



canadian **OPERA** company  
ALEXANDER NEEF, GENERAL DIRECTOR



## EXPLORE & LEARN

PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOLS, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

**0910**

**coc.ca**

416-306-2392



## DEAR FRIENDS,

It takes vision, passion and dedication from many individuals to cultivate a community. For 60 years the Canadian Opera Company has shared thrilling opera experiences with people of all ages and backgrounds. Beyond the mainstage, our education and outreach programs provide unique opportunities for communities, schools, children, parents and teachers to connect to opera and to the COC.

Through the COC's accessible, artistic and interactive workshops, dress rehearsals, in-school performances, and after-school and summer programs, children and youth develop their own creative voices.

Whether you are a devoted patron who wants to share the enjoyment of opera with the young people in your family, a teacher encouraging students to explore the arts, a parent looking for meaningful arts programming for your children and teens, or youth searching for exciting cultural events in the city, the COC offers many ways to engage a new generation of opera-goers.

We welcome you to our opera family and invite you to encourage the young people in your life to explore, learn and unleash their artistic creativity at the COC.

Alexander Neef, General Director



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# FOR THE CLASSROOM

Bring opera to the classroom or plan an innovative and cost-effective field trip!

## OPERA STORYTIME

Children retell the tales of classic operas with the help of COC artist-educators. In one hour, the participants learn songs from the opera in English, explore the basic elements of drama and dance, and use costumes and props to enhance their characters. The hour culminates in a showcase of their acquired performing arts skills.

### **HANSEL AND GRETEL** | JK to GR. 1

Based on the opera by Engelbert Humperdinck

Travel through the woods with Hansel and Gretel as they find a house of gingerbread! Participants encounter the Dew Fairy and the Witch and help Gretel break a magic spell.

### **CINDERELLA** | GR. 1 to 2

Based on the operas of Jules Massenet and Gioacchino Rossini

Present a traditional fairytale in a new way. Participants transform into different characters – from mice to royalty – throughout the hour, to help Cinderella find her Prince.

### **RUSALKA** | GR. 2 to 3

Based on the opera by Antonín Dvořák

Participants become water goblins, mermaids, or members of the royal court in the recreation of Dvořák's adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale, *The Little Mermaid*.

### **THE ENCHANTED CHILD** | GR. 3 to 4

Based on the opera by Maurice Ravel

A naughty boy refuses to do his homework and throws a huge tantrum! He damages the items in his room and is mean to the small animals outside. The inanimate objects come to life and remind him of the consequences of his actions. Themes of morality, responsibility and forgiveness are explored in this delightful tale.

### **THE RHINEGOLD** | GR. 3 to 6

Based on the opera by Richard Wagner

According to an ancient Norse legend, there was a magic ring that brought power to all who owned it. Participants become dwarves, giants, gods and Rhinepeople to retell the popular tale through improvisation and an introduction to the musical concept of *leitmotifs*.

### **THE BARBER OF SEVILLE** | GR. 4 to 6

Based on the opera by Gioacchino Rossini

In this workshop, participants will discover *opera buffa*, the famous Italian comic opera genre. *Barber* is a fast-paced, complex story of disguises and includes many well-known opera melodies.

**DATES:** Call for availability

**DURATION:** One hour

**LOCATION:** Your school or the Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre

**COST:** \$175 for a maximum of 30 students per workshop

Generously sponsored by: Great-West Life – London Life – Canada Life

## **XSTRATA ENSEMBLE STUDIO SCHOOL TOUR | K to GR. 6**

The Xstrata Ensemble Studio School Tour has brought opera to schools across the province for over 20 years! The program includes a free in-school pre-performance workshop, a post-performance question-and-answer session with artists and comprehensive teacher resource materials. Works are written or adapted specifically for school-aged audiences and performed with piano accompaniment.

