

For better or for worse we are living in politically fraught times, both nationally and internationally. With the Holiday Season in full swing, it is a good time to reflect on those things that bring us together as opposed to those things that divide us. Things like love of family, friends, and country but also those things, like the arts, that transcend political divides and geographic boundaries. Beautiful music, a dramatic play, a unique piece of artwork, a graceful dance or a stunning opera can bring us together like nothing else. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the treasure trove of artistic expression that is available

to us over the holiday season. Whether it is the Nutcracker at the ballet, Amal and the Night Visitors at the opera, A Christmas Carol at the theater, Handel at the Symphony, or Zoo Lights at the Zoo, I encourage you to grab your family or friends to enjoy these or any other of the myriad forms of artistic expression that surround us over the holidays. Enjoy the beauty of the art and camaraderie that flows. It can be easy to forget just how much we actually have in common. Focusing our attention on the many things we share instead of our differences is the way we move forward. Wishing you and yours a Very Happy Holiday Season!!

Yours in song -

**Karen Bruggenthies**  
**President DLOG 2024-25**

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## **Our Mission**

**Denver Lyric Opera Guild's mission is to support and encourage young opera singers through grants to University Opera Programs and Young Artist Programs; to provide continuing education for members' appreciation and knowledge of opera; and by sponsoring an annual Competition for Colorado Opera Singers.**

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## **Opera on Tuesday Recap Tuesday November 5th with CSU Ralph Opera Program**

The November 5th Opera on Tuesday featured the Colorado State University Ralph Opera Program singers. Thank you to the performers and our Opera on

Tuesday Committee for continuing to put on these great events!

All photos are courtesy of **Linda Young**. As always, to see more photos from DLOG events, make sure to check out the [DLOG Gallery](#).



Marleen Diamond, Lynn Harrinton, Deb Roth





Row1-Karen Saliman, Phyllis Wicklund, Norelee Bush, Marleen Diamond  
Row2-Jim Aarvig, Thora Aarvig, Charlotte Bowlds, Gayle Landis



## Opera on Tuesday Notes



### *OPERA ON TUESDAY NOTES....*

The 2024-2025 Opera on Tuesday continues apace. Register by end of day Wednesday, December 4 for the December 10 Opera on Tuesday with CU Boulder Eklund Opera Program

[Click here to Register for Dec 10 Opera on Tuesday now!](#)

Make sure to mark your calendar with the

**2024-2025 Opera on Tuesday dates:**

**September 10, 2024**

**October 1, 2024**

**November 5, 2024**

**December 10, 2024**

[Click Here to Register Now for the Dec 10 OOT!](#)

**January 21, 2025**

**April 1, 2025**

**May 13, 2025**

All luncheons will be held at Columbine Country Club who continues to be a welcoming venue with staff who graciously works within our budget, reserves our advance dates and cheerfully responds to special requests.

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## **An Opportunity to Donate**

Is your mailbox beginning to accumulate piles of appeals for end-of-the-year donations? Ours certainly is! They must assume we want to deplete our resources during the Fourth Quarter of the calendar year! Or take the amount in our Donor Advised Fund to the bottom of the barrel! (Don't have a DAF? You NEED one and can set it up for free with several financial firms, such as Fidelity.) Do they think we develop a soft spot in our hearts for all of humankind and its animals and its institutions between Halloween and the New Year? THEY have a plan to beg. WE need a plan to respond!

How about considering something already important to you? How about something educational, noble, entertaining, artsy, and completely worthy! Something transparent and well-run! Full of fun people! How about the Denver Lyric Opera Guild??

You don't need to be asked to give. You don't need to be named in the program (if you choose). You don't need to labor to stand up to be recognized at OOT. You can act with agency and independence and give the amount you want, when you want! You can choose a general gift, or label it for a specific cause, such as the Summer Party or Competition for Colorado Singers Candidate Headshots. As your Competition Chair, I'm here to tell you that there are a number of behind-the-scenes expenses involved in running the Competition: rental, tech crew, hospitality, judges fees, judges event dinner—and many more. These are available for your donation largesse! So don't limit your generous donations to pleas from outsiders! If you are so moved, please consider underwriting a cause you clearly value: **DLOG**.

