PALM BEACH OPERA

Impact Report 2018-2019 Season



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Dear Palm Beach Opera Patrons,

Your continued patronage and excitement for our productions and programs resulted in a most exhilarating season – thank you sincerely! The new *Rising Stars & Classic Melodies* concert showcased our Benenson Young Artists alongside Denyce Graves and the terrific Palm Beach Opera Orchestra to great acclaim. Our mainstage productions of *La Traviata* and *Don Giovanni* drew praise for artistic and production quality, and who could forget Stephanie Blythe's star-turn in *Die Fledermaus* singing a rousing rendition of 'Nessun dorma' – she brought the house down for every performance! The 2019 Gala with Matthew Polenzani became a musical and social highlight for all who attended, our community engagement and education programs continued to expand both in impact and numbers throughout the season, and our youngest audiences filled the opera house for a children-friendly version of *The Revenge of the Bat*, starring members of the Benenson Young Artist Program, the newly named Bailey Apprentice Artist Program, and the Chorus.

Your ongoing belief in our mission inspired record contributions, including many multi-year agreements, resulting not only once again in a budget surplus for the year, but also in overall increased financial sustainability and reserves. BRAVI TUTTI, and a huge thank you to all involved - artists, crew, staff, board members, volunteers, and all our community stakeholders and audiences!

DANIEL BIAGGI, GENERAL DIRECTOR





OUR MISSION

Palm Beach Opera is dedicated to producing live opera at an internationwal standard of excellence, to enriching the life of the communities it serves with a diverse offering of educational programs, and to training the next generation of opera stars.

OUR VISION

We believe in the transformational power of live opera performances. Every day, we plan, create, and produce engaging operatic experiences to bring our community together in an increasingly disconnected world.

WE AIM TO

Set the benchmark for artistic excellence by producing impactful and innovative operatic experiences.

Provide and be a source of inspiration and an avenue of expression for our community through meaningful engagement.

Have an abundance of resources with structural stability to foster sustainable growth.



Mainstage operas filled more than 13,225 seats in 2019.

2,784

people attended Curtain Warmers 1,412

students attended a final dress rehearsal at no cost as part of Opera Rehearsal 101

350

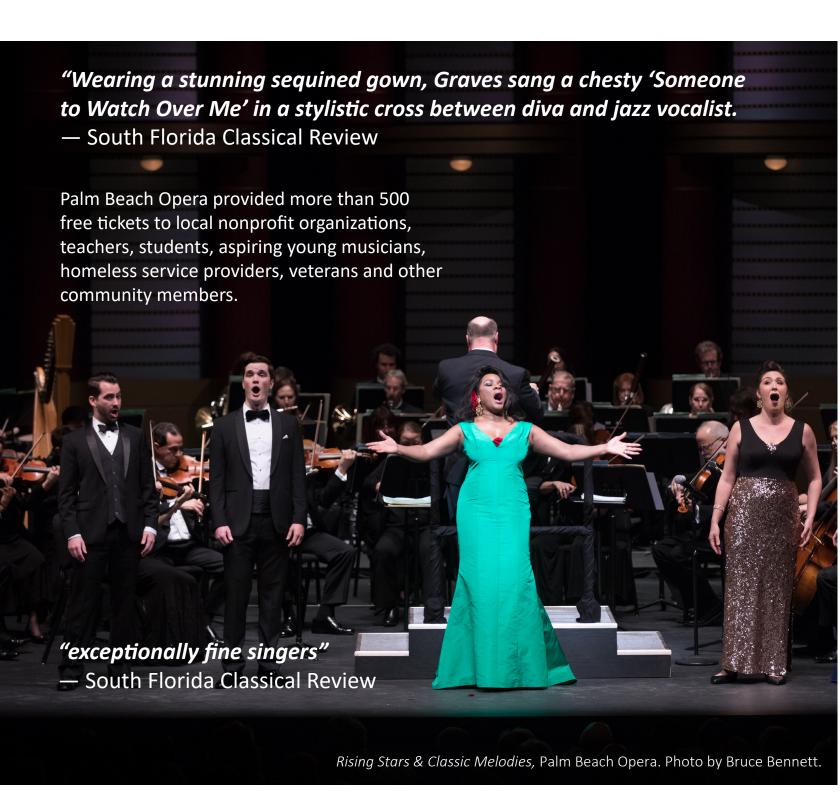
people attended Lunch & Learn 558

people attended Sunday Q&A

A night of...

