



## President's Message

Dear Members and Friends of PPOL,

It hardly seems possible that another season of PPOL programs and events is ending. We enjoyed performances by two outstanding Career Advancement Award recipients. We celebrated Black History Month at the Colorado Springs Conservatory with a very special appearance by Stephanie Ann Ball and performances by two Conservatory scholarship recipients and their vocal mentor.

We had two lovely luncheons at the Cheyenne Mountain Country Club, thanks to PPOL member hosts Dr. Darryl and Terry Thatcher with entertainment provided by Opera Colorado Artists in Residence and Central City Opera Artists in Training. We saw an original family opera production at the Millibo Theatre, curated and performed by Judeth Shay Comstock and Birgitta De Pree which they produced with the help of a grant from PPOL, and we were entertained by Bel Canto Legacy and Art Song Colorado at our two fundraising events.

The PPOL programming committee is working to bring you equally entertaining programs for the 25-26 season, and we encourage you to renew your membership in PPOL. Individual memberships are \$50/year; memberships for couples/families are \$75/year. Included are four programs with delicious culinary offerings lovingly prepared by the PPOL Hospitality Team and a \$10 discount for all ticketed programs and events. Nonmembers pay \$10 for non-ticketed programs, and they pay \$10 more for ticketed programs and events. Memberships expire August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Spring 2025

While you are renewing your membership, please consider donating to PPOL. We are a nonprofit organization, and donations are deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your donations allow us to bring you quality programming and to provide scholarships to deserving individuals and organizations that support and train young artists. Here is how you can help:

1. Donate to the Scholarship Fund: These donations are used to provide scholarships to organizations that train young artists. Any amount is welcome.
2. PPOL provides Career Advancement Awards to up and coming vocalists who are pursuing careers in Opera and/or Musical Theatre. These awards provide recipients with \$1,000 that can be used for the cost of higher education, vocal coaching, audition expenses, etc. You can help us by sponsoring a Career Advancement Award for a deserving young vocalist.
3. Donate to the Count Me In Fund: These donations are used to cover essential services such as Communications and Marketing, Printing, Postage, Insurance, Internet Expense and Office Supplies. Dues alone only cover about half the cost of essential services. Any amount is welcome.
4. Donate to help us cover the cost of our Monthly Programs: These donations help us cover the cost of Venue Rentals, Vocalists and Accompanists. Venues are increasing rental costs because they incur real expenses for the use of their facilities: personnel, utility costs, insurance, etc. We want to compensate our vocalists and accompanists fairly because a lot of time and effort goes into preparing a program for PPOL. Costs vary according to the venue, performing artist, etc., but program costs can range from \$500 - \$1,000 per program. These costs add up over the year.

PPOL is very lucky to have a skilled printed program designer on our board: Eve Tilley, our current Co-President and soon to be Immediate Past President, is responsible for those beautiful, printed programs we provide to attendees at our monthly programs and events. If we were to pay a designer for the work Eve does pro bono, it would cost us about \$200/program, just for the design work and another \$50 to \$100 per program to get copies made, depending on the number of attendees. Our performers use these programs for their portfolios, and our sponsors (i.e. Purple Mountain Group at Morgan Stanley) consider them a valuable marketing tool.

Thank you for your continued support of PPOL. We look forward to bringing you another season of stimulating programs and camaraderie. Enjoy your summer, and we will see you in September.

*Nicole*



# Morgan Stanley



L to R: Henry Bradley, Scott Perry, Herman Tiemens, Jeff Mohrmann, Jonathan Grant

## Morgan Stanley is proud to congratulate **Purple Mountain Group** **A FORBES' BEST-IN-STATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAM**

Being named to *Forbes'* 2025 *Best-In-State Wealth Management Teams* list is a testament to your experience, focus, and dedication to your clients' financial future.

Thank you for the work you do each day and for carrying forward the standard of excellence at our firm.

