

# SEATTLE OPERA

Photo © Phillip Newton



Baritone Patrick Carfizzi sings the role of Dulcamara in our recent production of *The Elixir of Love*.

**FALL  
2020**

**Donor Impact Report**

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



As we approach the season of sharing our gratitude, this is an ideal time for me to express our heartfelt appreciation for your meaningful gestures during this time of uncertainty. Your generosity, whether through donations, advocacy, volunteering, or just kind notes and emails, is a buttress of reassurance. You're making it possible for us to create new art, support amazing artists, comfort our community, and prepare for better times ahead. It is my pleasure to present this digital Impact Report, highlighting the amazing results of your investments in Seattle Opera.

Your support keeps us singing!

Everyone at Seattle Opera wishes you and your loved ones all the merriment and joy of the holiday season.

**Christina Scheppelmann**  
General Director

# SEATTLE OPERA.

we remain driven to create, inspire, and comfort

## THE ELIXIR OF LOVE

new video performance

## 20+ FREE STREAMING RECITALS

featuring your favorite singers

## CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA & PAGLIACCI

highlights recital

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVES

## YOUTH OPERA ONLINE

## YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

## SPRING VIRTUAL PERFORMANCES

Don Giovanni,  
Flight & Tosca

## OPERA 101

online classes

## SATURDAY BROADCASTS ON KING FM

## OPERA IN THE MAKING

libretto writing class

## PATH WITH ART OPERA 101 CLASS & VETERANS CHORUS

## JANE LANG DAVIS CREATION LAB

## MASKS MADE FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

...AND MUCH MORE!

# DEEPER CONNECTIONS



Earlier this fall, nearly 200 residents at Mirabella—a senior living community where the residents remain mostly in isolation from friends and family—were serenaded by Seattle Opera soprano Tess Altiveros and pianist Elisabeth Ellis. With residents watching from their private balconies, the duo performed works by Handel, Puccini, and Rodgers and Hammerstein, launching Seattle Opera's newest initiative, Community Serenades. The program brings live opera to the most vulnerable and isolated members of our community. Other performances were presented at the Jubilee Women's Center,

an organization supporting women experiencing poverty, and at Plymouth Place, a residence for those transitioning out of homelessness, in collaboration with Path with Art. All of the performances closed with the traditional hymn, "Precious Lord."

“THE WATCHERS ON THE BALCONY WERE THRILLED TO HEAR LIVE MUSIC. WE ARE ALL STARVED FOR THAT! IT WAS A REAL JOY. MUCH GRATITUDE FOR SEATTLE OPERA OFFERING TO DO THIS SERENADE.”

—KATHLEEN DOW, CO-CHAIR  
MIRABELLA MUSIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

“EVEN DURING THESE CHALLENGING TIMES, THE ENTIRE SEATTLE OPERA STAFF HAS BEEN INSPIRED BY YOUR FOCUS ON COMMUNITY SERVICE. SO, INSTEAD OF HALTING OUR OUTREACH PROGRAMS, WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE'VE FOUND WAYS TO RAISE THE SPIRITS OF PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.”

—CHRISTINA SCHEPPELMANN  
GENERAL DIRECTOR

## OPERA CENTER BLOOD DRIVE

Because of COVID-19 health regulations, Bloodworks Northwest has cancelled numerous mobile blood drives, dramatically reducing the region's critical blood supply.

But we're doing our part to help, using the Opera Center as a blood drive site. We've hosted two pop-up drives in recent months. Each time, members of the Seattle Opera community have rolled up their sleeves.

**425**  
TOTAL BLOOD DONATIONS

**116**  
FIRST TIME DONORS

BENEFITING  
**1,275**  
LOCAL PATIENTS

“AS PARENTS TO A NEWLY DIAGNOSED CHILD WITH LEUKEMIA WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION. WITH EACH TRANSFUSION WE ARE CLOSER TO HAVING A HEALTHY HAPPY DAUGHTER AGAIN.”

—PARENTS OF A BLOOD RECIPIENT

# SEATTLE OPERA ESSENTIAL

Photo © Ette Logan



“THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS INDUSTRY RESIDES IN THE THROATS OF ITS SINGERS. WE CAN HAVE ALL THE SETS, COSTUMES, LIGHTS, AND ORCHESTRA WE COULD WANT AND YET, WITHOUT THE CORE OF THE HUMAN VOICE, IT IS NOT OPERA. THE GRANDNESS OF OPERA IS IN THE VOICE. THANK YOU, SEATTLE OPERA, FOR ALLOWING ME THE CHANCE TO TELL A STORY AND USE MY VOICE.”