RISING STARS & CLASSIC MELODIES

Highlights



A night of...

RISING STARS & CLASSIC MELODIES

Cast & Creative Team

December 18, 2018

Conductor: Greg Ritchey Guest Artist: Denyce Graves

Palm Beach Opera Benenson Young Artists

Emily Blair
Sylvia D'Eramo
Joanna Latini
Natalie Rose Havens
Robert Stahley
Brian Wallin
Ben Schaefer
Ted Allen Pickell

The Cornelia T. Bailey Apprentice Artists

Sooyeon Kang
Suzannah Waddington
Maire Carmack
Jenny Anne Flory
Michael Anderson
Anthony Ciaramitaro
Pavel Suliandziga
Robert Gerold
Michael Miller
Christopher Carbin

Palm Beach Opera Orchestra

Giuseppe Verdi's LA TRAVIATA Highlights



Giuseppe Verdi's

LA TRAVIATA

Cast & Creative Team

January 25-27, 2019

Conductor: Antonello Allemandi

Director: Fabio Ceresa*

Choreographer: Colleen Smith*

Violetta Valéry: Kristina Mkhitaryan* (Jan. 25, 27) Jacqueline Echols* (Jan. 26)

Flora Bervoix: Natalie Rose Havens*+
Marquis D'Obigny: Ted Allen Pickell*+
Baron Douphol: Ben Schaefer*+
Doctor Grenvil: Eric Jordan

Gastone: Brian Wallin+

Alfredo Germont: Alexey Tatarintsev (Jan. 25, 27) Derrek Stark# (Jan. 26)

Annina: Emily Blair*+

Giuseppe: Pavel Suliandziga*^

Giorgio Germont: Massimo Cavalletti*

Messenger: Robert Gerold*^

Flora's Servant: Christopher Carbin*^

Scenic, Prop, and Costume Designer: Desmond Heeley*

Lighting Designer: Stuart Duke

Hair and Make-up Designer: Kathy Waszkelewicz

Associate Conductor & Chorus Master: Gregory Ritchey

Music Staff: Timothy Cheung, Anna Fateeva, Ksenia Leletkina*, Cassie Makeeff, Ben Malensek

Assistant Stage Director: Joshua Miller* English Supertitles: Sonya Friedman

Dancers appear courtesy of Ballet Palm Beach.

This production is owned by Lyric Opera of Chicago and is a generous and deeply appreciated gift of the Gramma Fisher Foundation of Marshalltown, Iowa. Original production staged by Frank Galati.

Production design by Desmond Heeley.

