

Opera Las Vegas

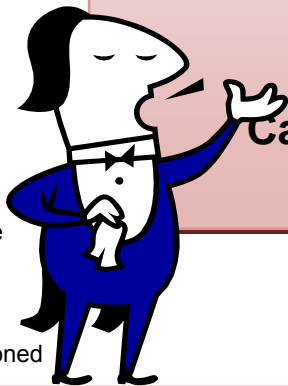
News
August 2009

10th Anniversary Year

9030 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 688, Las Vegas, NV 89117 (702) 228-2056 Fax (567) 661-4398
www.operalasvegas.org eMail: operalasvegas@cox.net

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OLV Guild Presents

Autumn Soirée

*A delightful evening of superb music,
great company, hors d'oeuvres and beverages.*

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Home of Joyce Kessler
Anthem Country Club

Call Stacie 565-5060 for \$75.00 tickets.



10th OLV ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Ten years ago, two UNLV music professors decided that Las Vegas should have a professional opera company. The idea came to fruition in August, 1999 when co-founders Paul Kreider and Mark Thomsen along with a dedicated Board of Directors incorporated as the Southern Nevada Opera Association. They subsequently became known as *Opera Las Vegas*. Look for the complete story in the *OLV* website and/or later publications.

Do we have your

eMail address?

Send your eMail address to alvida@att.net

In an effort to reduce the cost for distributing the newsletter via US Mail, including printing, postage, mailing labels, we need your help! Let us send this newsletter and other pertinent *Opera Las Vegas* information to your online inbox. If you received this newsletter via US Mail, please provide your email address to Alvida at alvida@att.net. Thank you very much for your help in this endeavor!

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

by James Frank

Opera Las Vegas started off 2009 in great fashion. The initial activity was a “**Gone West**” collaboration with Peoples Valley Chorus and Musica Lumina, presented on February 7th and 8th at the Clark County Library Theater (Flamingo). The performance consisted of two outstanding parts. Initially a one-act opera, Henry Mollicone’s “**The Face on the Barroom Floor,**” was presented. It was followed by the Peoples Valley Chorus singing a collection of western influenced choral works, then the hilarious “**Oedipus Tex**” by P. D. Q. Bach was delivered in a classically western style. Both were accompanied by an orchestra expertly led by Marek Rachelski.

The second annual “**Leprechaun Luncheon**” was held at the Four Seasons Hotel on March 14. The St. Patrick Day theme was complemented by a wonderful Irish tenor, Steven Loss, and an exceptional group of young Irish dancers from the Sharon Lynn Academy. The silent auction, raffle, food and entertainment was enjoyed by all!

The Opera Las Vegas **Trustees** met for lunch at Cili’s Restaurant. They discussed the future of Opera Las Vegas and provided many beneficial suggestions. Among the improvements discussed were the upgrade of the Web site (operalasvegas.org), a new mailing address, expanded email capability and improvements of our design capability.

Calling the May 17 OLV **Musicale** at the **Marquis House** a success is an understatement. Tremendous soloists, duets, quartets, strings, choral singers and a video display of our 2008 Puccini Celebration alternately filled the halls of the glamorous home during the three hour celebration of music. The catered food was delicious as was the flowing wine.

As we continue through the year, there are several areas that can be improved, and like all volunteer organizations, there are several areas that need help. The cost of mailing newsletters, flyers, and other material has become expensive. We need to convert the snail mail addresses to eMail addresses. Our goal is to reduce the non-eMail list by 50%. **Can you help?** Call me.

We are planning a very active 2009 – 2010 season, including four major events. Come join Opera Las Vegas as a Trustee, Impresario Member or Guild Member.

Opera Las Vegas is a separate 501C3 opera company that is dedicated and committed to producing grand opera for the entire Las Vegas Valley and its two million inhabitants. OLV, a relatively young organization, has never been associated with any other opera entity in Nevada.