### ***Purple Mountain Group at Morgan Stanley Financial Advisors***

**Henry J. Bradley, CFP®**  
**Jonathan D. Grant, MBA, CFP®**  
**Jeff W. Mohrmann, CFP®**

**Scott M. Perry, MBA, QPFC, CRPS®**  
**Herman Tiemens II, MBA, CFP®**

**[purplemountaingroup@morganstanley.com](mailto:purplemountaingroup@morganstanley.com)**

**719.577.6360 | [advisor.morganstanley.com/purple-mountain-group](https://advisor.morganstanley.com/purple-mountain-group)**

Source: Forbes.com (January 2025) 2025 Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Management Teams ranking awarded in 2025. This ranking was determined based on an evaluation process conducted by SHOOK Research LLC (the research company) in partnership with Forbes (the publisher) for the period from 3/31/23-3/31/24. Neither Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC nor its Financial Advisors or Private Wealth Advisors paid a fee to SHOOK Research LLC for placement on its rankings. This ranking is based on in-person and telephone due diligence meetings to evaluate each Financial Advisor qualitatively, a major component of a ranking algorithm that includes client retention, industry experience, review of compliance records, firm nominations, and quantitative criteria, including assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion. Rankings are based on the opinions of SHOOK Research LLC and may not be representative of any one client's experience; investors must carefully choose the right Financial Advisor or team for their own situation and perform their own due diligence. This ranking is not indicative of the Financial Advisor's future performance. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC is not affiliated with SHOOK Research LLC or Forbes. For more information, see [www.SHOOKresearch.com](https://www.SHOOKresearch.com).

# IN MEMORY



**Helene Knapp**

1928-2025

It is with heartfelt sadness that we share the passing of Helene, a beloved longtime member and cherished friend of PPOL.

Helene's life was one of purpose, resilience, and devotion—to family, to community and to the arts. A trained vocalist and lifelong supporter of music, Helene brought passion and dedication to every organization she touched. Her contributions were both lasting and inspiring. She was honored with the Beatrice Vradenburg Award for Outstanding Service in 1997, recognizing her commitment to musical excellence and community engagement.

In addition to her service on numerous boards, Helene was a gifted performer herself, appearing in productions such as *Annie Get Your Gun* and *The Sound of Music* with Opera Theatre of the Rockies. She was also a tireless volunteer across a variety of causes, including the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, the Assistance League and the United Nations Association.

But perhaps most remarkable was Helene's courage and leadership on the national stage. After the tragic loss of her husband, Air Force pilot Herman Knapp, during the Vietnam War, she became a powerful advocate for POW/MIA families, eventually serving as National Coordinator of the League of Families. Her efforts were later chronicled in the book and museum exhibit *The League of Wives*, which brought renewed awareness to her work and to the sacrifices of so many military families.

Helene's strength, warmth, and unwavering generosity left an indelible mark on our organization and our city. She leaves behind her two children, Robert and Cindy, and two grandchildren, as well as countless friends and admirers who were enriched by her kindness and wisdom.

A memorial Mass and reception will be held in her honor on Saturday, July 12, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul Catholic Church in Colorado Springs.

To honor Helene's memory, consider supporting a cause close to her heart: the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, Catholic Charities, or simply extend a hand in friendship and continue the music she loved so dearly.

# MAY CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES

## 2025



### **Madama Butterfly**

presented by the  
Colorado Springs Philharmonic  
May 17-18, 2025  
Pikes Peak Center

How far would you go for a love that might destroy you? Puccini's iconic opera plunges into the heart of this emotional storm where the innocent yet fiercely devoted Cio-Cio-San (Butterfly) risks everything for a passion that defies all boundaries. This tale of love and betrayal unfolds in this spellbinding theatricalized concert. Tickets at [csphilharmonic.org](https://csphilharmonic.org)



### **Departure: Laugh Lines**

The Studio Loft at the  
Ellie Caulkins Opera House - Denver  
May 29 & 30, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Opera Colorado's Artists in Residence take their final bow with *Departure: Laugh Lines*, a retro-inspired performance channeling the wit and whimsy of 1950s vaudeville. Act one features *American Punchlines* by Seymour Barab, followed by musical theater selections that reveal the humor and heart behind the scenes. This lighthearted concert promises laughs, surprises, and a fond farewell to some of Colorado's rising operatic stars. Raise a glass before curtain and at intermission and stick around after the show to meet our departing Artists in Residence as they celebrate their final performance of the season.

Tickets at [my.operacolorado.org/events](https://my.operacolorado.org/events)

# VOCAL ARTS FESTIVAL

## 2025



**Baritone Joshua Conyers**

**Opera Theatre of the Rockies** is delighted to present its 2025 Vocal Arts Festival—three inspiring weeks of exceptional artistry, emerging talent, and community celebration at Packard Hall on the Colorado College campus. This cherished summer tradition brings together gifted young singers from across the country to study, train, and perform alongside distinguished faculty and guest artists.