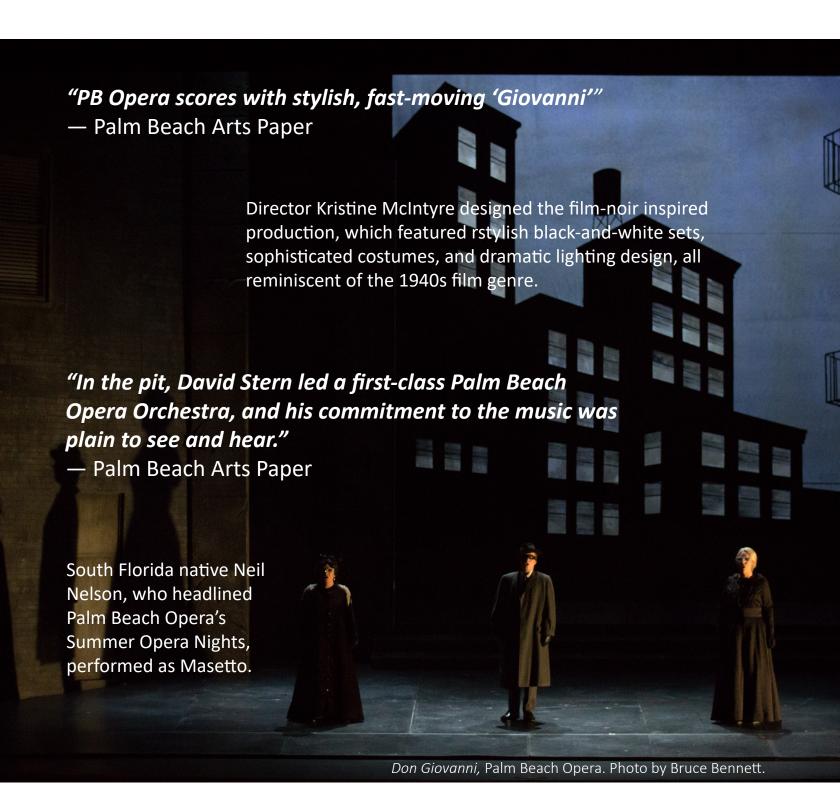
Scenery constructed by Messmore & Damon, Inc., New York. Costumes executed by Grace Costumes Ltd., New York. Millinery by Arnold S. Levine, New York. Men's Formal Wear provided by Tommy's Tuxedos, Miami.

*Palm Beach Opera Debut #Former Benenson Young Artist +Benenson Young Artist ^Bailey Apprentice Artist

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's

DON GIOVANNI

Highlights



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's

DON GIOVANNI

Cast & Creative Team

February 22 - February 24, 2019

Conductor: David Stern
Director: Kristine McIntyre*

Leporello: Joshua Bloom* (Feb. 22, 24) Zachary Nelson (Feb. 23) **Donna Anna**: Caitlin Lynch (Feb. 22, 24) Hailey Clark* (Feb. 23)

Don Giovanni: Andrei Bondarenko* (Feb. 22, 24) Edward Nelson* (Feb. 23)

Commendatore: Mikhail Kolelishvili*

Don Ottavio: Bogdan Volkov* (Feb. 22, 24) David Margulis* (Feb. 23) **Donna Elvira**: Danielle Pastin (Feb. 22, 24) Felicia Moore* (Feb. 23)

Zerlina: Danielle MacMillan#

Masetto: Neil Nelson

Scenic Designer: R. Keith Brumley*
Costume Designer: Mary Traylor*
Lighting Designer: Marcus Dilliard*

Hair and Make-up Designer: Kathy Waszkelewicz

Associate Conductor & Chorus Master: Gregory Ritchey

Music Staff: Timothy Cheung, Anna Fateeva, Ksenia Leletkina, Cassie Makeeff, Ben Malensek

Assistant Stage Director: Joshua Miller **English Supertitles**: Christopher Bergen

Scenery constructed by Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

Costumes constructed by Kansas City Costume Company.

Additional costumes designed for Utah Symphony & Opera by Verona Green.

Additional costumes provided by Kentucky Opera, and additional men's formal wear provided by Tommy's

Tuxedos, Miami.

^{*}Palm Beach Opera Debut #Former Benenson Young Artist +Benenson Young Artist ^Bailey Apprentice Artist

Johann Strauss II's

DIE FLEDERMAUS

Highlights



Johan Strauss II's

DIE FLEDERMAUS

Cast & Creative Team

March 22 - March 24, 2019

Conductor: David Stern **Director**: Dona D. Vaughn

Choreographer: Mara Newbery Greer

Alfredo: Jack Swanson* Adele: Diana Newman* Rosalinde: Emily Blair*+

Gabriel von Eisenstein: Zach Borichevsky*

Dr. Blind: Michael Anderson*^Dr. Falke: Tobias Greenhalgh#

Frank: Wayne Tigges Ida: Joanna Latini*+

Prince Orlofsky: Stephanie Blythe

Ivan: David Smith-Larsen*

Frosch: John Felix*

Scenic Designer: Gary Eckhart
Costume Designer: Zack Brown
Lighting Designer: Tyler Micoleau*

