



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

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SEATTLE OPERA LAUNCHES LGBT NIGHTS AT THE OPERA

Seattle—In an initiative intended to attract diverse audience bases, Seattle Opera is launching LGBT Nights, designed especially for Seattle’s Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender community. Seattle Opera has designated one Friday performance of each of three popular operas as evenings when members of the LGBT community can gather at McCaw Hall and enjoy all that Seattle Opera has to offer. The first three LGBT nights will take place during *Aida* (August 22), *The Pearl Fishers* (January 23), and *The Marriage of Figaro* (May 15).

The kickoff event on August 22 will be hosted by Seattle Opera Board of Trustees member and noted Man about Town JJ McKay and Washington State Senator Ed Murray. These events are priced at \$100 per ticket and include discounted main floor orchestra seating, private intermission receptions including complimentary wine and hors d’oeuvres during the first intermission and coffee and dessert during the second intermission, and free admission to “Overtures to the Opera” (regularly priced at \$7.00), an informative and fast-paced pre-opera lecture.

“We are delighted to welcome friends and family from the LGBT community to three unforgettable evenings of entertainment and merriment for an affordable price,” said Alvin Alexander Henry, Seattle Opera’s Director of Marketing and Communications.

“Our guests will be able to socialize, make new friends, and network with other opera goers while attending performances at one of the premier opera companies. Opera is for everyone.”

Tickets may be purchased in two ways—online by going to seattleopera.org/tickets or via mobile phone by going to mobile.seattleopera.org. Use the Promotion code: LGBT to purchase tickets.

For more information, visit Seattle Opera’s website at www.seattleopera.org/LGBT.

Seattle Opera’s Board of Trustees dedicates the 2008/09 season to Speight Jenkins in celebration of his 25th Anniversary as General Director.

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About Seattle Opera

Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera is one of the leading opera companies in the United States. The company is recognized internationally for its theatrically compelling and musically accomplished performances, especially the Opera’s interpretations of the works of Richard Wagner. Since 1975, Seattle Opera has presented 35 cycles of the *Ring* (three different productions), in addition to acclaimed productions of all the other major operas in the Wagner canon. Seattle Opera has achieved the highest per capita attendance of any major opera company in the United States, and draws opera goers from four continents and fifty states.