

THE OPERA VOLUNTEER VOICE

December 2018
Vol. 42, Number 4

The official newsletter of
Opera Volunteers International

Next issue: February 2019
Submission deadline
January 5

Expanding the future of Opera through development, mentoring and advancement of volunteer service.

Unveiling our new look

As we close the door on 2018 we also say farewell to our iconic logo, affectionately known to our communications team as “the opera babe.”

Bye
Bye
Baby



Yes, she’s pretty and classy, but does she epitomize today’s opera volunteer?

Sure, we volunteers can put on our opera finery and dress up with the best for opening nights and galas. But volunteers are so much more! Across the world we are the unsung and unpaid hands who work tirelessly to help fund, create, market and educate in order to perpetuate an art form and performance medium that we love. Our rewards are priceless moments of sitting in a darkened theater and putting our hands together to applaud a seemingly unachievable pinnacle of teamwork. We are happy and inspired and feel grateful for the important roles we can play.

Fun...Active...Professional!

Our new OVI look and logo is intended to better capture the fun, active and professional aspects of being an opera volunteer. The Communications Team is looking forward to 2019 with new ideas to engage you and offer new OVI sponsored tools to effectively promote your group and your opera companies. Stay tuned for more exciting news.

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Visit the OVI website to see the pictures you submitted of volunteers celebrating National Opera Week 2018.

Please give us 5 minutes to send 1 photo!

On your phone is one special photo that we want for our collection of opera volunteer shots that describe FUN, ACTIVE, or PROFESSIONAL. It does not need to be perfect. It needs to be the kind of photo that makes you smile and want to share it. Please upload it to our website at www.operavolunteers.org. We will feature some in future newsletters and in a gallery at Boston. Selfies are welcome, as are portraits of real life “opera babes!”

From the President: *Susan Malott*



We are well into the holiday season - apparent everywhere we look. Regardless of the commercial aspects that seem to take over time of year, I never lose sight of the things for which I am grateful. First and foremost are friends and family, and my OVI family is high on that list. This group of people who share a passion for opera and a willingness to come together in support of each other and our opera companies is truly special.

In this newsletter, you will find information about our next opportunity to gather at our Boston Focus Meeting, which has been rescheduled for March. Hopefully this is a date that will work for more people. Boston is a vibrant, historic city and our VP Marketing, Julie Todaro, has put together a fabulous weekend of learning and social activities for us to enjoy. Everyone is welcome and I invite you to join me and other board members for this exciting weekend.

December also means the deadline for the OVI directory. **If you haven't yet sent in your renewal form, won't you take a moment to do that now so we can include you in this directory? Your membership is important to us and we don't want to miss you!**

I am grateful to each of you for everything you do to support OVI and this art form. I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and hope to see you in March!

— Susan Malott



OVI thanks the following individuals for donating to our Annual Fund:

Kirk Barker
Heidi Bohn
Mary Ellen Clancy
Pat and Don Dagenais
Sarah Duvall
Mary Earl
Gerald Elijah
Vikie Hariton
Sarajane King
Norm Krasne
Sheila McNeill
Susan Malott

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In honor of

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Opera Omaha Volunteers:
Sandy Bruns, Vernie Jones,
Mark Maser, Sheila McNeill
Arlene Alm, Treasurer, Twin
Cities Opera Guild
Opera Guild of Dayton
Barb Eckel

Donor

Leatrice Damus

In memory of

Ms Betty Brody and
Mrs Maria Rosa Lopez-Munoz

Boston Focus Meeting



Focus Meeting in Boston - March 15-17, 2019

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS February 10, 2019.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DETAILS:

Date: **March 15-17, 2019**

Hotel: **Boston Park Plaza Hotel**

Opera: The opera being performed is, ***The Rape of Lucretia***, at the Artists for Humanity EpiCenter.

HOTEL:

Book your hotel reservation directly with the **Boston Park Plaza Hotel: 617-379-7129**.

