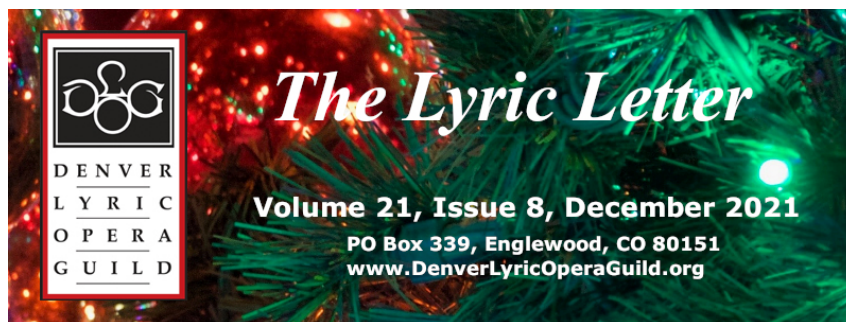


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Mary and I wish everybody a Great Holiday Season, 2021-22. Enjoy the festivities and plan to attend our January Opera on Tuesday at Columbine CC on January 18th. Opera Colorado's Young Singers will perform.

Thanks again to Central City's performers for a super show in December.

Tom Conroy

Our Mission

The encouragement and support of young singers, and the continuing educations of members in the appreciation and knowledge of opera.

**The Next Opera on Tuesday is
January 18th, 2022**

Opera on Tuesday

Note this date for your new 2022 calendar!

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

A program by

Opera Colorado Artists in Residence

Columbine Country Club

17 Fairway Lane

Littleton 80123

10:30 social/11:00 program/12:00 lunch/cash bar

\$55.00

reserve online: [DenverLyricOperaGuild.org](https://denverlyricoperaguild.org)

or

check payable to DLOG and mailed to:

Becky Gantner

2082 Montane Dr. East

Golden 80401

Please reserve by January 12, 2022

Opera on Tuesday Recap December 7th, 2021



On December 7th, the Central City Artist Apprentices put on a great performance for Opera on Tuesday attendees at Columbine Country Club. Check out some highlights below.

The Central City Artist Apprentices sang their hearts out!



And DLOG members and guests had a great time!



Betty and Rob Natelson
Phyllis and Rod Wicklund



Karen Saliman and Dominic Donato



John Turner
Gayle Landis
Gerda Turner
Gary Landis



Standing: Barbara Berryman and Karen
Bruggentheis
Seated: Laura Gottschalk and Sandy
Gottschalk

Spotlight on New Members

It's a privilege and a pleasure to welcome new members and in the next few editions of the Lyric Letter, we'll shine the spotlight on the newest among us to learn more about how they were introduced to the Denver Lyric Opera Guild, a little about themselves, and maybe they might be nudged to name their favorite opera.

Liz Nielsen

Originally from Germany, Liz came to the US at age 17 through an association with the AFS program. She met her husband while both were working for Mutual of Omaha and it was a classic office romance. They relocated to Evergreen, Colorado in 1968 and became close neighbors and friends of Lee and Jim White. Liz is a long-time member of the Welcome to Colorado Club and has many friends who are members of both the Colorado Club and DLOG.

Liz decided to join DLOG because she loves music and opera, often attends performances of the Central City Opera and enjoys sharing the pleasure of music together with others.

Liz is an outstanding florist who has volunteered her services and done the floral arranging and décor for St. John's Cathedral for 43 years. Impressive Indeed! When posed with the impossibly unfair question of which is her favorite opera, *La Boheme* and *La Traviata* top the list.

John and Gerda Turner

John and Gerda joined DLOG after being invited to the September Opera on Tuesday. They immediately decided to join for the music, the young artists and the social aspect of meeting new people with similar interests.

