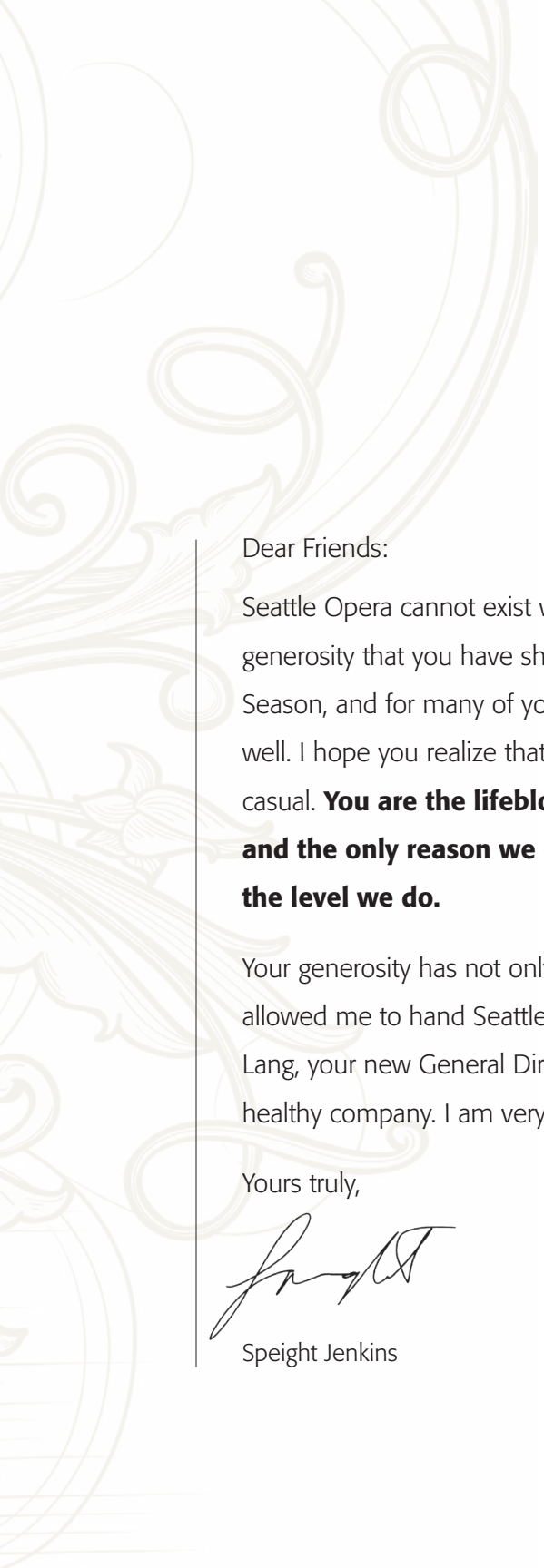


SEATTLE OPERA

SEATTLE OPERA ANNUAL FUND **IMPACT REPORT 2013/14**





Dear Friends:

Seattle Opera cannot exist without the kind of generosity that you have shown us in the 2013/14 Season, and for many of you in prior seasons as well. I hope you realize that my thanking you is not casual. **You are the lifeblood of this company and the only reason we can produce opera at the level we do.**

Your generosity has not only gratified me but has allowed me to hand Seattle Opera on to Aidan Lang, your new General Director, as a strong, healthy company. I am very grateful.

Yours truly,

Speight Jenkins

Your donation makes a difference


\$500

hired one of the 14 musicians who rehearsed and revised our new community-inspired opera at the June *Belonging(s)* Project Workshop.



\$100

introduced 40 children to opera by bringing a musical teaching artist to two local classrooms.

Your gift in action

95,501

people enjoyed a live opera performance at McCaw Hall last season, thanks to you.

"I loved it all—the music, the story, the set—the whole thing!"

— Grace, middle school student, after attending her first opera, *The Consul*

4,000

young people attended a dress rehearsal during the 2013/14 season, with your help.

For many, this was their first time seeing an opera.



Die Walküre Dress Rehearsal. © 2013 Brandon Patoc

You are bringing a new opera to life



What if opera told your story? You're helping us create a new opera that does!

“It was a very emotional experience... absolutely beautiful in the way [the opera] told the story. I can't wait to see the whole opera!”

— Mary Neuschwanger, after the presentation

The *Belonging(s)* Project opera is set in the Pacific Northwest during World War II. The opera's plot is original but based on stories collected from your neighbors and community.

Through your generosity, we brought the creative team and artists together for an opera workshop in June 2014.

Over the course of a week, they sang through the full opera for the first time, rehearsed, and made crucial revisions and a recording.

The result: a presentation that brought the audience to their feet. We'll keep you updated on plans for the opera's premiere next season.

Belonging(s) Project composer Jack Perla was delighted to meet Marianne Weltmann, the real-life inspiration for the opera's character Eva. She emigrated from Germany as a child to escape the Nazis and went on to have an international opera career. Marianne now lives in Seattle.



LEFT, Adam Lau, singing the role of Papa-san, and John Brancy, singing the role of Jim, rehearsed during the *Belonging(s)* Project Workshop. ABOVE, Composer Jack Perla with Marianne Weltmann, the inspiration for the opera's character Eva.
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You are inspiring families with opera



What do these four siblings have in common? They all loved *The Tales of Hoffmann*, their first opera! They attended the dress rehearsal as a family. Your support brings thousands of children like them to dress rehearsals each year through our affordable *Experience Opera* program.

Kailey also went on a Costume Shop tour with her dad. She was so excited that she wrote about it in an essay for school.

Clockwise, from upper right: Olivia, Jade, Charlie, and Kailey

My Trip To The Seattle Opera Costume shop
By: Kailey

Today I went to the Seattle Opera costume shop. While I was there I saw costumes being tailored for opera singers. . . Overall my favorite part was the fact that I got to see all the wonderful costumes and know I have a thing for opera.

In the first scene Hoffmann was sold a pair of rose red glasses from his nemesis. Hoffmann fell in love with a doll because the glasses he wore made her look real. Sadly in the end it didn't work out. . . In the end of this process Hoffmann learned he would never be successful with women and decided to become a writer.

THE END

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