This year's Festival showcases two crowd-pleasing opera scenes programs—***Let's Make a Scene on Sunday, July 20***, and ***A Scenic View on Sunday, July 27***—featuring selections from beloved works in the operatic repertory. These concerts offer audiences a glimpse into the dramatic and vocal range of the next generation of performers, all staged with flair and imagination.

**On Friday, August 1, the Festival takes a delightful detour to Broadway with *Here's to the Ladies***, a lively salute to women composers and lyricists whose contributions helped shape the American musical theater canon.

A special highlight of the season is the **Vocal Arts Festival Benefit Recital on Tuesday, July 15 at 7:00 p.m., starring celebrated baritone Joshua Conyers, whose appearance is sponsored by PPOL member Peggy Shivers**. A proud alum of the Vocal Arts Festival, Conyers returns to Colorado Springs for a one-night-only performance in support of the program that helped launch his career. His rich voice and commanding presence promise an unforgettable evening of song.

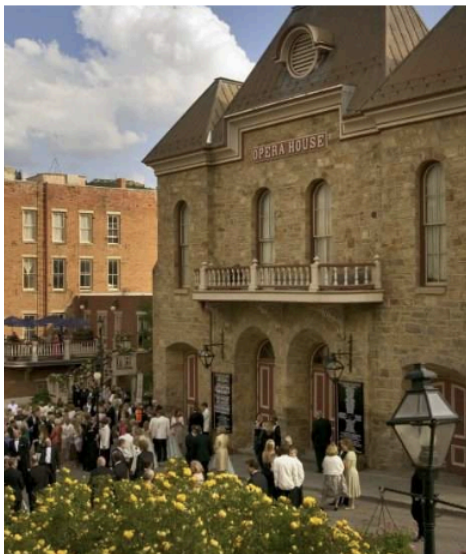
All performances take place at Packard Hall and are open to the public. Whether you're a lifelong opera lover or a newcomer to the art form, the Vocal Arts Festival offers something for everyone—uplifting music, meaningful mentorship, and a celebration of the human voice at its finest.

Visit [operatheatreoftherockies.org](https://operatheatreoftherockies.org) for more details.



# CENTRAL CITY OPERA FESTIVAL

## 2025



**Discover the Magic of Opera at 8500 feet!** Central City Opera is back with another incredible season! Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* brings rapid-fire wit and beloved melodies as the clever Figaro ensures love triumphs. The regional premiere of *The Knock* delivers a deeply moving portrait of military spouses' resilience during the Iraq War. And for a Broadway-style twist, *Once Upon a Mattress* enchants with its playful humor and larger-than-life characters.

### **The Barber of Seville**-June 28- Aug 3

Gioachino Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* is fast, funny, and full of unforgettable music. Figaro-the town's most resourceful barber-cooks up clever schemes to help true love win the day. This opera's madcap energy inspired everyone from Giuseppe Verdi to Stephen Sondheim to Bugs Bunny, and continues to charm audiences whenever it's performed.

### **The Knock**-July 5-Aug 2

*The Knock* delves into the resilience and bravery of military spouses facing the unknown. Set in the American suburbs during the Iraq War, this regional premiere captures the strength required to endure the wait for a dreaded knock at the door.

### **Once Upon a Mattress**- July 12-Aug 2

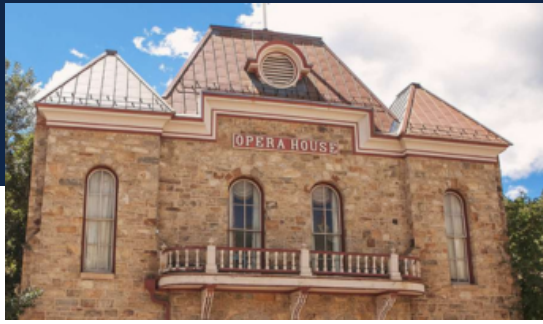
*Once Upon a Mattress* is a hilarious, heartwarming twist on a classic fairy tale. Packed with golden-age Broadway tunes, clever humor, and larger-than-life characters, *Once Upon a Mattress* offers a delightful mix of whimsy and vocal brilliance—perfect for anyone who loves music, laughter, and happily-ever-afters.