Gerda was born in Vienna to parents who appreciated music, were musical themselves and made music with musician friends. Attending concerts was a regular feature of her upbringing. The family relocated to Venezuela when Gerda was 11. She was an avid student of ballet and became a ballerina performing with the Caracas Ballet, even while studying for a DDS degree. After moving to Boston, Gerda earned an MS in computer science and worked as an embedded systems engineer while dancing and teaching ballet professionally. Memorable event at the Opera - as a dancer on stage during a performance of *Rigoletto* getting run over by a grieving Rigoletto as he entered from the wings.

John is originally from Olney, England. His father played cello in a quartet. The family moved to Redding where John attended Redding School. He became a food engineer traveling all over Europe and elsewhere building bakeries. In Paris John found it easy to get to the Opera. In Italy a trip to Verona and the massive production of *Aida* really fired his interest. In Milan, La Scala was a frequent event. Moving to the US John became director of a breakfast cereal company and became involved with a Boston based ballet company, and for 18 years was Technical Director making things work backstage. During a recent visit to Milan, they were able to see a rehearsal of the ballet *Eugene Onegin* at La Scala.

Posing the impossible favorite opera question, Gerda responded her favorite is Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* and John responded they are all so different it's hard to compare but perhaps the *The Magic Flute*.

Jeanie Becker Davis

Jeanie was introduced to DLOG by member Geri Sheldon after they met through the Red Hat Society. Their mutual admiration for music and theater has been a wonderful part of their friendship.

Jeanie was born in Denver and has lived here all her life. Her parents were Opera lovers and started taking her to Central City Opera performances as a child. She recalls *Carmen* and *La Traviata* but Jeanie was more interested in the Caramel Corn and Homemade Taffy than Opera. She also loved seeing the Face on the Bar Room Floor in the Teller House. During her 7th grade year at the Kent School for Girls two Gilbert & Sullivan Operas were performed, *The Mikado* and *HMS Pinafore*. Jeanie was cast as Ralph Rakestraw to the amusement of all.

Asking again the impossible question of favorites, to this day they remain the works of Gilbert & Sullivan with *Pirates of Penzance* the most loved.

Gayle Landis

Donor Profile - The Kenneth King Foundation ***"Improving Lives with Employment and Entrepreneurship Education"***

For many years the Denver Lyric Opera Guild has been the grateful recipient of a very generous grant from the Kenneth King Foundation in support of our Competition for Colorado Singers. Kenneth King, the Foundation's founder, had a unique vision as to how he could help to improve life in Colorado for those who were willing to work hard for their dreams. Here is a chance for you to learn more about this amazing man and how he turned his vision into opportunity for so many enterprising Coloradoans including many of DLOG's talented young opera singers.

Established in 1990, the Kenneth King Foundation is a private, grant making organization located in Denver, Colorado. Their mission is to create opportunity for Coloradoans to reach their fullest potential for self-sufficiency through access to entrepreneurship, meaningful employment, basic needs and an improved quality of life. Their vision is for all Coloradoans to have opportunity for dignity, self-sufficiency and wealth creation.

Kenneth King Foundation Focus

- Programs developing individuals with increased skills in high-demand fields
- Training and support that results in increased entrepreneurial skills and/or new businesses
- Seed capital bundled with support services to help grow small to mid-sized ventures, jobs created because of new businesses or growth, financial skill building
- Programs placing individuals in jobs with living wages
- Apprenticeship programs
- Job training through social enterprise
- Jobs created through social enterprises or for-profit companies
- Financial literacy training, adult education

The Foundation supports organizations and programs in four focus areas either through grants or Program Related Investments (PRIs). The funding areas are as follows:

1. Removing Barriers to Employment
2. Employment Programming
3. Entrepreneurship Pathways

Each area represents 25% of the Foundation's annual funding by program area/portfolio. **The remaining 25% is dedicated towards legacy projects and pre-determined arts/culture/humanities grants.** It is under this final category that DLOG falls. We are proud to be considered worthy of a highly sought-after Kenneth King Foundation grant. It is truly an honor that such an outstanding organization recognizes the merit of the Guild's mission to assist young Colorado singers in their pursuit of a career in opera. It is gratifying to know that they believe enough in the positive impact we as an organization make in young singers' career trajectories to select us as one of their grant recipients.

