

PITTSBURGH OPERA

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Contact:

Kesha M. Pate, Public Relations Manager

Office: (412) 281-0912 ext 248 Mobile: (412) 979-0912

kpate@pittsburghopera.org

Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Awarded **The Donald and Luke Graham Memorial Award**

Pittsburgh, PA... [Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Katherine Drago](#) was awarded [The Donald and Luke Graham Memorial Award](#) in the 2009 Santa Fe Opera Apprentice Awards. The award is given annually in memory of the former member of The Santa Fe Opera Board of Directors and his wife.

Discover Yourself
2009-2010
Season

Miss Drago has been a Resident Artist with Pittsburgh Opera since the 2007-2008 season and has spent the past two summers with The Santa Fe Opera Apprentice Program.

With The Santa Fe Opera Apprentice Program she appeared in *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Falstaff* and the American premiere of *Adriana Mater*. She also performed as Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* in the Apprentice Scenes Program. In the summer of 2009 she returned to sing the title role in *La Périchole* in the apprentice scenes program and to cover the role of Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* where she stepped in to perform in the final three performances.

As a Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist, Miss Drago has appeared as Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, the Stewardess in *Flight*, Romeo in the Student Matinee performance of *The Capulets and the Montagues* and Zulma in *The Italian Girl in Algiers*. She also covered Ma Joad in the world premiere of the revised version of *The Grapes of Wrath* and was featured in an evening of music by Ricky Ian Gordon, with the composer at the piano.

In the 2009-10 season with Pittsburgh Opera, Miss Drago covered the role of Olga in [Eugene Onegin](#) and will perform as Meg Page in [Falstaff](#), Bianca in [The Rape of Lucretia](#), Mercedes in [Carmen](#) and Cherubino in [The Marriage of Figaro](#) Student Matinee.

(more)

PITTSBURGH OPERA

Katherine Drago – Mezzo-Soprano Biography

Katherine Drago is a third-year Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist. In the 2009-10 season, she covered the role of Olga in *Eugene Onegin* and will perform as Meg Page in *Falstaff*, Bianca in *The Rape of Lucretia*, Mercedes in *Carmen* and Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro* Student Matinee.

In past seasons she has appeared as Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, the Stewardess in *Flight*, Romeo in the Student Matinee performance of *The Capulets and the Montagues* and Zulma in *The Italian Girl in Algiers*. She also covered Ma Joad in the world premiere of the revised version of *The Grapes of Wrath* and was featured in an evening of music by Ricky Ian Gordon, with the composer at the piano.

Miss Drago recently debuted in the role of Ottavia in *The Coronation of Poppea* with Opera Vivente. She spent the summer of 2008 as an Apprentice Artist with The Santa Fe Opera where she appeared in *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Falstaff* and the American premiere of *Adriana Mater*. She also performed as Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* in the apprentice scenes program. In the summer of 2009 she returned to The Santa Fe Opera to sing the title role in *La Périchole* in the apprentice scenes program. She also covered the role of Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* and stepped in to perform in the final three performances.

A native of Chicago, Miss Drago holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) and Northwestern University. Immediately upon graduating from Northwestern, she joined the Broadway National Tour of *The Phantom of the Opera*. Returning to Chicago, she was a featured young artist with Chicago Opera Theater for two seasons, where she appeared as Venere in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* and French Mother in *Death In Venice*.

Other recent appearances include Marquise de Merteuil in *The Dangerous Liaisons* and Dinah in *Trouble in Tahiti* with CCM; Ruth in *Pirates of Penzance* with Music by the Lake; Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus* with Rising Star Opera Theater; and Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel* with Milwaukee Opera Theater, Opera for the Young.

An active soloist, Miss Drago has sung with the Lebanon Symphony (OH), Asheville Symphony, Peninsula Music Festival, Cheyenne Symphony, Chatham Baroque, Erie Philharmonic and Berkshire Choral Festival.

In addition to Pittsburgh Opera, Chicago Opera Theater and The Santa Fe Opera, Miss Drago has been a young artist with Berkshire Opera, The Lake Placid Institute and Intermezzo Opera and has sung in the choruses of Lyric Opera Chicago and Cincinnati Opera. She has been the recipient of awards from the National Association of Teachers of Singing, the Bel Canto Foundation, The Nadia and Lili Boulanger Foundation and the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

(more)

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Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 71st 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.

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

Discover Yourself
2009-2010
Season

Single tickets for as little as \$10

Season subscriptions for as little as \$21

For ticket information visit our website www.pittsburghopera.org or call (412) 281-0912

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