### **THE BARBER OF SEVILLE** Gioacchino Rossini

A comedy of mischievous mayhem and delightful absurdities, Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* is eternally popular for its irresistible charm and outstanding melodies. Count Almaviva is in love with the charming Rosina, a prisoner in the home of her elderly guardian who intends to marry her himself. To gain access to Rosina, Almaviva hires the services of Figaro, the irrepressible barber who spends as much time scheming as he does shaving!

The work is adapted specifically for school-aged audiences and sung in English.

### **CINDERELLA** Gioacchino Rossini and Jules Massenet

The world-famous fairy tale is transformed into a charming opera. A mix of Rossini's and Massenet's magical scores tell the tale of Cinderella's quest to find her Prince with text sung in both English and French. The opera allows students and teachers to explore the many ways stories are told through different mediums and cultures.

- DATES:** November 9 – December 4, 2009  
**DURATION:** One hour  
**LOCATION:** Your school, community centre or theatre  
**COST:** \$800 for school groups (maximum 300 students)  
**BOOK NOW:** Call Prologue to the Performing Arts at 416-591-9092 for performance times and availability



## CREATE AN OPERA | K to GR. 12

Professional artist-educators guide teachers and students in writing an original opera. Artists work with the class over eight weeks to teach libretto writing, music creation, set and costume design and staging. Each project is tailored to the needs of the class, focusing on curriculum areas, character education or the goals and interests of the students. The COC uses digital media applications for collaboration and communication, providing teachers with additional professional development.

**DATES:** Call for availability

**DURATION:** One hour, per class, per week for eight weeks

**LOCATION:** Your school

**COST:** \$995 plus GST per class (maximum of 30 students per class)  
Special packages are available for multiple classes



## LIVING OPERA WORKSHOP | GR. 7 to 12

This four-part workshop examines the genre of opera as it relates to the mainstage production. An initial discussion on the composer and historical context reveals intricacies of the mainstage production. A vocal workshop highlights the techniques used by opera singers, a session on drama provides an in-depth discovery of the dramatic techniques used by directors and performers of opera, and a backstage tour completes the experience with an investigation of the technical side of an opera production. Study guides are available online to assist teachers in integrating operas with the Ontario Curriculum.

This workshop is ideally partnered with an evening at the opera. See pages 8 and 9 for a list of operas performed in the 09/10 season.

**DATES:** Call for availability

**DURATION:** 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on select performance dates

**LOCATION:** Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts

**COST:** \$12 per student (minimum 20, maximum 30 per group)

# BUILDING TOURS

Want to know more about how opera is made or get a sneak peak at the workings of Canada's first purpose-built opera house? Book your class for a building tour!

## **JOEY AND TOBY TANENBAUM OPERA CENTRE | K to POST SECONDARY**

Learn more about how the COC works, with visits to the costume, wig and prop departments in this behind-the-scenes tour.

DATES: Call for availability  
DURATION: One hour  
GROUPS: Maximum of 30 students per group  
COST: \$25 per group of 30\*

## **FOUR SEASONS CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

Check out the architectural and acoustic wonders of the opera house or take a peak backstage and see another side of the opera world!

### **Acoustics and Architecture Tour** GR. 4 to Post Secondary

DATES: Call for availability  
DURATION: One hour  
COST: \$25 per group of 30\*

### **Backstage Tour** GR. 6 to Post Secondary

DATES: Call for availability  
DURATION: One hour  
COST: \$100 per group of 30\*

\*Additional charges will apply for groups over 30.

# PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATORS

Looking for ways to share this exciting art form with your students and connect with other like-minded teachers? The COC's popular professional development workshops for elementary teachers explore how opera can deliver the arts curriculum objectives in a classroom. The workshops also illustrate how the art form connects to other subjects and offer teachers practical activities to use in the classroom. Participants also attend a performance after their workshop.

DATES: Saturdays: November 14, 2009, January 30, 2010 and May 1, 2010  
TIME: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre  
COST: \$50 per session



# BMO FINANCIAL GROUP STUDENT DRESS REHEARSALS

Introduce your students to opera by attending a BMO Financial Group Student Dress Rehearsal for only **\$14 per student**.