Save the Dates

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*Wednesday,
October 28, 2009
Autumn Soirée
Home of Joyce Kessler
Anthem Country Club*

•

*Saturday,
December 5, 2009
Celebrate the
Season
Impresario Luncheon
Silent Auction
Four Seasons Hotel*

•

*Saturday,
March 13, 2010
Leprechaun
Luncheon
Silent Auction
Four Seasons Hotel*

from the Marketing Niche....

Look for continuing expansions and improvements in the *OLV* website. Look for a related article in this publication on the 10-Year *OLV* Anniversary. Enjoy future editions of the newsletter via email. Send us your email address for this and other updates!

Preliminary work has begun for the second year with Clark County School District and the Metropolitan Opera for the high school outreach program.

Make your reservation early for the *OLV* Guild's fabulous Autumn Soiree on October 28th... limited availability. Stay tuned..

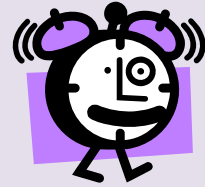
Hal West
VP Marketing/PR

ITEMS NEEDED FOR OLV SILENT AUCTION AND GUILD RAFFLE

Do you have an idea for an item to be included in our *Celebrate the Seasons* Holiday Luncheon Silent Auction and Raffle? Donated gifts might include:

- Vacation - Time Share
- Cruise Tickets
- Vintage Auto
- Air Tickets
- Art Works
- A Service (e.g. maid, pool)
- Spa Treatments
- Hotel Rooms
- Show Tickets
- Dinner for Two
- Musical Items
- Holiday Items

We'd like to keep the auction and raffle as sizzling as possible with terrific donations. Please contact Stacie Rachelski at (702) 565-5060 to discuss or offer your item. Thank you for helping *OLV* create live professional opera for Las Vegas!



It is Time!!!!

Become an Opera Las Vegas
Impresario Society
or Guild Member.

Applications enclosed
or contact

Sandy Frank at 878-5340

***New/Renewal Members
since January 2009***



Impresario Society

Bernadette Stockinger

Evelyn Rizza

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Ring

C J and Art Woolston

Elenore Koch

Joann and Robert Croke

Marsha Newman

Stan Pollack

Phyllis Ann Haley

Valma VonHolt

Performing Arts Society of Nevada

Thomas Owens

Joan Berry

Diana Stakey

Geraldine Siletta

Guild

Harriet Hayward

Lara and Greg Miller

Mary Owensby

Doreen Hannum

Bette Ault

Jim Marsh

Diana Stakey

Linda & Gary Kowor

Luana Devol

Art & C J Wollston

Trudy Musser



Opera Las Vegas Officers, Board and Trustees

OLV Officers

President	James Frank
VP Marketing PR	Hal West
VP Planning	Oliver Phillips
VP Membership	Sandra Frank
Treasurer	Gayle Rogers
Secretary	Alvida Lane
Corresponding Secretary	(open)

OLV Directors

Impresario Society	Sandra Frank
Guild	Stacie Rachelski
Music Productions	Marek Rachelski
Development	Bernadette Stockinger
Business Development	Ruben Gonzalez
TV Media	Jerry McElroy
Web/Graphics	Randall Birk
Print Media	Claude Borders
Visual Media	Steve Scharren
Parliamentarian	Oliver Phillips
Planning	Leonard Gross
Membership Events	(open)
Archivist	(open)

Legal Counsel	John Krieger (Lewis & Roco)
Music Advisor	Dr. Richard McGee

OLV Trustees

Jim Frank, Sandra Frank, Leonard Gross, Joyce Kessler, Eleanor Koch, Lissie and Charles Nielsen, Oliver Phillips, John McNear, and Cindy Doumani

There are several positions available. Interested parties, please provide information to Dr. James Frank, 228-2056, or James_Frank@msn.com.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

From the Membership VP

Membership dues for 2009 are now due. Please send the enclosed *Guild* or *Impresario Society* application with your check or credit card information to
Sandra Frank
2900 Morning Dew St.
Las Vegas, NV 89117
Thank you!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Gone West! OLV's Collaborative February Production Offered Music's Tragedy and Hilarity

