You are invited to attend the next OVI / Opera America conference to be held in Seattle on May 13 - 16

**Seattle Opera Conference May 2020**

Register at: [conference.operaamerica.org](http://conference.operaamerica.org)

**Conference site**  Hyatt Regency Seattle

**OVI 2 day Pass** (May 14 - 15) accesses OPERA America sessions and OVI events including breakout sessions and OVI board meeting.

Members at the grantor level can attend a special grantor’s reception. Add-on options include our Awards Dinner (or brunch), OPERA America’s 50th Anniversary Gala, and Seattle Opera’s performance of *La Bohème*.

You can always delay add-ons, opera tickets, and hotel room booking (subject to availability), but if you are planning on attending the conference in Seattle you should do so now to lock in the best price.

See: [OA conference page](http://conference.operaamerica.org). Full event details will be in our February issue.

**OPERA America's 50th annual Opera Conference returns to where it all began. In 1970, the visionary leaders of America's mid-sized opera companies convened in Seattle to found OPERA America.**

The 2020 conference celebrates fifty years of industry achievements and addresses issues of the next half century. Over 750 administrators, artists, trustees and other industry leaders are expected for the largest gathering of opera professionals in North America.

The conference offers inspiring general sessions, informative breakout sessions, social events, and engaging performances. This year's conference will also feature a special 50th anniversary party with tributes, dinner and dancing (additional fee).
It is that time of year when our schedules speed towards years end. Many of us have been in “opera mode” with seasons in full swing or attendance of the Met Live in HD performances; and soon it will be 2020, so this is our last few days to make the most of things.

First on my list is to thank you for all your efforts on behalf of opera and thank you for renewing your membership to OVI. Together we are connecting people through music. If you have not yet submitted your OVI renewal, you can do so by mail or on our website. Renewing at the grantor level helps fund our very important matching grants program and grants you the privilege to attend a special reception at the opera conference. Your opera group should also keep up their membership to ensure that they are eligible for our grants assistance and other perks.

Remember that any member of guilds that belong to OVI is also eligible to take advantage of our reduced rate for the OPERA America conference in Seattle this May.

Don’t miss the opportunity to take advantage of some key OVI benefits to help your group and honor your members. Deadlines approaching on February 1 are grant requests, Projects of Special Merit submissions, and nominations of people, groups or accomplishments through our Partners in Excellence program. Full details can be found on the OVI website.

I wish all of you a wonderful holiday and look forward to seeing many of you at our conference in Seattle this spring.

Thank you,

Susan Malott
How does OVI help you to help opera?

Opera Volunteers International currently has thirty-nine member groups (e.g. guilds) in opera companies throughout North America. Each group and our many individual members have made a commitment to take actions to help extend the worldwide reach of opera and guarantee its survival. We are the patrons who have gone much further than simply writing check.

The extent to which you, our members, support opera are many and varied, depending on your abilities, your experience and most of all, the needs of your opera company. We come from many different backgrounds, but we are joined by the one thing that we have in common, and that is our passion for this art form.

OVI is here to provide you with resources and ideas in our newsletter and on our website. We help you launch fledgling programs through our annual Matching Grants Program. We acknowledge your groups and help you recognize outstanding members through our Partners in Excellence Awards. We share your Projects of Special Merit and achievements with other members to inspire them to create their own initiatives. We advocate for you through our association with OPERA America and represent you at the annual conference. We remind opera companies how much more they can do and be with a strong volunteer presence.

OVI meets as a group twice a year, once in spring in conjunction with the OPERA America conference and usually in the fall at our annual Focus Meeting. This is an opportunity to see opera performances, experience a different part of the country, meet opera company administrative and artistic personnel, learn about opera-related issues the company of other dedicated volunteers.

Because you are dedicated to opera, we are dedicated to you.

Resources on the OVI Website: www.operavolunteers.org

You can use our OVI website to:

Renew membership, apply for matching grants and awards, locate other member opera support groups and opera companies.

There is also a Resources for Volunteers area where you can find:

On Line Resources
Links to information sources to help your volunteer activities

On-line Booklets from OVI
- Recruiting and Training the New Generation of Opera Volunteers
- How to Form an Opera Guild
- An Opera Boutique
- Good Ideas Fundraising Projects

Recognizing and Honoring Volunteers
Tips from other member groups on ways to acknowledge your members.

OVI Newsletter Archives ideas and articles from past issues

Like us on Facebook to join the conversation!
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
RESERVE NOW FOR BEST PRICE

Register by December 6 to save!

Pricing for OVI 2 day Pass
Advance (by Dec 6) $295
Early-Bird (by Feb 29) $320
Standard (by Apr 30) $345

OVI 2 DAY PASS (May 14 - 15)

Advance registration for the full conference is also available at similar savings

For more information see page one or go to:

conference.operaamerica.org