Spend an afternoon learning more about the opera you are going to see on the main stage! See page 6 for details about the Living Opera workshop.

BMO  Financial Group

FALL 09



## *MADAMA BUTTERFLY* Puccini

**Dress Rehearsal:** Sept. 23, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances:** **SEPT** 26, 29, 30, **OCT** 8, 10, 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, **NOV 3 2009**

A young Japanese geisha seeks to fulfill her dreams through marriage to an American naval officer.

Production Sponsor:



WINTER 10



## *CARMEN* Bizet

**Dress Rehearsal:** Jan. 23, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances:** **JAN** 27, 30, **FEB** 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 27 **2010**

Carmen unwittingly enters into a fatal love affair with a man whose jealousy is at odds with her unrelenting desire for freedom.

Production Co-sponsors:



SPRING 10

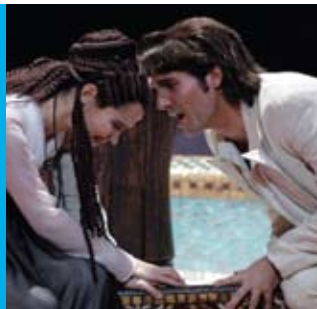


## *THE FLYING DUTCHMAN* Wagner

**Dress Rehearsal:** April 20, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances:** **APR** 24, 28, **MAY** 2, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20 **2010**

Senta is bewitched by a portrait of the Flying Dutchman, the mythical sailor who is doomed to sail the seas forever, unless he can find a woman who will love him until death. Their destinies are put to the test when the mysterious man and Senta finally meet.



## *IDOMENEO* Mozart

**Dress Rehearsal:** May 7, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances:** **MAY** 9, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21, 25, 27, 29 **2010**

Idomeneo, King of Crete, sailing home following victory in the Trojan War, is saved from a terrible death by Neptune, God of the Sea. In exchange for his life, the King rashly vows to sacrifice the first person he meets on shore, only to discover that the victim is his one and only son, Idamante.

## STUDENT GROUP DISCOUNTS

Not able to bring your class to a dress rehearsal? Student groups of 10 or more can attend regular COC performances for \$20 per ticket. Call Group Sales at 416-306-2356 or visit [coc.ca](http://coc.ca) for details.

## ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE OPERA

Gain insight into the opera you're going to see before the performance! Join us in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre 45 minutes before each performance to learn about the history and context of the opera you're seeing from a member of our Volunteer Speakers Bureau. BMO Financial Group Pre-Performance Chats are free with your opera ticket.

### *THE NIGHTINGALE AND OTHER SHORT FABLES* Stravinsky

**Dress Rehearsal:** Oct. 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances: OCT 17, 20, 22, 24, 30, NOV 1, 4, 5 2009**

A stunning program of short Stravinsky works is designed to delight audience members of all ages while incorporating the charm and mystery of Southeast-Asian puppetry.



### *OTELLO* Verdi

**Dress Rehearsal:** Jan. 31, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances: FEB 3, 6, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28 2010**

Based on Shakespeare's tragedy, Otello, a former slave, has risen to the rank of general while his lieutenant Iago, empowered by a consuming envy, embarks on a quest to destroy him.

Production Sponsor:

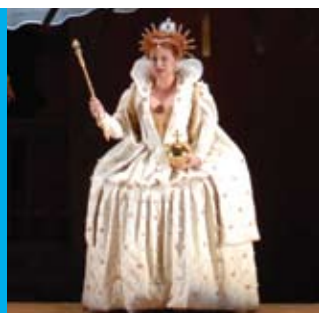


### *MARIA STUARDA* Donizetti

**Dress Rehearsal:** April 27, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**Performances: MAY 1, 4, 10, 13, 22, 26, 28, 30 2010**

Queen Elizabeth I loves the Earl of Leicester but suspects he has fallen for her rival, Mary, Queen of Scots. A searing confrontation arises between the rival queens and ends with Elizabeth demanding Mary's execution.



# BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Call Group Sales at **416-306-2356**  
or e-mail **[groupsales@coc.ca](mailto:groupsales@coc.ca)**

# PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

## **AFTER SCHOOL OPERA PROGRAM** | Ages 7 to 12

Introducing opera to young people for 12 years, the After School Opera Program exposes children across Toronto to vocal music, drama and visual arts. Under the guidance of artist-educators, participants create and perform an original mini-opera based on their own ideas and improvisations.

**COST:** \$10 per term

**DURATION:** Three terms per year, weekdays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
The same program is offered at four centres across the city.

### LOCATIONS

**AND DATES:** **MONDAYS** | Register: Call 416-396-2880 or visit [toronto.ca/parks/](http://toronto.ca/parks/)  
**East York Community Centre** 1081½ Pape Avenue (at O'Connor)  
**Fall:** September 28 – November 30, 2009 (excluding October 12, Thanksgiving)  
**Winter:** January 11 – March 8, 2010 (excluding February 15, Family Day)  
**Spring:** March 29 – June 14, 2010 (excluding April 5, Easter and May 24, Victoria Day)

**TUESDAYS** | Register: Call 416-395-6123 or visit [toronto.ca/parks/](http://toronto.ca/parks/)  
**Barbara Frum Community Centre** 20 Covington Road (Lawrence and Bathurst)  
**Fall:** September 29 – December 1, 2009  
**Winter:** January 12 – March 9, 2010  
**Spring:** March 30 – June 1, 2010

**WEDNESDAYS** | Register: Call 416-532-4828 x 127  
**St. Christopher House Music School** 248 Ossington Avenue (at Dundas)  
**Fall:** September 30 – December 2, 2009  
**Winter:** January 13 – March 10, 2010  
**Spring:** March 31 – June 2, 2010

**THURSDAYS** | Register: Call 416-306-2392 or visit [coc.ca](http://coc.ca)  
**Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre** 227 Front St. E. (at Berkeley Street)  
**Fall:** October 1 – December 3, 2009  
**Winter:** January 14 – March 11, 2010  
**Spring:** April 1 – June 3, 2010

*Generously supported by the Imperial Oil Foundation and Kraft Canada*





### **MARCH BREAK AT THE COC | Ages 6 to 12**

Participants learn the songs and story from professional artist-educators, create their own costumes, and perform their adaptation of a popular opera – all in one day!

No musical or acting experience necessary!

- DATES:** Thursday, March 18, 2010 – Ages 6 to 9  
Friday, March 19, 2010 – Ages 10 to 12
- TIME:** 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- LOCATION:** Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre
- COST:** \$30 per participant (additional \$5 per participant for early drop-off at 8:30 a.m.)

### **SUMMER OPERA CAMP | Ages 6 to 12**

This popular one-week arts camp features daily sessions in music and drama, as well as design and movement workshops. Under the guidance of artist-educators, participants rewrite, reconstruct and present their spin on a classic opera.

- DATES:** July 12 – 16, 2010 – Ages 6 to 9  
July 19 – 23, 2010 – Ages 10 to 12
- LOCATION:** Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre
- COST:** \$150 per week (some subsidies available)
- REGISTRATION:** Available online and in person beginning Monday, February 8, 2010 at 10 a.m.



# PROGRAMS FOR **YOUTH**

## **OPERAWORKS** | Ages 10 to 13

Participants explore how stories are told through diverse, cultural art forms, and then create their own world-opera in this innovative workshop program.

**DATES:** Tuesdays, April 13 – May 25, 2010

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**LOCATION:** St. Christopher House Music School, 248 Ossington Avenue (at Dundas)

**COST:** \$30



## **YOUTH OPERA LAB** | Ages 14 to 18

The Youth Opera Lab is a series of workshops that encourage participants to explore the inner workings of opera. The program includes sessions on voice, movement and staging and is suitable for youth with an interest in the performing arts and a basic knowledge of music and drama.