### **CCO In Concert: Opera's Greatest Hits**-July 25

Enjoy the Central City Opera Orchestra alongside principal singers and a full chorus, performing numbers from *Carmen*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *The Tales of Hoffmann*, *Don Carlos*, and more. One night only!

Visit [centralcityopera.org](http://centralcityopera.org) for more details.





**THE BARBER OF SEVILLE**  
**JULY 12, 2025**

**All Aboard for Central City!**  
**KCME Bus Trip to *The Barber of Seville* – Saturday, July 12, 2025**

Treat yourself and bring a friend or two to a delightful summer outing with fellow opera lovers as we travel to Central City to enjoy *The Barber of Seville*, presented by Central City Opera. This classic comic opera promises wit, charm, and unforgettable music in one of Colorado's most iconic venues.

\$135 per person (includes round-trip bus transportation and opera ticket)

**To Reserve**

Call Central City Opera at 303-292-6700, M-F from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Mention the KCME group rate for July 12.

*10:00 a.m.*

Bus departs from KCME at 1921 N. Weber Street, Colorado Springs

*12:00 p.m. (approx.)*

Arrive in Central City with time to enjoy lunch in the historic Teller House dining area and explore the town

*1:20 p.m.*

Attend Opera Notes, the engaging pre-show talk in Williams' Stables

*2:00 p.m.*

Curtain rises for *The Barber of Seville*

*4:30 p.m.*

Performance concludes

*5:00 p.m.*

Bus departs for Colorado Springs

This is a perfect opportunity to experience world-class opera, scenic views and the unique charm of Central City—without the hassle of driving or parking.  
Seats are limited, so make your reservation soon!

# AUGUST 2025



## **Trial by Jury**

Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum  
Saturday, August 2, 2025, 7:30 p.m.

Join Double D Productions for an evening of wit and melody with Gilbert & Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*, complemented by a selection of the duo's beloved favorites. This one-act comic operetta, renowned for its satirical take on the British legal system, unfolds the humorous tale of a jilted bride seeking justice in a courtroom filled with eccentric characters and unexpected twists.

Experience the charm and cleverness of Gilbert & Sullivan's work in a setting that brings history and performance together.

Secure your tickets early to ensure a seat at this delightful production at [doubledproductions.ticketspice.com/trial-by-jury](https://doubledproductions.ticketspice.com/trial-by-jury)

## The Power OF THE HUMAN VOICE

Choral artistry that inspires and uplifts.



Skilled vocalists are invited to audition for our 2025–2026 season. CVAE is a select, compensated ensemble of 28–32 voices, dedicated to exceptional choral performance. Auditions will be held by appointment June 2–3, 2025, in Colorado Springs. Learn more or audition at [cvae.org](https://cvae.org)



COLORADO  
VOCAL ARTS  
ENSEMBLE

# PPOL PROGRAMS

## 2025-2026

### **Pikes Peak Opera League 2025–2026 Events Calendar**

Subject to change—please refer to our website, newsletter, or member emails for the most current updates. Reservations or ticket purchases are required for all events. Contact: ndenaray@gmail.com.

#### **Wednesday, September 10, 2025 | 3:00–5:00 p.m.**

Opening Program at the Peel House, 1515 N. Cascade. Free for members; \$10 for non-members. Refreshments will be provided.

#### **Wednesday, October 8, 2025 | 5:00–8:00 p.m.**

Fall Fest Fundraiser. Location to be announced. Catered dinner; wine available for purchase. Ticket price to be announced.

#### **Wednesday, November 5, 2025 | 2:00–4:00 p.m.**

Career Advancement Award Concert at Broadmoor Community Church, 315 Lake Ave. Free for members; \$10 for non-members. Refreshments provided.

#### **Wednesday, December 3, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

Holiday Luncheon at Cheyenne Mountain Country Club, 9 Lake Ave. Ticket price to be announced. Lunch included; wine available for purchase. Venue hosts: Dr. Darryl & Terry Thatcher.

#### **Wednesday, February 4, 2026 | 2:00–4:00 p.m.**

Monthly Program at Millibo Art Theatre, 1626 S. Tejon. Free for members; \$10 for non-members. Refreshments provided.

#### **Wednesday, March 4, 2026 | 12:00–2:00 p.m.**

Career Advancement Award Concert. Location to be announced. Free for members; \$10 for non-members. Light lunch provided.

