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Celebrate opera and build community at Seattle Opera's annual Open House

Saturday, October 4 1:00-4:00 PM Opera Center

SEATTLE—As Seattle Opera gears up for the 2025/26 season, the company once again opens its doors for its annual **Open House** on **Saturday, October 4**. Visitors are invited to celebrate the community-building power of the arts by touring the facilities at the Opera Center, previewing the upcoming season with members of the Seattle Opera staff, and enjoying live performances and art exhibits by creators from across the region. Visitors are encouraged to drop by at any time from 1:00 to 4:00 PM to participate in a variety of free events and activities throughout the day.

"I don't think most people realize just how much is going on behind the scenes to bring what they see on stage to life," said **Seattle Opera General and Artistic Director James Robinson**. "Our Open House is a small peek into that work, which is being done every day by a village of diligent, innovative people. But it's also a chance to demonstrate how none of this is possible without a thriving and supportive arts ecosystem. The artists at local organizations like Lowbrow Opera Collective and Path with Art are making creative, unique works that enrich our community and push artistic boundaries. Let's celebrate all the work that goes into creating the art we love and commit to fostering a vibrant artistic landscape for years to come."

As part of a full slate of performances in Tagney Jones Hall, Lowbrow Opera Collective will present excerpts from their upcoming spring 2026 production of *Sally Ride*, a new opera by composer Dana Kaufman and librettist Aiden Feltkamp that tells the true story of the first American woman and first queer astronaut to go to space. Lowbrow will also participate in a panel discussion with representatives from Puget Sound Concert Opera, Kitsap Opera, and Vashon Opera on the broader opera landscape across the Puget Sound, considering how the region's opera companies can support one another. Other performances include a preview of Seattle Opera's upcoming production of *Fellow Travelers* and a concert by winners of the **Seattle Opera Guild**'s annual <u>Singers' Development Awards</u>.

The lobby of the Opera Center will feature an art exhibition by LGBTQ artists from <u>Path with Art</u> called **Queer Visions**, which honors the history of LGBTQ resistance and celebrates the power of art to heal and connect. Visitors can also meet with representatives from many of Seattle Opera's community

partners, including the **Seattle Symphony**, **Puget Sound Concert Opera**, **Kitsap Opera**, **Vashon Opera**, and **Early Music Seattle**.

Audience members looking to sample more of the upcoming season can view a live feed of a working rehearsal of season opener <u>The Pirates of Penzance</u>, a Q&A session with General and Artistic Director James Robinson and Dramaturg Jonathan Dean, and a singalong of the ever-popular tunes from <u>Carmen</u>.

In between formal events, visitors can tour the <u>Classical KING</u> broadcasting studio and the Seattle Opera Costume Shop and Props Department, where they can try on costumes, work on arts & crafts projects, and even handle a few of the props themselves.

A full schedule of events can be found at <u>seattleopera.org/openhouse</u>. RSVPs are requested but not required.

Event Details

Opera Center Open House Saturday, October 4, 1:00–4:00 PM Opera Center (363 Mercer Street, Seattle, WA 98109)

Tickets and information at seattleopera.org/openhouse.

About Seattle Opera

Established in 1963, Seattle Opera is committed to serving the people of the Pacific Northwest through music, storytelling, and programs for people of all ages. Each year, more than 50,000 people attend the company's performances, and more than 100,000 people are served through school performances, radio broadcasts, and more. The organization brings opera to life in several ways, offering artistic performances of the highest caliber through national and international collaborations. Seattle Opera strives to create an environment where artists, staff, behind-the-scenes workers, and members of the community feel a strong connection to the company, and to the art of opera. As one of the largest arts organizations in the Pacific Northwest, Seattle Opera employs more than 750 people annually and is an essential component of the region's economy. Follow Seattle Opera on Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud, and on Classical KING.