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**Seattle Opera's Young Artists Opera**  
***Gianni Schicchi and Enchanted Child (L'enfant et les sortilèges)***  
**At Meydenbauer in Bellevue**

**"Springtime Serenade"**  
**Seattle Opera's Gala Celebrates**  
**Young Artists Program's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Seattle—Seattle Opera's popular Young Artists Opera returns to the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center for six performances of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Ravel's *Enchanted Child (L'enfant et les sortilèges)* starting March 28.

"*Gianni Schicchi* is the prototype of a classic comedy. Its surefire characterization, combined with delicious music, make it a very special (and hilarious) treat," said Peter Kazaras, Artistic Director of the Young Artists Program. "We are going in a new direction with Ravel's *Enchanted Child*. We are taking an approach that is daring, exciting, and has already proved incredibly stimulating and rewarding to work on."

Seattle Opera's Young Artists Program attracts more than 600 applications annually. These young singers range in age from 20 to 30 years old. They have completed their college training and are embarking on professional careers in opera. Many go on from the program to appear on the Seattle Opera mainstage and in opera houses throughout North America and Europe.

This year's Young Artists are Noah Baetge, Eugene Chan, Leena Chopra, Margaret Gawrysiak, Megan Hart, Emily Hindrichs, Joshua Jeremiah, David Lara, Ani Maldjian, Michael Anthony McGee, Elizabeth Pojanowski, and Marcus Shelton. Each sings multiple roles in these ensemble operas. Cast lists, performance dates, and biographies of the singers can be found at [www.seattleopera.org](http://www.seattleopera.org).

Among the guest artists appearing in this production is male soprano David Korn (a former Young Artist) in Ravel's *Enchanted Child*. Korn is featured in the role of the Shepherd Boy in Seattle Opera's current mainstage production of *Tosca*.

*Gianni Schicchi* and *Enchanted Child* open March 28 at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, Washington. Performances continue March 29, 30 (matinee), and April 4, 5, and 6 (matinee). Tickets are \$15 for students and \$35 for adults. A special \$125 patron ticket supports the Young Artists Program.

Seattle Opera celebrates the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Young Artists Program at their 2008 Gala, *Springtime Serenade*, on April 26 at McCaw Hall. An all-star lineup of past Young Artists will perform for the guests, including 2006 Richard Tucker award-winner Lawrence Brownlee, 2007 Richard Tucker award-winner Brandon Jovanovich, Jennifer Hines, Anya Matanovich, and Morgan Smith. In addition to the recital, the evening's festivities feature a reception, dinner, and dancing. For more information, see [www.seattleoperagala.org](http://www.seattleoperagala.org).

***GIANNI SCHICCHI & ENCHANTED CHILD (L'enfant et les sortilèges)***

**Seattle Opera Young Artists Production**

***Gianni Schicchi***

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Giovacchino Forzano

***Enchanted Child (L'enfant et les sortilèges)***

Music by Maurice Ravel

Libretto by Colette

March 28, 29, 30 (m), and April 4, 5, 6 (m)

Performed at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, Washington

Evenings at 7:30 p.m, March 30 and April 6 matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Ticket Prices: \$15 (student), \$35 (adult), and \$125 (patron\*)

Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206.389.7676 or [www.seattleopera.org](http://www.seattleopera.org)

*The orchestral reduction for Gianni Schicchi is by Ettore Panizza. The chamber arrangement of L'enfant et les sortilèges is by Didier Puntos.*

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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. Seattle Opera's Wagner tradition began under the leadership of the company's founding general director, Glynn Ross, and has continued since 1983 under General Director Speight Jenkins. 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, nineteen countries, and forty-nine states.