Guild	2
Sponsors of the Month	3
Winners of Third Annual Vocal Competition	3
Award Benefactors & Summer Music Festival	3
Links to Online Articles about Elgin OPERA	4
Elgin OPERA Studio Vocal Training	4
Coffee, T-Shirts & Other Merchandise	4

Visit us on the web at
www.elginopera.org
<http://elginopera.wordpress.com/>
 Youtube: [Elginopera/taste of Italy](http://www.youtube.com/Elginopera/tasteofitaly)

5TH ANNUAL BENEFIT EVENT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Want to have a great time and support Elgin OPERA at the same time? **Come to Elgin OPERA's 5th Annual Benefit Event on Sunday, October 25th at 5:00 PM at Villa Verone**, 13 Douglas Avenue in downtown Elgin. Halloween Theme with Costume optional.

Win the first prize for best costume! Be one of your favorite opera characters or show up as Zorro! Participate in the sing-along. Hear some of the winners of Elgin OPERA's Third Annual Vocal Competition. Enjoy special entertainment. Bid on the Silent Auction items. Win the raffle! Taste the authentic Italian Cuisine provided by your host Pietro Verone.

Your \$50 totally tax deductible contribution will provide you with a sumptuous buffet dinner, entertainment and all activities. Members of the Opera Guild can enjoy a \$10 discount.

For Reservations contact Elgin OPERA at 847-695-5014 or via email at office@elginopera.org.

Support Elgin OPERA's Benefit Event.

Cannot attend the Benefit Event? You can still help support Elgin OPERA by sending your tax deductible donation to Elgin OPERA, 350 Park Street, The Rider Center - Room 207, Elgin, IL 60120.

Or donate a tax deductible Auction Item for our Silent Auction. Call us at 847-695-5014.

Ideas for Silent Auction items:

- Tickets to cultural events (opera, theater, etc.)
- "Goody" baskets with chocolate, cheese, wine, opera CDs/DVDs, etc.
- Gift certificates for facials, spa services, massages, restaurants, hotels, etc.
- Handmade items (jewelry, scarves, greeting cards, etc.)
- Calligraphy, photography, and other artwork items

Or donate your time by helping Elgin OPERA promote this event to be a great event!

FESTIVAL OF SINGERS AT VILLA VERONE

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Elgin OPERA returns with the Festival of singers **every Sunday from 6-8 PM** at Villa Verone Ristorante Italiano (13 Douglas Avenue, of Downtown Elgin)

Come and enjoy the beautiful voices, 5 - 10 singers showcased every weekend in a variety of excerpts from famous opera selections, to Broadway highlights, passing by Italian Songs and comedy numbers, while you leisurely indulge in the sumptuous Italian Cuisine.

No Cover Charge!

Opera Guild Member with a membership card ID can enjoy a 10 % discount on the total bill of the table. For Reservations contact Villa Verone at (847) 742-0263.



SAIL ON THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH ELGIN OPERA

ELGIN OPERA PRESENTS:
“Arias & Encores on the Mediterranean”
Sailing August 2—12, 2010
10 Day Mediterranean Cruise

Set sail with family and friends in support of Elgin OPERA in 2010!

Enjoy a spacious, elegantly appointed stateroom of your choice on this 10 day cruise on Holland America's Noordam. Dine at the Intimate Pinnacle Grill, the Captain's Dinner or other various dining options. Toast away at the Captain's Cocktail Party, the Private Elgin OPERA Cocktail Party

and the Wine and Cheese Tasting. Let singers of Elgin OPERA romance you at private events and at Elgin OPERA's Public Performance onboard the ship.

Visit Barcelona, Livorno (Florence), Naples, Rome, Malta, La Goulette. Have your private translator (Solange Sior) walk you through the French Côte d'Azur (Monte Carlo) and the house of Napoleon Bonaparte, Ajaccio (France). Buy souvenirs and taste the specialties of Europe.

Pre & Post packages available for Barcelona and Rome. Fare includes a tax-deductible donation to Elgin OPERA.