ABOUT THE FOUNDER

The founder Kenneth King was born in Texas but grew up and was educated in Denver. King pursued higher education in Chicago where he attended and graduated from Northwestern University. King later founded Columbia Savings and Loan Association in Colorado. From childhood until his passing, King was heavily involved with Denver-area philanthropic groups. He served on the boards of many



charitable organizations and was very active with Goodwill Industries. King's passion for philanthropy carried through in his pioneering work in the loan industry. He always did his best to make home loans available for those who could not otherwise obtain them. Helping others, especially those less fortunate than himself, was very important to King. Toward the end of his life, he wanted a way to continue to give back to those in need and the communities that gave him so much. He founded the Kenneth King Foundation in 1990 to continue his life-long mission of philanthropy.

Kenneth King's success was based on his integrity, his entrepreneurial view of life and his constant pursuit to find or make a way to accomplish his dreams. His friends and colleagues knew him as a resourceful, frugal, competitive and hardworking leader with excellent financial and investment knowledge. Kenneth King's entrepreneurial spirit, such as his commitment to "doing what works" and "getting the job done no matter what", gave him the discipline to focus on setting measurable action plans to obtain his goals and objectives. All the while, Kenneth King insisted and ensured the very highest quality standards in leadership, management and execution.

Throughout his life, Kenneth King placed high value on individuals with similar qualities to his own: a solid work ethic, and the drive and initiative to improve their lives.

Karen Bruggenthies

Upgrade?

As we move closer to the **2022 Competition for Colorado Singers**, please keep in mind our ongoing **One Member, One New Voice for Opera** campaign which offers Patron and Encore levels of membership. You can upgrade your level of membership at any time throughout the year. You can also make a donation to the Competition or General funds at any time. To upgrade membership or make a special donation, please contact:

Gayle Landis, Membership VP
 Email: giple@comcast.net
 Cell: 303-810-8712

Thank you for your support.

Gayle Landis

Be My Guest

Many of you regularly bring guests to our wonderful *Opera on Tuesday* luncheons. This tradition continues to be where most of our newest members were introduced to the many benefits of membership in DLOG and the value of the **Competition for Colorado Singers**. Thank you for bringing guests and helping DLOG grow.

Gayle Landis

A Message From Deanna Leino

From Deanna Leino, Immediate past DLOG president.



Deanna Leino

I finally came home Nov 28 and am walking with a walker. A BIG thank you to all the DLOG members for their calls, visits, cards, flowers, goodies, and caring -- all those things were very much appreciated during my 3 1/2 months in post-surgery rehab.

Opera Around Town and Colorado



December 21st: For anyone in the Grand Junction area, Art Song Colorado is presenting I'll Be Home for Christmas. Sing for your Lives and Art Song Colorado's Western Slope artists share songs of the seasons to benefit The House and its residents.

December 31st: Together Again - A New Year's Gala. Ring in the New Year with Art Song Colorado!

Join us for an early gala with heavy hors d'ouvres and cash bar. This elegant event will start off your New Year's celebration in style!



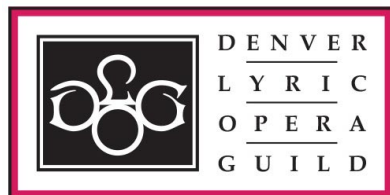
Want to get the inside scoop on Opera Colorado's performances before arriving at the venue? Pay a visit the Opera Colorado Blog.



Make sure to check out Central City's L'Esprit de Noël.

2021 marks the 45th year for Central City Opera Guild's Holiday Home Tour, L'Esprit de Noël. For decades, L'Esprit de Noël has raised funds to help support programs of Central City Opera, including Education and Community Engagement programs serving more than 80,000 people each year. The 2021 virtual tour will feature a beautiful historic Denver property - The McCourt Mansion - in an immersive

video tour experience with musical performances from some of CCO's talented artists.



DENVER LYRIC OPERA
GUILD

P.O. Box 339
Englewood, CO 80151



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