Yee Haw! We had some fun in February! *Opera Las Vegas* partnered with *Peoples Valley Chorus* and *Musica Lumina Chamber Orchestra* for two performances of Henry Mollicone's one act opera, "The Face on the Barroom Floor" and P.D.Q. Bach's (Peter Shickeles' pseudonym) "Oedipus Tex." Led by conductor/pianist Marek Rachelski, we had a real taste of the old west, musically speaking, through choral selections of Mollicone and Aaron Copland offered by the *Peoples Valley Chorus*, and Copland's "Hoedown" with Jerry Pence playing the virtuoso violin. Stellar singing was in great abundance from Alisa Thomason, soprano, Steven Loss, tenor and Christopher Reames, baritone, the dramatic team who portrayed the six characters of the one-act opera based upon the famed painting in the Teller House Bar in Central City, Colorado. Alissa VanCamp and Amber Cronin joined Loss and Reames as the solo quartet for the hilarious musical spin-off of Sophocles' Oedipus Rex. An extra-brilliant performance of the wayward French hornist was given by Beth Lano who helped to bring the house down. Thank you to all who participated in the organization and behind the scenes work which made these performances so successful.

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LET'S GO TO THE MET!

OLV: BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF OPERA LOVERS!

Below is the schedule of Metropolitan Opera HD Live Broadcasts to area theaters (subject to change).

See you there!

2009–10 Live in HD Season

Tosca – Giacomo Puccini
October 10, 2009

Aida – Giuseppe Verdi
October 24, 2009

Turandot – Giacomo Puccini
November 7, 2009

Les Contes d'Hoffmann – Jacques Offenbach
December 19, 2009

Der Rosenkavalier – Richard Strauss
January 9, 2010

Carmen – Georges Bizet
January 16, 2010

Simon Boccanegra – Giuseppe Verdi
February 6, 2010

OLV NEWS ITEMS

• New OLV Trustee

- Cindy Doumani recently joined the Opera Las Vegas team as a trustee. Welcome Cindy. Trustee opportunities remain. For additional information contact Jim Frank 228-2056.
- Opera Las Vegas is now a member of the Nevada Arts Advocates, Metro Arts Council and Americans for the Arts. Look for our advertisement in the newsletters of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) and Clark County Museum.
- OLV continues its relationship with both the New York Metropolitan Opera and the Clark County School District. See *From the Marketing Niche* above for more.
- Experienced singers make up the **OLV Opera Chorus**. Join us as we build our chorus and enhance the cultural life of our valley. Call (702) 565-5060 to schedule an appointment to audition.
- For more opera turn to National Public Radio presenting the *World of Opera*. Learn about their broadcasts by visiting the website. There's always more to learn and enjoy about this fascinating art form!
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=36&agg=1>

Continued on page 6

Composer Chronicle Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

"Ah!" said Verdi, "the people have always been my best friends, from the very beginning. It was a handful of carpenters who gave me my first real assurance of success. It was after I had dragged on in poverty and disappointment for a long time in Busseto, and had been laughed at by all the publishers, and shown to the door by all the impresarios. I had lost all real confidence and courage, but through sheer obstinacy I succeeded in getting *Nabucco* rehearsed at the Scala in Milan. The artistes were singing as badly as they knew how, and the orchestra seemed bent only on drowning the noise of the workmen who were busy making alterations in the building. Presently the chorus began to sing, as carelessly as before, the "*Va, pensiero*," but before they had got through half a dozen bars the theater was as still as a church. The men had left off their work one by one, and they were sitting about on the ladders and scaffolding, listening! When the number was finished, they broke out in the noisiest applause I have ever heard, crying, '*Bravo, bravo, viva il maestro!*' and beating on the woodwork with their tools. Then I knew what the future had in store for me."



