

PITTSBURGH OPERA

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**Pittsburgh Opera Honors Nadine E. Bognar
with Lifetime Achievement Award**

Pittsburgh, PA... [Pittsburgh Opera](#) will honor the exemplary contributions of Mrs. Nadine E. Bognar with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Company's 25th annual [Maecenas](#) gala on May 16 at the Benedum Center.

*Experience is
Everything
2008-2009
Season*

As a past President and longtime Board Member of Pittsburgh Opera, Mrs. Bognar has dedicated her passion, commitment and tireless energy to making opera a vibrant part of life in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Her lifelong love for opera combined with strong business expertise and determined leadership have been an invaluable resource in raising the artistic profile of Pittsburgh Opera, developing strategies for financial stability and raising commitment to education and outreach programming.

"Throughout the lifetime of every arts organization there are very special people who make a difference and Pittsburgh Opera is no exception," said [General Director Christopher Hahn](#). "We are delighted to honor Mrs. Bognar with this Lifetime Achievement Award. She has done so much to help secure Pittsburgh Opera's position as a cultural leader in Southwestern Pennsylvania."

A native of Pittsburgh, Mrs. Bognar is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bognar and Company, Inc., a producer of carbon products for the steel industry headquartered in Pittsburgh with manufacturing locations in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. Upon graduation from the Pinkerton School of Business, which was assimilated by Robert Morris University, she held a sales position with Anchor Hocking Glass Corporation and thereafter, a senior sales position at Union Mining Company.

In 1957, Mrs. Bognar and her husband became co-owners of Union Mining Company, now known as Bognar and Company, Inc. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Bognar has held her current position as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

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At age 79, Mrs. Bognar continues to be one of the most generous supporters of the cultural arts in Pittsburgh, extending her commitment and support to several non-profit organizations including Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Civic Light Opera, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. For giving generously of both her time and expertise, Mrs. Bognar has been recognized by multiple organizations including the Performing Arts Partnership and Achievement Award from Point Park University in 1998 and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in 2000. She was also previously recognized by Pittsburgh Opera with the inaugural Minerva Award in 1998.

"Pittsburgh is a wonderful, exciting city and I try to do my part to support its arts organizations," said Mrs. Bognar. "I have worked with Pittsburgh Opera for many years and have seen it grow into a world class opera company. I am deeply humbled to receive this prestigious award."

To make a tribute gift in honor of Mrs. Bognar, purchase a table or to make single reservations for the Maecenas gala, contact Tim Richart, Director of Special Events at (412) 281-0912 ext. 225 or trichart@pittsburghopera.org.

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[Pittsburgh Opera](#), now celebrating its 70th season, is one of America's leading opera companies. It produces a range of programs, from mainstage productions to free community concerts to intimate cabarets. Pittsburgh Opera's internationally renowned resident artist program is among the country's top five training centers for rising opera stars. More than 20,000 students, families and educators participate in Pittsburgh Opera educational events annually. The company's newly designed administrative and rehearsal space is housed in a 140-year-old air brake factory in the city's Strip District.

2008-2009 Season

[Samson & Dalila](#) by Camille Saint-Saëns – October 18, 21, 24, 26, 2008

[The Grapes of Wrath](#) by Ricky Ian Gordon – November 15, 18, 21, 23, 2008

[Don Pasquale](#) by Gaetano Donizetti – February 7, 10, 13, 15, 2009

[La Bohème](#) by Giacomo Puccini – March 28, 31, April 3, 5, 2009

[The Italian Girl in Algiers](#) (L'italiana in Algeri) by Gioachino Rossini – May 2, 5, 8, 10, 2009

Subscriptions for as little as \$41. Single tickets for as little as \$16. For ticket information visit our website www.pittsburghopera.org or call (412) 281-0912

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