Hair and Make-up Designer: Kathy Waszkelewicz

Associate Conductor & Chorus Master: Gregory Ritchey

Music Staff: Timothy Cheung, Anna Fateeva, Ksenia Leletkina, Cassie Makeeff, Ben Malensek

Assistant Stage Director: Joshua Miller English Diction Coach: Kathryn LaBouff English Supertitles: Ksenia Leletkina

Scenery is owned by Fort Worth Opera.

Costumes constructed by Washington National Opera Costume Studio.

Additional costumes provided by Opera Philadelphia and Tommy's Tuxedos, Miami.

^{*}Palm Beach Opera Debut #Former Benenson Young Artist +Benenson Young Artist ^Bailey Apprentice Artist

2019 Gala

An Evening with Matthew Polenzani

In recital with renowned pianist Anthony V. Manoli



300+

Guests enjoyed an elegant threecourse dinner and an exclusive recital by Metropolitan Opera star Matthew Polenzani \$558,239

Raised funds help support the company's continued mission of bringing world-class opera to South Florida.

Children's Performance: THE REVENGE OF THE BAT

A 60-minute abridged family-friendly version of *Die Fledermaus*, performed by Palm Beach Opera's Benenson Young Artists and Bailey Apprentice Artists.



10

Education Stations

provided children the opportunity to play instruments, create costumes and props, sing-along with Figaro, see behind the curtain with a fun backstage video and more.

10

Nonprofits and schools received **free tickets** for their constituents.

1,146

tickets sold to children and families

Sensory-friendly integrated performance

Touch tours and Braille programs were provided for our guests from Florida Outreach Center for the Blind.

We provided a **break space**, a pre-visit book, and video.

Education & Community Engagement

Bringing live opera to our community, inspiring life-long interest in the arts, and presenting thoughtful, engaging education programs for learners of all ages.



14 unique programs, 108 different locations, 211 curated events and activities, and 19,154 total individuals reached directly.

Palm Beach Opera's education programs are presented as part of the **Goldner Center for Children's Opera Education**.

834participants in ANIMA

Education & Community Engagement

continued

ANIMA

Bringing opera to people who would otherwise be uable to experience the art form.

STORY TIME SERIES

A sing-along storytelling experience for younger audiences.

OPERA DISCOVERY SERIES

Palm Beach Opera's Benenson Young Artists and Aprentice Artists present opera's famed arias.

OPERA OUT LOUD

Uncovering real world connections between opera and the LGBTQ community.



CONCERTS IN THE CLASSROOM

An interactive program of music in the classroom, presented by Palm Beach Opera Bailey Apprentice Artists.



OPERA REHEARSAL 101

Middle and high school students get a glimpse of the production process.

CHILDREN'S PERFORMANCE

A unique storytelling adventure for children, families, and caregivers to experience the magic of opera.

CURTAIN WARMERS

Providing audiences with insider information about the operas and the music before each performance.



Education & Community Engagement

continued

PALM BEACH OPERA STUDIO

A rigourous training program for select high school students interested in opera.

SUNDAY Q&A

Offering Sunday matinee guests the exhilirating chance to speak with artists after the show.

ARTS IN MY BACKYARD

A partnership with the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, groups of students create their own operas over a nine-week period.

