

2011–2012 Pittsburgh Opera Opera Academy for Educators



What is Opera Academy?

A stimulating and intensive program, Opera Academy is a unique, year-long professional development experience. Created and tailored for teachers, the Opera Academy is designed to immerse educators into the world of opera and arts integration.

Opera Academy participants have an interest in the arts, desire to learn more about the arts, want to expand their knowledge of operas, or wish to explore connections between academic content areas. Educators from all grade levels and content areas attend full-day workshops, experience a number of operas from a varied repertoire, develop lessons designed to connect the arts to other academic content areas, and prepare students to attend an opera performance.

What Opera Academy participants say:

- "These are the most comprehensive, interesting, and useful workshops I have ever attended. Every topic is fascinating and weaves into the next. You leave us hungry for more!"
- "Always inspiring. Always well done. The enjoyment the opera has brought to me and my students is immeasurable."

Objectives of Opera Academy

- To offer interested educators the opportunity to immerse themselves in opera and opera-related programs so they can integrate opera in their classrooms.
- To form a network among teachers who use opera as an educational tool.
- To provide elementary, middle, and high school students with first-hand exposure to live performances of opera.
- To develop a consistent set of rubrics and evaluative tools that will allow Pittsburgh Opera and participating educators to analyze the program's impact.

Opera Academy Contract

The value of each educator's participation in Opera Academy for an academic year is more than \$2000—all provided through grants. There is no cost to the teacher. Pittsburgh Opera requires each teacher to sign a contract that details the benefits and responsibilities of the program.

BENEFITS Pittsburgh Opera provides, at no charge, to each participant:

- Full subscription for the season (four performances).
- Four full-day workshops (Th or Sa), including CDs, books, handouts, materials, and optional Act 48 hours.
- An opportunity to bring 30 students to a special student performance, including bus transportation, OR an Opera Trunk residency and presentation in the classroom.
- All-inclusive stipend of \$100 per workshop attended to cover mileage, parking, and other incidental expenses. (Substitute teacher expenses are the responsibility of the school district for student matinee attendance. Act 48 fee of \$50 deducted from total stipend.)

RESPONSIBILITIES Opera Academy participants are expected to:

- Attend four full-day workshops
- Attend four opera performances (choice of performance day)
- Attend one student performance
- Attend two general meetings
- Use the provided format to prepare a portfolio with written documentation of classroom work, and examples of student assessment.

Portfolio contents: 1 Anticipated Impact Statement
 2 Opera Attendance Schedule
 3 Opera Infusion Schedule
 4 Opera Lesson Showcase One
 5 Opera Lesson Showcase Two
 6 The Ripple Effect

For more information, contact

Marilyn Michalka Egan, Ph.D., Director of Education
412-281-0912 x242 megan@pittsburghopera.org

Pittsburgh Opera, 2425 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

www.pittsburghopera.org