

August 29, 2018 – for immediate release

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From free concerts to a black-tie gala, Pittsburgh Opera offers a bit of everything this September

[Pittsburgh Opera](#) kicks off its 80th anniversary season this September with a wide range of concerts, performances and other events.

WQED-FM Pittsburgh Opera broadcasts Saturdays at 1PM 89.3 on your FM dial or wqed.org/fm

WQED-FM broadcasts recordings of Pittsburgh Opera's 2017-18 season operas Saturdays at 1PM, starting September 1st. Relive the magic, drama, passion, and fun of these amazing performances. The full September schedule is:

- [Tosca](#) - September 1 – Puccini's ultimate melodrama, set in Rome in the year 1800
- [The Marriage of Figaro](#) – September 8 – Mozart's comic triumph
- [The Long Walk](#) – September 15 – the true story of a US military officer's post-deployment struggle to adapt to his home life
- [Savage Winter](#) – September 22 - formerly called *Ashes & Snow*, world-premiere **Savage Winter** is a modern interpretation of the poem-cycle which inspired Franz Schubert's haunting *Winterreise*.
- [Moby-Dick](#) – September 29 – Herman Melville's tale of blood and obsession on the high seas

Season Kickoff Brunch Sunday, September 9, 12:30PM Fox Chapel Golf Club

[FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera](#) cordially invite you to a Season Kickoff Brunch at [Fox Chapel Golf Club](#), 426 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

Meet and greet Pittsburgh Opera's [2018-19 Resident Artists](#) while enjoying great food and fun camaraderie. Pricing is \$100 per person, although FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera members and [Pittsburgh Opera New Guard](#) members are just \$75.

RSVP by September 5th to Ronna Pratt at 412-281-0912 ext. 225, or [RSVP via email](#).

Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 80th season in 2018-19. 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.

Rising Stars Concert
Sunday, September 16, 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Pittsburgh Opera Headquarters, [2425 Liberty Avenue](#)

Meet Pittsburgh Opera's [2018-19 Resident Artists](#) in this free concert! You'll be up close and personal in the intimate George R. White Studio at Pittsburgh Opera headquarters.

The Resident Artists will be introducing themselves through an audition format with one of their favorite arias, followed by an aria chosen by General Director Christopher Hahn, Music Director Antony Walker, and Director of Artistic Operations Bill Powers. Afterwards, the pressure is on. The audience gets to vote on which Resident Artist is brought back out for the final aria. Mingle with the artists afterwards.

This free event is very popular. [Please RSVP online to reserve your seats](#), or RSVP by calling 412-281-0912 ext. 215. Doors open at 5:00 PM. The program begins at 6:00 PM.

Market Square Concerts
Thursday, September 20 and Thursday, September 27, 11:30 AM – 1PM
Market Square Farmer's Market

Pittsburgh Opera's [2018-19 Resident Artists](#) will entertain Pittsburghers with free open-air concerts at [Market Square](#) during the [Farmers Market](#) on Thursday, September 20th and Thursday, September 27th.

Sample all that the [Market Square Farmers Market](#) has to offer while enjoying world-class singing of opera favorites by [Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists](#)!

Diamond Heist: 64th Annual Diamond Horseshoe Ball
Saturday, September 22, 6:30 PM
Omni William Penn Hotel, Downtown Pittsburgh

Join us for Diamond Heist: the 64th annual Diamond Horseshoe Ball on Saturday, September 22nd, 2018, at the [Omni William Penn Hotel](#)! Our fall gala is chaired by Alexandra Good, Daniel Gorchynsky, and Celia Soehner. Tickets are on sale now! Find out about [individual](#) or [corporate sponsorship](#) for this event.

Many opera companies open their seasons in a grand manner, but only Pittsburgh Opera has a tradition as long and glorious as the [Diamond Horseshoe Ball](#). This year, dinner, dancing, and excitement are all wrapped up into the perfect crime. Experience the enchantment at [Diamond Heist](#).

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Opera Up Close: *Madama Butterfly*
Sunday, September 23, 2018 2:00 - 3:30pm
Founders' Room, Pittsburgh Opera Headquarters, [2425 Liberty Avenue](#)

Join Robert Boldin, Manager of Artistic Administration, and special guests from the production, for an in-depth look at the music and story of Puccini's [Madama Butterfly](#).

Admission is \$5; free to members of [FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera](#) and \$50+ donors. Handicapped parking is available by reservation. For more information: 412-281-0912 or <https://www.pittsburghopera.org/calendar/detail/opera-up-close-madama-butterfly>.

***Madama Butterfly* - Previews on WQED-FM 89.3 and WQED.ORG**
Saturday, September 29, 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

Hosted by WQED's Anna Singer, and broadcast over the airwaves on WQED-FM 89.3 as well as the WQED website, WQED's preview of [Madama Butterfly](#) gives listeners an engaging introduction to the singers, music, and story of the opera. For more information: <https://www.pittsburghopera.org/calendar/detail/wqed-preview-madama-butterfly>

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