Enjoy special rate for friends of Elgin OPERA
 (Price per person on double occupancy)

Balcony	\$2,499
Ocean View	\$1,949
Interior Cabin	\$1,729
<i>(Taxes & Fees</i>	<i>\$97.40)</i>

Rate for 3rd or 4th passenger in cabin: \$799 plus Taxes & Fees of \$97.40

For more information or Reservations contact Getaway Travel at 847-888-2525 or at gtc@getaway-travel.com

NOW AVAILABLE: ELGIN OPERA ON DVD AND YOUTUBE

A Taste of Italy - Highlights of Italian Excerpts with the New Millennium Orchestra under the direction of Francesco Milioto, a dozen soloists & chorus, presented by the City of Elgin at the Hemmens Cultural Center, January 31, 2009. (Double DVD)

Love & Fairy Tales - Staged & Costumed Production of Highlights of the Magic Flute with narrations, Kimball Street Theatre, May 1, 2009. (Single DVD)

Best Loved Opera Scenes - Semi staged concert of opera highlights from Elgin OPERA's Summer Festival. Includes the Second Act scene Germont/Violetta from *La Traviata*, performed by Solange Sior & Ghibong Kim, Kimball Street Theatre, August 1st, 2009 (Single DVD)

Suor Angelica by Puccini - A staged production starring Marcy Stonikas & Barbara Landis & winners of Elgin OPERA's Third Annual Vocal Competition, Kimball Street Theatre, August 1st, 2009. (Single DVD)

Excellently crafted by John Fleener, Videography Instructor of Elgin Academy, these delightful DVDs are sure to delight both the eye and ear.

For the low cost of only **\$25 for double DVD and \$15 for single DVD** you can bring home a piece of Elgin OPERA history.

To reserve your copies, contact Elgin OPERA's Office at (847)695-5014 or via email at office@elginopera.org.

You Can Find us on YouTube!

Selections from A Taste of Italy

- Largo al Factotum
- Vissi d'Arte
- E lucevan le stelle
- Regnava nel Silenzio
- Una Voce poco fa
- Una furtive lagrima
- Chi mi frena in tal momento
- Te Deum
- Bella siccome un angelo



JOIN ELGIN OPERA GUILD

Elgin OPERA Guild events & discounts are made possible by the generous support of Opera Volunteers International

Your one-year membership “card” entitles you to these benefits & more:

- A Membership ID Card
- Enjoy a 10 % discount at Villa Verone Ristorante in Elgin on the total bill of the table.
- Enjoy \$10 discount to Elgin OPERA's Benefit Event on October 25 (member only)
- Invitations to special gatherings and events
- Subscription to the quarterly newsletter
- Special discounts throughout the year (member only)
- Advance notice to upcoming events

SPONSORS OF THE MONTH: SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

September:

Norman V. McCabe

Multi-Month Donor

October:

Norman V. McCabe

Multi-Month Donor

November:

Barbara & Barre Seid Foundation

WINNERS OF ELGIN OPERA'S THIRD ANNUAL VOCAL COMPETITION

Division I

Twinkle Little Star (12 years & under)

First Place - Tatiana Ranallo (Gilberts)

Second Place - Christopher Knudsen (Elmhurst)

Division II

Teen Artist (13 - 18 years)

First Place - Madeline Raube (Glen Ellyn)

Second Place - Lindon Warren (Round Lake Beach)

Second Place - Stacey Bravos (Barrington)

Third Place - Helen Knudsen (Elmhurst)

Division III

Young Artist (19 - 26 years)

First Place - Marianna Adaire (Evanston)

Second Place - Laura Dobroth (Lake Forest)

Third Place - Sarah Heitman (Barrington)

Division IV

Emerging Artist (27 years and over)

First Place - Marcy Stonikas (Chicago)

Second Place - Nancy Wiebe Mazurowski (Chicago)

Third Place - Margaret Schnute (Bolingbrook)

Third Place - Michelle Hackman (Chicago)

Most Promising Artist Award

Marcy Stonikas (Chicago)

OUR GENEROUS AWARD BENEFACTORS

Our Generous Award Benefactors for this event were Barbara & Barre Seid Foundation, Palmer Foundation, Lois Myers-Bauer (Vice-President of EO), Dr. Brad Epstein (Board Member of EO), Nicholas Bruno (Board Member of EO), William G. Kowalski (Board Member of EO), Reid & Janine Lewis, Gerhard & Hilda Wonneberger, Dr. Rise D. Jones (SCORE), and Ghibong Kim (Vocal Teacher at Judson University)

Our **Third Annual Vocal Competition in June 2009** attracted 85 singers in 4 divisions (ranging in age from 7 years old to 54 years old) from around the Midwest and provided \$3,700 in cash awards to 13 winners.