#### **Wednesday, April 8, 2026 | 5:00–8:00 p.m.**

Spring Fundraiser. Location to be announced. Appetizer buffet; wine available for purchase. Ticket price to be announced.

#### **Wednesday, May 6, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

Spring Membership Luncheon at the El Paso Club, 30 E. Platte Ave. Ticket price to be announced. Lunch provided; wine available for purchase. Venue hosts: Dr. Darryl & Terry Thatcher.

We are grateful to The Purple Mountain Group at Morgan Stanley, our 2025 Season Sponsor, for their generous support.

**Morgan Stanley**

PURPLE MOUNTAIN GROUP  
AT MORGAN STANLEY



## Membership Application/Renewal 2025 -2026

*Our mission is to: promote knowledge and appreciation of opera, musical theatre and vocal arts; encourage and support aspiring and professional opera and musical theatre artists; and support Opera Theatre of the Rockies and other regional opera, classical and vocal arts organizations.*

Membership dues are valid from **SEPTEMBER 1 through AUGUST 31** of each year.  
**PRINT CLEARLY** all information as you want it to appear in the Membership Directory.

### SUBMIT ONLINE

Sign up and pay online at [pikespeakoperaleague.org/membership](http://pikespeakoperaleague.org/membership).

### SUBMIT BY MAIL

Send this completed form and check payable to PPOL.

Mail to: Pikes Peak Opera League, PO Box 38478, Colorado Springs, CO 80937-8478

#### ☐ INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP \$50

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

#### ☐ COUPLE/FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$75

Provide info on additional family members on the back of this form.

Name #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

#### ☐ **DUES DO NOT COVER** scholarships or program costs (venues, vocalists, accompanists, refreshments, etc.).

Indicate how you can help (*please circle*):

**SPONSOR** (Includes acknowledgement in program. To sponsor a specific event, contact Nicole de Naray (719) 481-0426.)

Accompanist Sponsor \$50 \$100 \$150 \$200 Program Sponsor \$250 \$500

Vocalist Sponsor \$50 \$100 \$150 \$200 \$250 Venue Sponsor \$50 \$100 \$200 \$250

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND** \$50 \$100 \$150 \$500 \$\_\_\_\_\_ (amount)

**EVENT HOSPITALITY** (join other members in contributing refreshments at an event not catered) YES NO

**OTHER** (offer your service/support not listed above) \_\_\_\_\_

*Sponsorships & donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. IRS regulations do not permit PPOL as a 501(c)(3) organization to give free tickets or other tangible benefits in exchange for sponsorships.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



# OPERA IN OUR AREA

## 2025-2026 Colorado Springs Area Opera Schedule by Location as of May 2025

### **The Met: Live in HD (Tinseltown)**

May 17, Saturday – Salome  
May 21, Wednesday – Salome  
May 31, Saturday – Il Barbiere di Siviglia  
June 4, Wednesday – Il Barbiere di Siviglia

### **Opera Colorado Season**

May 29, Thursday – Departure: Laugh Lines  
May 30, Friday – Departure: Laugh Lines  
November 1, Saturday – Verdi's La Traviata  
November 4, Tuesday – Verdi's La Traviata  
November 7, Friday – Verdi's La Traviata  
November 9, Sunday – Verdi's La Traviata  
May 2, Saturday – Puccini's Madama Butterfly  
May 5, Tuesday – Puccini's Madama Butterfly  
May 7, Thursday – Puccini's Madama Butterfly  
May 8, Friday – Puccini's Madama Butterfly  
May 10, Sunday – Puccini's Madama Butterfly

### **Central City Opera**

June 28, Saturday – The Barber of Seville + Opening Night Celebrations  
July 2, Wednesday – The Barber of Seville  
July 4, Friday – The Barber of Seville  
July 5, Saturday – The Knock + Opening Night Celebrations  
July 6, Sunday – Lunch & Song  
July 6, Sunday – The Barber of Seville  
July 9, Wednesday – The Knock  
July 11, Friday – The Knock  
July 12, Saturday – Lunch & Song  
July 12, Saturday – The Barber of Seville  
July 12, Saturday – Once Upon A Mattress + Opening Night Celebrations  
July 13, Sunday – The Knock  
July 15, Tuesday – The Barber of Seville  
July 15, Tuesday – Dinner in the Gardens  
July 15, Tuesday – CCO Presents: Drag Me to the Opera  
July 16, Wednesday – Lunch & Song  
July 16, Wednesday – Once Upon A Mattress  
July 18, Friday – Lunch & Song  
July 18, Friday – Once Upon A Mattress  
July 19, Saturday – The Barber of Seville  
July 19, Saturday – The Knock  
July 20, Sunday – Lunch & Song  
July 20, Sunday – Once Upon A Mattress  
July 22, Tuesday – The Knock  
July 23, Wednesday – Once Upon A Mattress

