

# PITTSBURGH OPERA

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Pittsburgh Opera Director of Education Wins GPAC Award**

**Pittsburgh, PA...** [Pittsburgh Opera Director of Education Marilyn Michalka Egan, Ph.D.](#) was presented the [Excellence in Arts Education Award](#) at the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council's The Work of Art Awards on June 1.

The Excellence in Arts Education Award honors an individual or organization in the greater Pittsburgh area who has shown exceptional dedication to the implementation of excellence in arts education.

*Discover Yourself*  
2009-2010  
Season

"Marilyn Egan is one of the gems of arts education in Pittsburgh," said Pittsburgh Opera [General Director Christopher Hahn](#). "I am delighted she has received this award, which acknowledges the great breadth and depth of Pittsburgh Opera's education programs. Many children and adults have benefited from these programs and will continue to do so for many years." More than 20,000 students, families and educators participate in the Opera's educational events annually.

Dr. Egan was nominated by Emily Dadisman, a long-time [Pittsburgh Opera Academy](#) member from Central Greene School District, for her efforts to grow the quality and reach of Pittsburgh Opera's education programs by helping educators integrate the arts meaningfully into all subject areas.

In addition to her work with Pittsburgh Opera, Dr. Egan also works extensively with the Arts Education Collaborative, is a member of the Pittsburgh Public Schools Arts Working Committee and hosts a weekly radio show for Radio Information Service (RIS).

Through many years of service to the education community, Dr. Egan has touched the lives of hundreds of people in the Pittsburgh area. The ingredients she believes have helped her achieve great success in arts education are "an art form with many facets; a supportive General Director and staff; cooperative colleagues in artistic, development, finance, marketing, music, production and wardrobe departments; amazing educators and students in schools throughout the region; a teacher advisory panel with generous brains; volunteers out the wazoo; and a patient husband and family mixed with lots of time to think, plan and deliver."

*(more)*

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The Excellence in Arts Education Award was presented to Dr. Egan in partnership with Arts Education Collaborative and Gateway to the Arts, in a festive ceremony that took place in Pittsburgh Opera's new headquarters in the Strip District. Dance Alloy Theater and the McKeesport Area High School Opera Academy Team were also finalists for the award.

*[Pittsburgh Opera](#) will celebrate its 71<sup>st</sup> season in 2009-10 with Eugene Onegin, Falstaff, The Rape of Lucretia, Carmen and The Marriage of Figaro. In addition to its mainstage productions, Pittsburgh Opera produces a range of programs to engage and enrich the community with more than 20,000 students, families and educators participating in its educational events annually. The internationally renowned Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Program is among the country's top five training centers for rising opera stars and the company's newly designed administrative and rehearsal space, housed in a 140-year-old air brake factory in the city's Strip District, provides space for events ranging from free community Brown Bag concerts to concert recitals by world-class opera singers.*

## [2009-2010 Season](#)

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2009-2010  
Season

**Eugene Onegin** September 26, 29; October 2, 4, 2009

**Falstaff** October 24, 27, 30, November 1, 2009

**The Rape of Lucretia** January 30; February 2, 5, 7, 2010

**Carmen** March 20, 23, 26, 28, 2010

**The Marriage of Figaro** April 24, 27, 30; May 2, 2010

*Beginning in August 2009, single tickets for as little as \$10*

*2009-2010 season subscriptions now for as little as \$42*

*For ticket information visit our website [www.pittsburghopera.org](http://www.pittsburghopera.org) or call (412) 281-0912*

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