In addition, 22 scholarships were awarded to all of the Finalists to participate in Elgin OPERA's First Summer Music Festival held throughout July.

ELGIN OPERA SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Our **First Summer Music Festival in July 2009** provided the following to its 45 participants: Master Classes with Maestro Giulio Favario (former Associate Conductor and Chorus Master at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and former Principal Coach at the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists), Maestro Philip Morehead (Pianist and Conductor, Head of Music Staff of Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Lyric Opera Center of American Artists and former Chorus Master) and French Master Classes with Elgin OPERA's Artistic Director Solange Sior, as well as performing experience, coaching and scene preparation for 4 different productions, including a fully staged production of *Suor Angelica* by Puccini.

Elgin OPERA's Third Annual Vocal Competition and First Community Outreach Summer Music Festival were made possible by the generous support of the Palmer Foundation, Elgin Academy, the Illinois Arts Council, the Grand Victoria Foundation, Barbara and Barre Seid Foundation, Opera Volunteers International, E3 Design Group, the Board and Opera Guild of Elgin OPERA, and Elgin OPERA's generous sponsors.



**The Opera Company
Serving Elgin,
Illinois and the
Fox Valley**

**A Resident
Artist Program
with offices and
performances
on the campus
of Elgin
Academy**

www.elginopera.org

Elgin OPERA Fall 2009 Newsletter

September 2009

To follow the most up to date workings of Elgin OPERA visit us at:
www.facebook.com/pages/Elgin-OPERA/45418001058

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ca9gQyiEIqA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R00YbdaWgko&feature=related>

<http://www.lakecountyjournal.com/articles/2009/08/12/80236155/index.xml>

<http://www.kcchronicle.com/articles/2009/08/18/61600446/index.xml>

http://www.triblocal.com/St_Charles/List_View/view.html?type=photos&action=detail&sub_id=82868

<http://www.oakparkjournal.com/2008/2009-Elgin-Opera-Gala-Jan-31-8pm.html>

Visit us on the web at
www.elginopera.org

Elgin OPERA
350 Park Street
The Rider Center- Room 207
Elgin, IL 60120

Phone: 847-695-5014
Fax: 847-695-5024
E-mail: office@elginopera.org

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Elgin, IL
Permit No. 455

ELGIN OPERA STUDIO

847-695-5014

Elgin OPERA Studio Offers:

- Vocal Training *Bel Canto Technique *Open Throat *Margaret Harshaw Technique
- Coaching *Art Songs *Opera *Musical Theatre
- Diction/Language *French *Italian *German

Instructors:

Solange Sior - MM University of Montreal - Lyric Opera Center for American Artist (Chicago)

Susan Dennis - MM Northwestern University .

COFFEE, T-SHIRTS AND OTHER MERCHANDISE

Support Elgin OPERA by Drinking Coffee!

Organic coffees and teas from Conscious Cup Roastery are available in either whole bean or ground. Choose from **Encore Blend** - a delicious light roast created just for Elgin OPERA, the **Sumatra Mandheling** - a full bodied dark roast with chocolate tones and an earthy finish, and the **Mexican Decaf** - has all the body and flavor of a regular coffee without leaving

you wanting! The **Numi Tea Box** is filled with an assortment of 6 Numi teas. All coffees & Tea are available for immediate purchase. The 1lb bag of your favorite blend is just \$15. The half pound bag and tea box are available for \$10.

Call **Meghan Smeenge** with Elgin OPERA at **847-741-1184**.

Know that with every sip, you are supporting Elgin OPERA!

T-Shirts & more...

Elgin OPERA long sleeve T-shirts are still available. Only \$18 to be the picture of style with Elgin OPERA.

Additional Elgin OPERA merchandise, including a variety of t-shirt styles, bumper stickers and much more are available at www.cafepress.com/elginopera