OLV Supports The Smith Center for the Performing Arts

The Smith Center will be located on the 61-acre parcel of City of Las Vegas land across from the Clark County government center. When completed, the center will have three performance spaces including a state-of-the-art 2000+ seat hall. This theater will be appropriate for first-run Broadway shows and other major touring attractions as well as orchestra, opera and dance performances. It will be a cultural and architectural icon for the region. Everyone, put your hands together! We will have a home!

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Check the
OLV WEBSITE

www.operalasvegas.org
for the latest on OLV!

OLV News Items, continued from page 5

- Let's go to the Met! The **Metropolitan Opera** offers HD Live screen presentations at four local theaters! Colonnade Stadium 14, Sams Town 18, Santa Fe Station 16, and Village Square Stadium 18. See elsewhere in this issue; check this link for more:
www.metoperafamily.org/metopera/broadcast/on_air.aspx
- We hope you enjoy this newsletter. **OLV NEWS** is published bimonthly. Submit news items by email to newmru@hotmail.com or fax to (702) 565-5060 by the 15th of the preceding month.



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."
(Margaret Mead)

Opera Las Vegas Commissions New Art Work

A brand new “Faust” painting has been commissioned by Opera Las Vegas to inspire a future performance of Gounod’s masterpiece. Artist Laraine Kaizer has been asked by OLV for an art work based upon her impression of the Faust story by the German writer Goethe. She has graciously offered to donate to OLV most of the proceeds raised from the sale of the painting in the *Celebrate the Season* Silent Auction on December 5, 2009 at the Four Seasons Hotel. View more examples of Laraine Kaizer’s art work and music at her personal website: www.larainespainting.com/



“Rehearsal” - acrylic by Laraine Kaizer



Guild Membership Form

“Evening Stars” Program

Membership in the Guild provides vital support to *Opera Las Vegas*. OLV relies upon the generosity of our contributors to help us fulfill our mission: to develop broader and more diverse audiences for classical music through our opera productions and educational programs. We hope to inspire and enrich the Las Vegas community. Your contribution helps us to fulfill our mission. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

STARLIGHT MEMBER SINGLE \$35.00 MOONLIGHT MEMBER COUPLE \$50.00

LUMINARY MEMBER \$75.00 DATE

CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD (CIRCLE ONE) VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AM EX

Amount \$ New Membership Renewal

Card Number Expiration Date /

Signature Customer Identification Number

Name On the Card

Address

City State Zip

Home Telephone Mobile Telephone

Email (only to receive OLV information)

Enclosed is my Tax Deductible Check for \$ (Make checks payable to *Opera Las Vegas*.)

Mail this form to:

Opera Las Vegas c/o Sandra C. Frank, Membership Chair 9030 W. Sahara Ave. Suite 688, Las Vegas NV. 89117.

Give the Gift of Membership: *Opera Las Vegas Evening Stars* Membership makes a wonderful gift for any music lover in your life. Make their birthday, anniversary or holiday more memorable by purchasing a gift membership and ensure them of a first class performance at *Opera Las Vegas* all season long.

Volunteers

We need help! Will you volunteer some of your time?

- I can help sell tickets. I can help with food. I am willing to volunteer to help at events.
- I can help with silent auction/raffle. I can help with mailing invitations and phone calls.

I wish to join the Impresario Society of

Opera Las Vegas

Through the support of our most generous contributors, Opera Las Vegas is ensured the financial stability necessary for the production of the finest opera and other major events.

Platinum Ring	\$1,000	_____	Date _____
Gold Ring	\$500	_____	New ___ Renewal ___
Silver Ring	\$250	_____	
Brass Ring	\$100	_____	

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone Home _____ Work or Cell _____
E-Mail _____

Charge my credit card (circle one)

Visa Mastercard Discover AMEX

Amount \$ _____ Card Number _____

Name on the Card _____

Billing Address _____

Expiration Date _____ Customer Identification No. _____

Signature _____

or

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Opera Las Vegas.

**Mail to: Opera Las Vegas c/o Sandra Frank, Membership Chair
9030 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 688 Las Vegas, NV 89117**

Volunteer – We need your help. Will you volunteer a little of your time at our events?