HAPPY HOUR SERIES

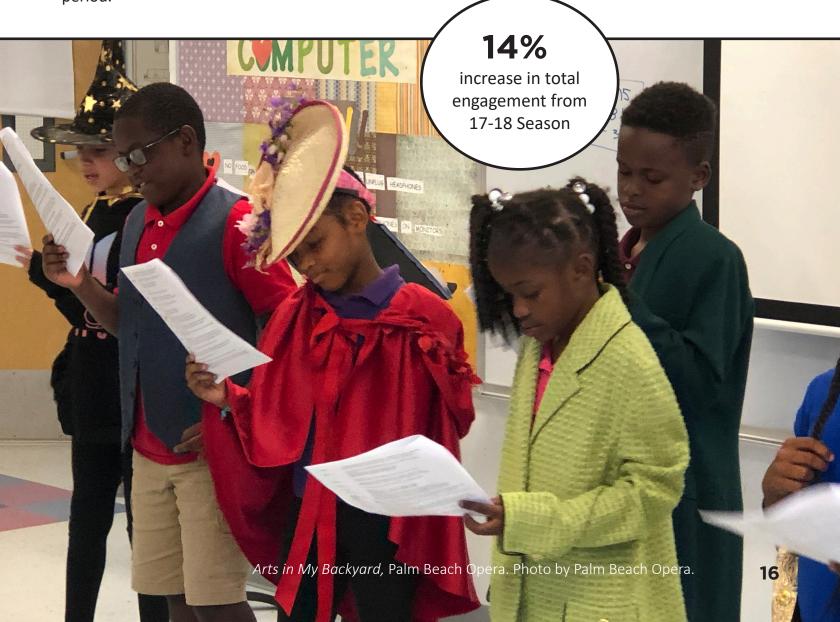
A "cocktail" of education, conversation, and select arias.

LUNCH & LEARN

A unique blend of education and opera over a delicious meal.

CONVERSATIONS

Highlighting the inner workings of an opera company through personal conversations.



Artist Training

Training the next generation of opera stars through a unique three-tiered system.

598

artists applied for the Benenson Young Artist and Bailey Apprentice Artist programs this season

Palm Beach Opera is most grateful to the Atkins Young Artists Program for its generous support of all Palm Beach Opera educational, training, and community engagement efforts on behalf of opera and classical vocal arts.

The **Benenson Young Artist Program** is a stepping stone to a successful career as an opera singer for post-graduate and emerging singers. During their five-month residency in Palm Beach they develop and polish essential stagecraft and performance skills, aided by musical and career guidance from Palm Beach Opera's experienced artistic staff. The Young Artists appear on the mainstage in supporting roles, cover leading roles, and are featured in concerts and special events throughout our community.

The Benenson Young Artist Program is funded by The Edward H. Benenson Foundation, Gladys Benenson, President.

The Cornelia T. Bailey Apprentice Artist Program is an opportunity for recent graduates to gain valuable experiences at the professional level. During their five-month residency in Palm Beach they are Palm Beach Opera's community ambassadors, performing throughout the region in education and outreach concerts. The Bailey Apprentice Artists further their artistic development through regular coaching as well as adding strength and consistency to all of the mainstage production choruses.

Palm Beach Opera Studio is a rigorous seven-month training program that fosters the skills high school students will need to pursue a successful music career in college and beyond, through either a Performance Track or Arts Administration Track.

Palm Beach Opera Studio is sponsored by Palm Beach Opera Guild with additional funding provided by Suzanne L. Niedland.

2018-2019 Benenson Young Artists



Sylvia D'Eramo, soprano
Emily Blair, soprano
Ben Schaefer, baritone
Brian Wallin, tenor
Ted Allen Pickell, bass-baritone
Joanna Latini, soprano
Natalie Rose Havens, mezzo-soprano
Robert Stahley, tenor

"D'Eramo had the dipped-in-honey soprano timbre"

South Florida Classical Review

"Latini's top was clear as a bell and her lustrous middle register gave dramatic strength"

South Florida Classical Review

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Sylvia D'Eramo and Robery Stahley were accepted to Los Angeles Opera's **Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist Program.**

Joanna Latini and Brian Wallin will perform in *The Ghosts of Versailles* at the **Glimmerglass Festival.**

Natalie Rose Havens will sing Julia Child in *Bon Appétit* at **Savannah Voice Festival.**