—ALEXANDRA LOBIANCO  
DRAMATIC SOPRANO AND PERFORMER  
IN *CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA* HIGHLIGHTS  
RECITAL, SEPTEMBER 2020

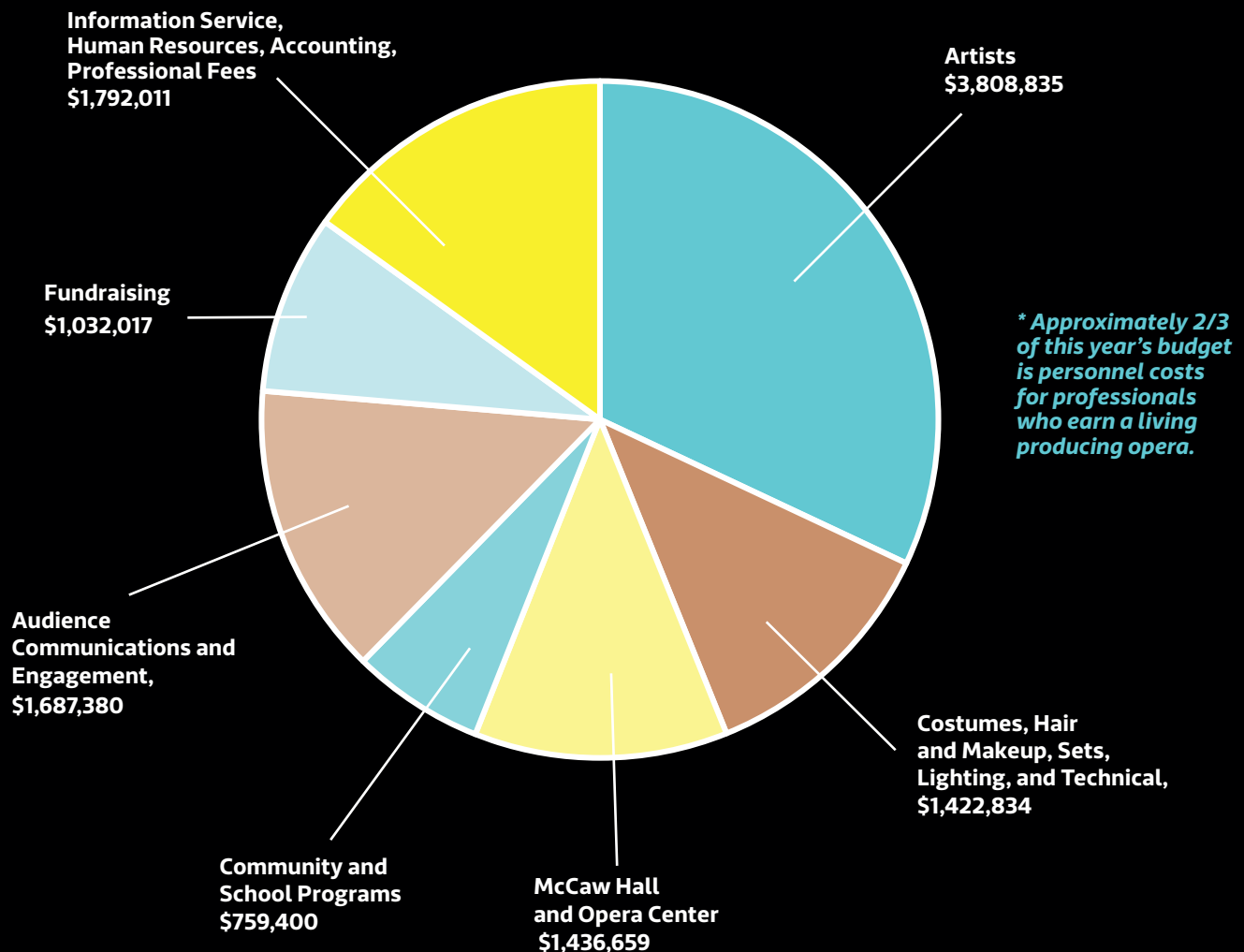
# EVERY PERFORMANCE IS A GIFT, THANKS TO YOU!

Giving to Seattle Opera matters, especially now. This season your contributions will keep us singing. We have reduced operations significantly, scaling down our normal budget from nearly \$24 million to \$12 million due to the loss of ticket revenue. We estimate that nearly seventy-five percent of our revenue will be from donations. When you give to Seattle Opera, you support:

- Employing artists performing this season
- Investing in future performances
- Supporting technology upgrades to bring you opera in new ways

Your gift today will determine the future of opera in Seattle, Washington State, and the Pacific Northwest. Contributions of every amount matter. Our viability is dependent on the passion and generosity of you, lovers of music, drama, and the power of the human voice. **THANK YOU!**