Thank you for caring about the Vocal Arts and the development of young singers.

**Kathy Van Arsdale**  
Competition Chair, DLOG

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## **DLOG's 2nd Annual Headshot Day**

Our second annual Headshot Day was held at Gayle and Gary Landis' home on October 13, 2024. We had 25 singers sign up and 24 attend. Participants were largely from UNC, DU and CU.

The day was very successful! Due to generous donations by BJ and Sue Ellison, Barbara Berryman and Trish Panze we were able to offer each singer two photos this year instead of just one and still remain on budget.

**Karen Bruggenthies**

President DLOG 2024-25

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## **Molly the Mezzo and Sarah Cambridge**

DLOG member Lynn Harrington thought DLOG members might enjoy this video from a few years back. In 2020 Livermore Valley Opera put on a production of Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera*. It turns out this production featured two DLOG greats on the same stage. 2017 Competition finalist Molly Jane Hill made her role debut as Ulrica while 2016 Competition winner and 2024 judge Sarah Cambridge debuted in the role of Amelia. Molly's scene begins around 21:00 in the video below. Around minute 31:00 is where Sarah appears and the two share the stage





DLOG Competition finalists Molly Jane Hill and Sarah Cambridge in *Un ballo in maschera*, Livermore Opera 2020

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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Denver Lyric Opera Guild relies on volunteers to run the organization. A Nominating Committee is formed in the Fall to identify candidates for Board and Committee positions for the following year. Volunteers are needed to fill Board positions, to assist with the Competition for Colorado Singers, the Summer Party and Special Events such as Head Shot Day and the recent Cynthia Lawrence Concert. Volunteering provides the opportunity to forge new friendships, become familiar with the governance of the organization and most importantly to learn and appreciate the value of our mission to support aspiring professional singers through our collegiate grants, the annual Louise Conter Masterclass, and the Competition for Colorado Singers.

If you have a particular area of interest, please email Gayle Landis, [giple@comcast.net](mailto:giple@comcast.net)

The Nominating Committee members will soon begin making calls, please consider volunteering!

Gayle Landis

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## DLOG Directory

To access Denver Lyric Opera Guild's current online directory, simply go the DLOG website at: [denverlyricoperaguild.org/directory](https://denverlyricoperaguild.org/directory).

Please note this is a password protected area of the site so as to only be accessed by DLOG members. Please do not share the password or use the directory for any business or marketing purposes. The password is "Opera!". That's capital O, "Opera" followed by an exclamation point.

To inform us of corrections to the directory, please email [admin@denverlyricoperaguild.org](mailto:admin@denverlyricoperaguild.org).

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## Opera Around Colorado



College of Music  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

**2024 Holiday Festival**

Dec 6, Macky Auditorium,  
Boulder

Be immersed in the comfort and joy of twinkling lights, seasonal greenery and beautiful music at CU Boulder's Holiday Festival, an enchanting annual tradition for all ages. Boulder's beloved longstanding celebration brings together student choirs, bands, orchestras and world-class faculty performers for a winter concert of both holiday favorites and new delights.

From orchestras, bands and choirs to jazz, world music and opera to world-class faculty and guest performances, the CU Boulder College of Music brings

hundreds of stunning performances to Boulder audiences throughout the academic year.

[More Info Here](#)



### **Concert of Holiday Classics**

Dec 14, Creede Hotel, Creede Colorado

Featuring Artists of the Santa Fe Opera

Returning CMAC All-Stars: baritone Zachary Nelson & pianist Joe Illick

And introducing soprano Amy Owens

[Info Here](#)



### **Opera on Tap at LUKI Brewing - On-Demand Holiday Special 2024**

Dec 14, LUKI Brewing, Arvada

Friends, family, food...mad-cap choose your own adventure shows—that's what the holidays are all about.

You know it, you love it, the annual Opera on Tap Colorado Holiday Extravaganza is coming to LUKI Brewery 6:00 p.m.