*Continued on Next Page*

July 25 (YA), Friday – The Barber of Seville  
July 25, Friday – CCO In Concert: Opera's Greatest Hits  
July 26, Saturday – Lunch & Song  
July 26, Saturday – The Barber of Seville  
July 26, Saturday – Once Upon A Mattress  
July 27, Sunday – Once Upon A Mattress  
July 29, Tuesday – Once Upon A Mattress  
July 30, Wednesday – Lunch & Song  
July 30, Wednesday – The Barber of Seville  
August 1, Friday – Once Upon A Mattress  
August 2, Saturday – Once Upon A Mattress  
August 2, Saturday – The Knock  
August 3, Sunday – The Barber of Seville  
September Date TBD – Fête de Fat

### **Opera Theatre of the Rockies**

July 15, Tuesday – Joshua Conyers Benefit Concert  
July 20, Sunday – Let's Make a Scene  
July 27, Sunday – A Scenic View  
August 1, Friday – Here's to the Ladies

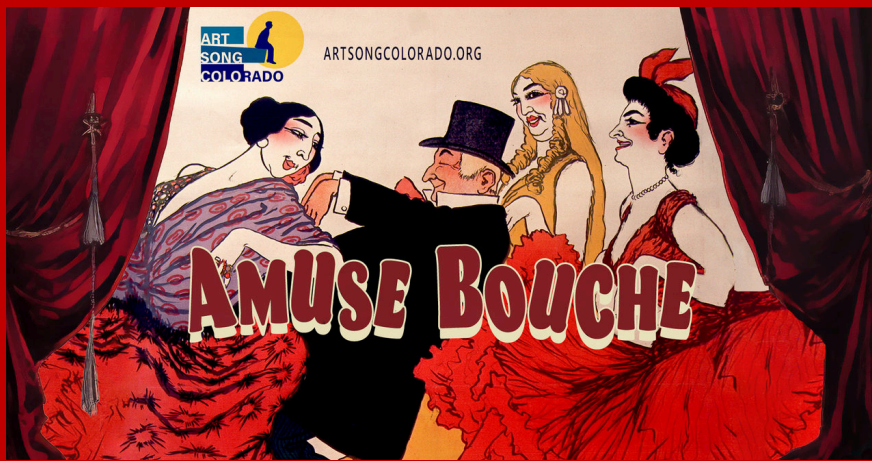
### **Santa Fe Opera**

June 27, Friday – La Bohème  
June 28, Saturday – The Marriage of Figaro  
July 2, Wednesday – La Bohème  
July 4, Friday – The Marriage of Figaro  
July 5, Saturday – La Bohème  
July 9, Wednesday – The Marriage of Figaro  
July 11, Friday – La Bohème  
July 12, Saturday – Rigoletto  
July 16, Wednesday – Rigoletto  
July 18, Friday – La Bohème  
July 19, Saturday – The Turn of the Screw  
July 23, Wednesday – The Turn of the Screw  
July 25, Friday – Rigoletto  
July 26, Saturday – Die Walküre  
July 28, Monday – La Bohème  
July 29, Tuesday – Rigoletto  
July 30, Wednesday – Die Walküre  
July 31, Thursday – The Marriage of Figaro  
August 1, Friday – The Turn of the Screw  
August 2, Saturday – La Bohème  
August 4, Monday – The Marriage of Figaro  
August 5, Tuesday – The Turn of the Screw  
August 6, Wednesday – La Bohème  
August 7, Thursday – Rigoletto  
August 8, Friday – Die Walküre  
August 9, Saturday – The Marriage of Figaro  
August 10, Sunday – Apprentice Scenes & Concert  
August 12, Tuesday – The Marriage of Figaro  
August 13, Wednesday – Die Walküre  
August 14, Thursday – La Bohème  
August 15, Friday – Rigoletto  
August 16, Saturday – The Marriage of Figaro  
August 17, Sunday – Apprentice Scenes & Concert  
August 19, Tuesday – La Bohème  
August 20, Wednesday – Rigoletto  
August 21, Thursday – Die Walküre  
August 22, Friday – The Marriage of Figaro  
August 23, Saturday – La Bohème