**DATES:** Wednesdays, April 28 – May 19, 2010

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre

**COST:** \$30



## **SUMMER YOUTH INTENSIVE | Ages 14 to 18**

This five-day intensive is designed to challenge and inspire youth who have a desire to pursue opera and the performing arts. Led by a multidisciplinary team of professional artists, participants will develop skills in singing, acting, movement and libretto writing while performing operatic scenes from the COC's 10/11 Season.

**DATES:** July 5 – 9, 2010  
**TIME:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily  
**LOCATION:** Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre  
**COST:** \$150 (some subsidies available)

## **T-DOT – TORONTO DANCE OPERA THEATRE PROJECT FOR YOUTH**

**Ages 15 to 17**

In collaboration with other arts organizations in Toronto, the COC offers youth in grades 10 and 11 the opportunity to experience theatre, opera and dance performances preceded by introductory workshops – for free. For a complete listing of the arts organizations involved and the program schedule, visit [paone.ca/tdot.html](http://paone.ca/tdot.html).

Major Sponsor of Youth Education Programs:  **Scotiabank Group**



# TAKE ME OUT TO THE OPERA

## SHARE THE OPERA EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR FAMILY!

The COC presents a special public performance of the Xstrata Ensemble Studio School Tour productions of *The Barber of Seville* by Gioacchino Rossini and *Cinderella* based on the operas by Jules Massenet and Gioacchino Rossini. Both operas are sung in English and are designed with the young person in mind. For specific details on the operas see page 5. The operas are suitable for children ages 4 and up.

**DATES:** Saturday, November 14, 2009

*Cinderella* 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

*The Barber of Seville*

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Joey and Toby Tanenbaum  
Opera Centre

**COST:** \$15 adult/\$10 children (15 and younger) for each opera

Call COC Ticket Services at **416-363-8231**



## GET INVOLVED VOLUNTEER AT THE COC!

Interested in the performing arts? Want to use and develop your artistic or administrative abilities as part of a team? The COC is looking for motivated youth (ages 14 to 23) interested in the arts to volunteer for our education and outreach programs. It's a great way to build new skills, earn volunteer hours and meet new people.

Interested youth can approach their co-op teacher or professor or call us directly at **416-306-2392** or e-mail **education@coc.ca**.



# HOW TO BOOK A PROGRAM FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Call **416-306-2392** or e-mail **education@coc.ca** for availability, or fill out an inquiry form at **www.coc.ca/ExploreAndLearn.aspx**.

## BOOKING TIP!

Be prepared with the dates you would like to book a workshop/program/tour for your school. The quickest and easiest way is to e-mail us with a few date options, your school information and the grade level(s) of your group.

## TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR A PROGRAM

It's as easy as 1-2-3:

# 1

### ONLINE

Register online or download a form at:  
**www.coc.ca/ExploreAndLearn.aspx**

# 2

### BY FAX

Fax the form to **416-363-5584**

**OR**

# 3

### IN PERSON OR BY MAIL

Drop off the form or send to:  
Canadian Opera Company  
Attn: Education and Outreach Assistant  
227 Front St. E., Toronto, ON M5A 1E8

## PAYMENT

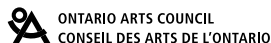
All fees are due upon registration.  
Cheques can be made payable to "Canadian Opera Company."  
Visa or Mastercard accepted.  
Additional processing fees may be charged for online registration.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Please refer to our website for our complete Booking and Cancellation Policy:  
[coc.ca/ExploreAndLearn.aspx](http://coc.ca/ExploreAndLearn.aspx).

## THE COC GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES

Operating funding from



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## EDUCATION & OUTREACH PARTNERS

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The McLean Foundation  
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TELUS  
Xstrata

The COC Ensemble Studio is Canada's premier training program for young opera professionals and provides advanced instruction, hands-on experience, and career development opportunities. The Ensemble Studio is supported by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage, RBC Financial Group and other generous donors.

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227 Front St. E.  
Toronto, ON M5A 1E8  
416-363-6671

Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts  
145 Queen St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5H 4G1

One Extraordinary Moment After Another

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