



Newsletter September 2008

ELGIN
O·P·E·R·A

Elgin OPERA at Navy Pier

Elgin OPERA will be performing at NAVY PIER at the three-day Italian Expo September 19 - 21, 2008

Singers from the Elgin OPERA will be performing at Chicago's Navy Pier September 19 - 21, 2008 for the Annual Italian Style Expo. Italian Style 2008 is a wonderful three-day expo celebrating Italian excellence in the fields of fashion, tourism, design, cuisine and culture. More than 100 companies from Italy will attend the expo from the cities of Rome, Milan, Brescia, Trento, and the Region of Sicily. NBC5 is the media partner for the Italian American Chamber of Commerce Midwest for Italian Style that will attract more than 60,000 people from the Midwest.

The Festival of Singers - Back by popular demand

The Festival of Singers presented at Villa Verone has been extended through the end of September. Come and enjoy the beautiful voices performing Broadway, Italian songs and famous opera selections while you leisurely indulge in the sumptuous Italian cuisine offered by longtime area restaurateur, Pietro Verone. No cover charges.

The Festival showcases 8 - 12 singers Sunday evenings (Sept. 7, 14, 21, and 28) from 6 - 8 PM. Villa Verone is located at 13 Douglas Avenue in downtown Elgin. For reservations, call Pietro at 847-742-0263, or visit their website at www.villaverone.net.

This is a great opportunity for Elgin OPERA to truly showcase its musical talents. Four performances are planned over the 3-day event and a dozen singers will participate.

Friday from 3:00-3:30 PM & from 7:00-8:00 PM
Saturday at the Gala Dinner event at 6:30 PM
Sunday from 2:30-3:30 PM

Please come join us at the Expo in support of Elgin OPERA. Pre-sale \$10 tickets are available at Books at Sunset, 1100 South Street, Elgin IL 60123, 847-888-1860 or visit the Expo's website at www.italianexpo.us for a list of the locations that will be hosting pre-sale tickets at the price of \$10. Tickets at the door are \$15. For more information and reservations for the Gala Dinner on Saturday night (\$250 per plate) contact 312-553-9137.

Join the Opera Guild

Join the Opera Guild and redeem a free drink at Villa Verone, 13 Douglas Avenue in Elgin. (See membership application.)

Enjoy a \$10 discount on Elgin OPERA's 4th Annual Benefit Event.



Solange Sior, Artistic Director

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Elgin OPERA's Mission Statement

**To create and
nourish a greater
appreciation of the
classical vocal arts
and to educate
through professional
performances and
community outreach
programs**

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.elginopera.org

Thanks to graphic designer
Eric Engelby, web master
John H. Patton, and to
editor Paula Mrazek

Elgin OPERA holds its 4th Annual Benefit

Event October 26

The time has arrived for the Elgin OPERA to hold its Annual Benefit Event.

Now more than ever, we need your support. For seven years, Elgin OPERA has been delighting audiences and reaching area residents who could not easily have access to this high level of musical artistry. We have worked diligently and ethically to educate the community and students through outreach programs and master classes. We have promoted emerging talents through our Vocal Competition and Training Ensemble. Consequently, we

The Elgin Academy Grand Opening of the Rider Center - October 23

We are excited to announce that Elgin Academy will welcome Elgin OPERA as its newest Artist in Residence in just a few short weeks. Elgin OPERA will office in the new Harold D. Rider Family Media, Science and Fine Arts Center and will practice and perform in the center's Kimball Street Theater. Elgin OPERA will also hold master classes for the students and will collaborate with faculty to further integrate classical vocal and instrumental arts into Elgin Academy's already strong arts curriculum.

As you can imagine, running an opera company is a costly endeavor. Elgin OPERA must pay for performance space, office space, rehearsal space, props, pianists, conductors, costumes, and a symphony when necessary.

Elgin OPERA has been successful each year through the generosity of the local community, including strong support from the City of Elgin.

We hope that EA families will join with other local people and organizations and take this opportunity to help Elgin OPERA succeed and grow at this vital juncture for the organization. You can sponsor Elgin OPERA for a month by making a donation of \$500. Your sponsorship will be recognized in Elgin OPERA's newsletter, on their website, and in their promotional literature and performance brochures. Additionally, Elgin OPERA will post monthly

have earned the respect and admiration of opera lovers and connoisseurs.

We are requesting your company at our Dinner-Concert Benefit Event on Sunday, October 26, 2008. This year, the event will be held at the new Villa Verone in downtown Elgin, 13 Douglas Avenue. The evening will begin at 5:00 pm with cocktails, 5:30 dinner, followed by entertainment at 7:00 pm as well as a Silent Auction and Raffle. Your \$60 contribution is fully tax-deductible. Members of the Opera Guild can enjoy a \$10 discount. Reservations are due by October 20 and can be made by calling (847) 214-8340.

sponsors on a board outside of the office on campus. As an added benefit, you will receive complimentary membership in the Opera Guild, joining Dr. John Cooper and Mayor Ed Schock.

Join us at the New Rider Center on Kimball Street for a ceremony at 3:00 pm, followed by an open house from 4:00 – 6:00 PM.

Singers from Elgin OPERA will be performing at a private reception and formal dinner for Elgin Academy's major donors.

Support Elgin OPERA by Drinking Coffee

Purchasing Elgin OPERA coffee is easy! Just call Meghan Smeenge at 847-741-1184 anytime! There are 3 blends of coffee, the Encore Blend, Sumatra Mandheling and Mexican Decaf. The 1 lb bag is just \$15.00, half-pound bag \$10.00.

