

# PITTSBURGH OPERA

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Pittsburgh Opera Hosts 26th Annual Maecenas Gala**

**Pittsburgh, PA...** [Pittsburgh Opera](#) will host its 26th annual Maecenas Gala on Saturday, May 8 beginning at 6:00 PM in the Company's Strip District headquarters at [2425 Liberty Avenue](#). Consistently hailed as one of Pittsburgh "Top Ten" parties, *Maecenas XXVI* is the social event not to miss. This year's theme, *Maecenas Unmasked*, is a Bob Sendall extravaganza that will transform the headquarters into an elegant and vibrant space.

Pittsburgh Opera's Maecenas Gala is named for Gaius Cilnius Maecenas, the wealthy Roman statesman whose name has become a byword for patrons of the arts. It has been recognized as a glamorous and elegant evening to honor those who have shown themselves friends and munificent patrons of the arts in Pittsburgh.

This year's "vibrant black tie" gala kicks off in the Company's transformed performance space with a grand cocktail reception featuring an array of passed hors d'oeuvres created by Sendall. Guests will then dine on an elegant three-course meal staged by tastemaker Chef Bob Sendall and *All In Good Taste Productions*.

Following dinner, Pittsburgh Opera will honor Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Massaro, Jr. and the Massaro Corporation with this year's Maecenas Award for their generous support and patronage of Pittsburgh Opera, and their role in the renovation of Pittsburgh Opera's new home in the George Westinghouse Air Brake Factory. This year's Renaissance Award will be presented to renowned mezzo-soprano Mildred Miller Posvar in recognition of her achievements as a performer, her support of developing young opera singers and her contributions to the field of opera through the founding of another opera company in Pittsburgh.

After the awards, the [Resident Artists of Pittsburgh Opera](#) will delight guests with an exciting performance of some of opera's most beloved arias and ensembles, then guests will hit the dance floor to the sounds of Cityscape.

*(more)*

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A new feature for this year's Maecenas is a young professionals special entrance at 10:00 PM for *Unmasked @Knight*, where YPs can join in the celebration, sip the signature drinks of five bars from the city's South Side, enjoy delicious desserts and dance the night away.

Tickets for the entire evening are \$500 for individuals with sponsorships beginning at \$2500. Tickets for *Unmasked @Knight* beginning at 10:00 PM are \$75. To make a tribute gift, purchase a table or to make single reservations, contact Samuel Badger at (412) 281-0912 ext. 225 or [sbadger@pittsburghopera.org](mailto:sbadger@pittsburghopera.org).

## Maecenas XXV Committee

### Chairs

Dr. Lisa Cibik and Bernie Kobosky

### Advisory Chairs

Dr. Sandra Stout and William Stout

### *Unmasked @Knight* Chairs

Kenneth and Kari Baumgart

### Committee

Nadine E. Bognar

Jason Capps

John and Virginia DiPucci

Daniel Iddings

Charles Kannair

Paula Lysy

David Savard

Dennis and Susan Sroka

John E. and Nancy Traina

Scott Westwood, Esq

Scott Yusavage

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*Pittsburgh Opera celebrates 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 training programs for rising opera stars, and the company's newly-designed administrative and rehearsal space, housed in a 139-year-old Air Brake Factory in the city's Strip District, provides space for events ranging from free community Brown Bag concerts to concert and recitals by world-class opera singers.*

*Single tickets for as little as \$10*

*Season subscriptions for as little as \$21*

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

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