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## Living for love and art, Diamond Horseshoe Ball kicks off Pittsburgh Opera's 79th season

Pittsburgh, PA

Live for love, and live for art, as Pittsburgh Opera kicks off its 79th season with the dazzling [Diamond Horseshoe Ball](#) on Friday, September 22nd, at the historic [Omni William Penn Hotel!](#)

This year's Chairs are Dr. Vonda Wright, a renowned orthopedic surgeon with UPMC, and her husband Peter Taglianetti, a Stanley Cup winner with the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Setting a sumptuous theme for the evening is Puccini's powerful opera [Tosca](#), with its famous "Vissi d'arte" ("I lived for love, I lived for art.") [Tosca](#) opens the Pittsburgh Opera season at the Benedum Center October 7<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>.

The event will take place in the hotel's Grand Ballroom, under the same gleaming chandeliers as the very first Diamond Horseshoe Ball. Featuring a cocktail reception, dinner, performances by Pittsburgh Opera's much-loved [Resident Artists](#), live and silent auctions, and dancing to the high-energy [Elite Show Band](#), the Diamond Horseshoe Ball is not to be missed.

WTAE-TV Channel 4's legendary broadcaster [Sally Wiggin](#) and international star mezzo-soprano [Marianne Cornetti](#) will preside over the Live Auction, which offers tantalizing and exclusive items such as a private dinner party for 12 at the famous James Beard House in New York City, and much more to be released. The Silent Auction and Live Auction will be available to Ball attendees and the general public starting September 8th via [online bidding](#).

The stunning décor and lighting will be by returning favorite [LUXE Creative](#).

Tickets can be [purchased online](#). Ticket levels are:

- Young Professionals Patron, \$250 – for those ages 35 and under, which includes entrance into the cocktail reception and dinner
- Patron, \$400 – which includes entrance into the cocktail reception and dinner
- Benefactor, \$600 – which includes the cocktail reception and priority seating at dinner
- Host Committee, \$700 – which includes the cocktail reception, priority seating at dinner, and acknowledgement in the program book and invitation
- Table of 6 - \$3,500
- Table of 8 - \$5,000

For more information, please visit [pittsburghopera.org/DHB](http://pittsburghopera.org/DHB). Sponsorship and other inquiries can be directed to Pittsburgh Opera Director of Development Kathleen Butera [via email](#) or 412-281-0912 ext. 259.

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Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 79th season in 2017-18. Established by five intrepid women in 1939, Pittsburgh Opera is viewed as one of the most vibrant opera organizations in the U.S., with a rich artistic tradition, outstanding educational programs, an acclaimed artist training program, and a progressive outlook toward the future. Its green initiative culminated in LEED® Silver certification for its Strip District headquarters, and its capacity as a true community partner has increased significantly under General Director Christopher Hahn's leadership.