### **Colorado Springs Philharmonic**

May 17, Saturday – Madama Butterfly  
May 18, Sunday – Madama Butterfly





PHOTOS COURTESY OF DR. SUSAN RAE JENSEN



EAPEN LEUBNER, ERIC MCCONNELL,  
SARAH STONE, KELLY RIORDAN, AND  
EMILY WALKER



LESLIE AND SILAS SHAW



VICTORIA BOSWELL AND  
HEDY DUCHARME



DEANNA LYONS, SUE ANSELM AND  
LINEAH DAVEY



STEVE MORRISSETT AND  
DIANE WENGLER



ELIZABETH AND RICHARD BOND



GREETERS- KIM GUNDERSON  
AND LYNNE LANGE



JANET BERG, JEANNIE DICKMAN, AND  
CHRISTINE RUYGROK

### March Merriment Delivers Laughter and Lyricism

The Pikes Peak Opera League welcomed a lively crowd to March Merriment – Amuse Bouche on Wednesday, March 5 at Patty Jewett. Guests enjoyed an evening of light-hearted entertainment as Art Song Colorado brought their signature flair to a witty operatic comedy featuring the likes of Bizet, Offenbach, Poulenc, and Satie. Blending French repertoire with humor, history, and a touch of absurdity, the performance delighted attendees with its clever “jokes and songs, songs and jokes” format. A festive cocktail buffet and convivial atmosphere rounded out the evening.

Special thanks to event sponsors:  
Robyn Hamilton and Grant Langdon

 DR SUSAN RAE JENSEN  
& MR TOM A TRAINER

# SPRING CAREER ADVANCEMENT AWARD

with recipient Alex Granito



Dan Brink and  
Alex Granito



Nancy Anderson with guest,  
Linda Curell



Linda Silver  
and Evelyn Kwaak



Libby Rittenberg, Nasit Ari  
and Cherri Disque (standing)



Victoria Boswell and  
Trudy Fennwald



Susan Loring



Kim Gunderson, Catherine  
Creppon & Deborah Liles



Dan Brink with accompanist sponsor,  
Elton Hay, and Dianne and Doug  
Herzberg as sponsors for Alex Granito

The Spring Career Advancement Award celebration and luncheon on April 2 at the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Campus was a resounding success, featuring an unforgettable performance by baritone Alex Granito. A current Artist in Residence with Opera Colorado, Granito captivated the audience with selections that showcased his remarkable range and artistic depth. Accompanied by the talented Daniel Brink, his performance offered a glimpse into the bright future of this rising opera star. Guests enjoyed a light lunch provided by the PPOL Hospitality Team, making the midday gathering both enriching and warmly social. This program continues to highlight extraordinary talent and connect our community through the power of music. *Photos courtesy of Dr. Susan Rae Jensen on behalf of PPOL.*



The 2025 Spring Membership Luncheon was a resounding success, bringing together opera lovers for an afternoon of camaraderie, fine dining, and unforgettable music. Guests enjoyed a beautifully prepared lunch at the historic Cheyenne Mountain Country Club, followed by a captivating performance from soprano Ekaterina Kotcherguina, tenor Cody Laun, and accompanist Allison Wang. Their artistry and passion left the audience deeply moved (and entertained). Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Darryl and Terry Thatcher for graciously hosting the event, and to Annabel Widney and Dr. Susan Rae Jensen and Mr. Tom Trainer for sponsoring the program. We also welcomed new and renewing members and confirmed the incoming slate of Officers and Directors. (Photo Credit: Dr. Susan Rae Jensen for Pikes Peak Opera League)



Deanna Lyons, Sue Anselmi,  
and Connie Raub



Program Sponsor  
Annabel Widney with  
Nancy and Garry Pittman



Susan Stiff and  
Diane Wengler



Venue Sponsors,  
Dr. Darryl and Terry Thatcher



Sally Sharpe and Terri Pederson



Program sponsors, Tom Trainer  
and Dr. Susan Rae Jensen with  
Trudy Fennwald



Robyn Hamilton and  
Cherri Disque



Martile Rowland and  
Nathan Newbrough



Allison Wang, pianist,  
with singers, Cody Laun and  
Ekaterina Kotcherguina