December 16. Mark your calendars. We at Opera on Tap know it's the most wonderful time of the year because you, the audience, get to author this zany holiday special in real time by voting what should happen next! You won't want to miss it! Seating will be German Beer Hall Style! We want to make the most of the space we have, so make some friends!

Featuring:

Sing-Along Carols!

Choose your own adventure storyline!

Holiday Cheer!

[Click for Details](#)



### **LOT Celebrates the Season**

**Dec 15, TPC Country Club Ballroom**

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

A great way to celebrate the holidays! Loveland Opera Theatre invites you to a special afternoon filled with food, drink, and well-loved Holiday songs.

[Click for Tickets](#)



### ***Amahl and the Night Visitors***

**Dec 20, 21, 22 & 23, Central Presbyterian Church,  
Denver**

*Amahl and the Night Visitors* is an inspiring tale of kindness, generosity, and hope. Named "one of the 10 great holiday shows that aren't The Nutcracker or A Christmas Carol" by the Denver Post, *Amahl and the*

*Night Visitors* has quickly become a holiday favorite for Denver families and opera lovers alike.

*Amahl and the Night Visitors* is a family-friendly opera of enduring popularity since its premiere. Commissioned by NBC and debuting on December 24, 1951, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* was the first opera written for television, as



well as the first network television Christmas special to become an annual tradition. Composer Gian Carlo Menotti drew inspiration for the opera from Hieronymus Bosch's The Adoration of the Magi, which hangs in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and from his childhood in Italy where gifts were brought at Christmas by the Three Kings instead of Santa Claus.

[Buy Tickets](#)

## COLORADO *Bach* ENSEMBLE

### **Christmas Oratorio, BMV 248**

Dec 20, 21, 22, Various Locations

Composed in 1734, Weihnachtsoratorium (Christmas Oratorio), BWV 248, celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ with a monumental work. Structured in six cantatas, it narrates the nativity story through a blend of scripture, poetry, and music. Each cantata corresponds to a specific feast day within the Christmas season, starting from Christmas Day to Epiphany. Bach's masterful use of instrumentation, contemplative winds, exuberant trumpets, and sophisticated continuo, showcases his profound ability to blend theological depth with musical beauty. The oratorio is notable for its lyrical brilliance, as the text seamlessly fits the musical patterns that continue to resonate with audiences today.

### **St. Matthew Passion, BWV 244**

Feb 21, Central Presbyterian, Denver

Feb 23, Parsons Theatre, Northglenn

Composed in 1727, *Matthäus-Passion* ("St. Matthew Passion"), BWV 244, stands as one of the greatest achievements in Western classical music. Performed several times in Bach's lifetime, it has endured as a testament to Bach's compositional genius. This sacred oratorio, written for soloists, double choir, and double orchestra, vividly depicts the Passion of Christ according to the Gospel of Matthew. Six soloists tell the story: a tenor singing the role of the Evangelist, a bass depicting the role of Jesus, and 4 additional soloists singing the solo arias. A small ripieno chorus sings the chorale melody in the first and the last movement of the first half of the piece.

[Get Tickets](#)



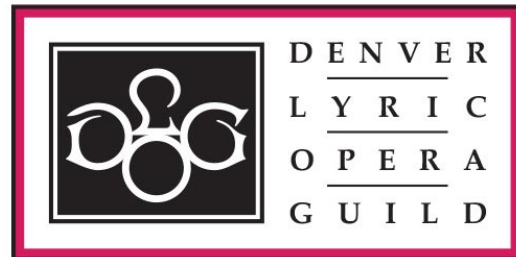
### **La Bohème**

Feb 22, 25, 27, 28, March 2, Ellie Caulkins Opera House

In an attic in the Parisian Latin Quarter, the chateau is petite, but the personalities are grand. A group of artists live the bohemian lifestyle full of complicated relationships and nights at the café on a starving artist's budget. Through the tumultuous relationships between Mimì and Rodolfo, and Marcello and Musetta, Puccini's best-known opera encourages you to fully appreciate the fragility of life and love.

Enjoy gaining exclusive behind the scenes insight into the process of bringing this delightful story to the stage!. Free Event!

[Performance Details Here!](#)



DENVER LYRIC OPERA  
GUILD

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