You MUST tell them you are with **Opera Volunteers International** to get our special rate of **\$249 a night.** **
DEADLINE FOR HOTEL REGISTRATION is February 13, 2019.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Friday, March 15

Attendees arrive at hotel

2:00pm – Tour at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (www.mfa.org/news/upcoming-exhibitions)

6:00pm – Welcome reception at hotel

7:30pm – Opera, *The Rape of Lucretia*

Saturday, March 16th

Breakfast on your own

10:00 -11:30am –Learning Session (2 topics: Efficient Meetings and Silent Auctions)

12pm –Lunch/ Board Meeting

2pm- Backstage tour of theater

3pm – Time to enjoy Boston on your own

7pm – OVI Group Dinner @ the Summer Shack in Back Bay – (summershackrestaurant.com)

Sunday, March 17th

Today is the famous St. Patrick's Day Parade in Boston. It will begin at 1:00pm.

If you want to miss the traffic of this event, plan to leave early.

To learn more about the Parade, go to: <http://southbostonparade.org/the-parade/>



OVI Focus Meeting March 15-17, 2019

Opera, Historic Sites & **St. Patrick's Day in Boston**

Details and registration form inside this issue.



Dates to Note:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Dec 31, 2018 | Membership renewal deadline to be listed in OVI directory |
| Feb 1 | Submission deadline for Grants, Partners in Excellence and Projects of special merit. <i>See website for guidelines and application forms.</i> |
| Mar 15-17 | Focus Meeting in Boston Reserve hotel by February 13. |
| May 1-30 | Online auction |
| Jun 13-15 | Opera America Conference in San Francisco |

Further details at www.operavolunteers.org

Opera Volunteers International

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Address Correction Requested

Send your guild news and photos to
Newsletter Editor and Publisher:
Rick Greenman
newsletter@operavolunteers.org

Find us on the internet at
www.OperaVolunteers.org

REGISTRATION FORM

OVI Boston Focus Meeting March 15-17, 2019

Join us for a fun-filled weekend in beautiful Boston!

OVI Member Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Guest Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postcode: _____

Home phone: () _____ Cell phone: () _____

Name of volunteer support group to which you belong: _____

Name of Opera Company, which your organization supports: _____

Official position with support group or opera company (if applicable) _____

Event Order Form

COST x # attendees = TOTAL

Focus Meeting Registration: **\$50 x _____ \$ _____**

Includes: Workshops and Backstage Tour

Optional Additional Events:

Friday: Tour of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts **\$25 x _____ \$ _____**

Friday: Welcoming party at hotel **\$25 x _____ \$ _____**

Friday: Opera Tickets - Zone A (Center of Orchestra seating) **\$121.60 x _____ \$ _____**

OR

Friday: Opera Tickets- Zone B (Back of Orchestra seating) **\$89.60 x _____ \$ _____**

Saturday Board Lunch at the hotel **\$45 x _____ \$ _____**

Saturday Dinner at Summer Shack in Back Bay **\$55 x _____ \$ _____**

(Menu, chosen on site includes delicious items such as lobster, clambake, steak, vegetarian, etc.)

CONFERENCE COSTS TOTAL \$ _____

Payment

Payment can be made via (choose one): _____ check _____ credit card
(Make checks payable to OVI.)

Please send this form and your credit card information or check to:

Ms. Sheila McNeil
17402 Poppleton Avenue
Omaha, NE 6813

Credit Card: _____ American Express _____ Master Card _____ Visa

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

Boston Lyric Opera

- The special prices are for OVI members and guests and must be purchased through our registration. Zones A and B include center and back of the orchestra section.
- Visit BLO's website for more information about the opera, at: <https://blo.org/lucretia>.
- The opera, *The Rape of Lucretia* will be performed at the Artists for Humanity EpiCenter. -100 West 2nd Street, Fort Point, Boston.
- This is approximately a 10-minute drive from our hotel.