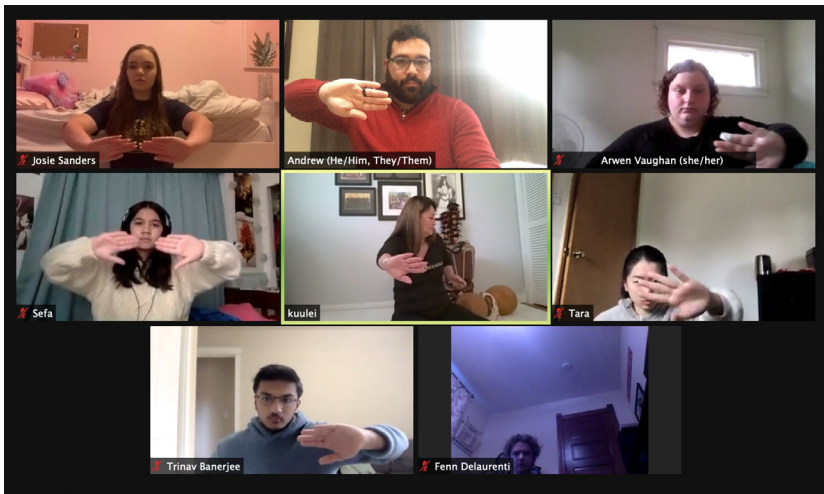
## 2020/21 EXPENSES TOTALING \$12 MILLION



ADD YOUR VOICE AT [WWW.SEATTLEOPERA.ORG/DONATE](http://WWW.SEATTLEOPERA.ORG/DONATE)

# STUDENT CONNECTIONS

youth opera online



Youth Opera Online students use Zoom to rehearse hula choreography.

Currently, our youth performers are participating in a brand new virtual program called Youth Opera Online, in which the students are creating a video production of *Lā'ieikawai, Princess of Paliuli*, a Hawaiian youth opera. The 28 students are rehearsing and then will record this enchanting love story for a collaborative online performance. Working closely with the Hawaiian cultural organization Live Aloha, they are learning about the legend of Lā'ieikawai as well as the cultural and artistic traditions of Hawaii. Teaching artists from Live Aloha are demonstrating and discussing Hawaiian cultural practices and stories. The students are also learning how to construct lei and practicing hula choreography for the opera's finale.



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TEEN VOCAL STUDIO  
PARTICIPANTS THIS FALL

## TEEN VOCAL STUDIO

This high school training program is for students planning to pursue a college degree in vocal performance. Students build performance skills with workshops in musicianship, drama, auditions, and lyric diction. They also have multiple recital and performance opportunities, as well as masterclasses with opera professionals and Seattle Opera artists.

# KEEPING SEATTLE OPERA SAFE

As we discovered new ways to bring opera to you, safety became even more critical. It was important to establish and maintain strict health care procedures. Throughout this season we are doing everything possible to keep all safe from being exposed to COVID-19, including the following:



**WEARING MASKS AT ALL TIMES,  
EVEN DURING VOCAL REHEARSALS.  
THE ONLY EXCEPTION: DURING THE  
FINAL VIDEO RECORDING.**



**DAILY SYMPTOM SCREENING AND  
TEMPERATURE CHECKS FOR ANYONE ENTERING  
THE OPERA CENTER AND MCCAW HALL.**




**COVID-19 TESTING BEFORE AND  
DURING THE PRODUCTION PROCESS.**



**COMPLYING WITH OUR UNION  
PARTNERS' SAFETY PROCEDURES.**



A photograph of conductor Carlo Montanaro, a bald man wearing a blue surgical mask, a dark blue polo shirt, and grey trousers. He is seated on a black stool, holding a baton in his right hand and gesturing with his left hand. He is positioned in front of a music stand with sheet music. The background is dark, suggesting a rehearsal space or recording studio.

Following our strict safety procedures, conductor Carlo Montanaro wore a protective mask during *The Elixir of Love* rehearsals and recordings.

# SPRING AND SUMMER OPERA PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE



SATURDAYS ON KING FM

**150,000+**

LISTENERS



OPERA EDUCATION

**5,000**

ADULT AND YOUTH PARTICIPANTS  
IN VIRTUAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS



**14**

FREE RECITALS FEATURING  
POPULAR SEATTLE OPERA SINGERS



**370,000+**

MINUTES OF VIDEO VIEWED

“**JORELL WILLIAMS HAS A WONDERFUL VOICE,  
DEEP AND RESONANT BUT STILL EXPRESSIVE,  
AND AS I DISCOVERED FROM HIS RECITAL,  
STYLISTICALLY VERSATILE.**”

—GEMMA ALEXANDER  
FREELANCE WRITER AND BLOGGER



# THANK YOU!



“IT'S HARD TO KEEP UP WITH ALL THE NEW MATERIAL SEATTLE OPERA IS RELEASING THESE DAYS, BUT IT'S A GOOD KIND OF TROUBLE TO HAVE.”

—GEMMA ALEXANDER  
FREELANCE WRITER AND BLOGGER