2018-2019 Bailey Apprentice Artists



Michael Anderson, tenor
Maire Carmack, mezzo-soprano
Christopher Carbin, bass-baritone
Anthony Ciaramitaro, tenor
Michael Miller, baritone
Robert Gerold, baritone
Pavel Suliandziga, tenor
Jenny Anne Flory, mezzo-soprano
Sooyeon Kang, soprano
Suzannah Waddington, soprano

"exceptionally fine singers"

— South Florida Classical Review

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Anthony Ciaramitaro will also join Los Angeles Opera's **Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist Program.**

Michael Anderson will sing Peter Quint in *The Turn of the Screw* at **Nashville Opera.**

Pavel Suliandziga will perform in the Russia tour of **Talents of the World.**

2018-2019 Palm Beach Opera Studio



Emma Beers
Isabella Caggiani*
Zaryah Gourgel
Abby Guido
Jacqueline Kaskel
Emily Mandell
Gabriella Pizzi
Hope Sears
James Seton
Shayna Singer*
Mckayla Williams
Katherine Zeda*

*2nd year Studio singer

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Collectively, Palm Beach Opera Studio seniors were awarded earned **\$1,299,984** in college scholarships.

Palm Beach Opera Studio singers were accepted into reputable school across the country, including Carnegie Mellon University, Cincinnati University College Conservatory of Music, Mannes School of Music, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Peabody Conservatory at John Hopkins and more.

LIEDERABEND

A unique opportunity for our artists in training to expand their repertoire through performing non-operatic classical music, while presenting an intimate evening of art songs.



Lie · der · a · bend

A tradition that dates back to the 1800s, when artists and audiences would gather to perform and hear the songs of current classical composers. These songs are referred to as "art songs," and German art songs are known as "Lieder."

PBO YOUNG FRIENDS

Young professionals supporting Palm Beach Opera, meeting new people, and experiencing opera at an exceptional price.



50+

memberships

70%

increase in subscriptions

"PBO Young Friends is not only a great way to experience classical masterpieces, but also a great way to become involved with your local community."

- Michael Rittenhouse and Lucy Flores, PBO Young Friends

THE ORPHEUS LEGACY SOCIETY

Securing the future of Palm Beach Opera through the plans of forward thinking individuals.



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*In Memoriam

\$1.4 million

in Legacy gifts were pledged during the 18-19 season.

CO-PRODUCER SOCIETY

Ensuring world-class opera thrives in our community through fully-underwritten productions.



\$2,627,550

Raised funds from the Co-Producer Society directly supported Palm Beach Opera's mainstage productions. 42

Co-Producer Society members.

39%

Increase in raised funds.

Production Underwriter

Glenn W. and Cornelia T. Bailey Charitable Foundation

Executive Producers

Mr. & Mrs. William G. Brown

Mrs. Ronnie Isenberg, in loving memory of Eugene Isenberg Mrs. Ingrid Kosowsky, in loving memory of Dr. David Kosowsky

Producers

Bloomberg Philanthropies Mrs. Ari Rifkin Mr. & Mrs. Martin Sosnoff

2018-2019 Supporters

Palm Beach Opera is sincerely thankful to the following individuals whose donations support live, world-class opera, as well as educational and community engagement programs that enrich and meaningfully impact our community. Individual contributions are listed cumulatively with support comprised of Co-Producer Society gifts, Young and Bailey Apprentice Artist sponsorships, Education and Community Engagement sponsorships, annual gifts, Gala support, corporate matches, and in-kind donations.

Contributions to the 2018 season from 06/01/2018 to 05/31/3019.

MAJOR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

\$1,000,000 AND ABOVE

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\$250,000 - \$999,999

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\$100,000 - \$249,999

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Mr. & Mrs. William J. Pittler

Dr. Henry Rabinowitz

Stanley & Helenan Robin

Mr. & Mrs. Murray Schneider

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Seuss

Mr. Raymon Sterman

Mr. & Mrs. David T. Sullivan

Mr. Richard Viens & Mrs. Patricia Werhahn

Dr. Andrew Lloyd Von Gelt

Mr. Robert Weisman

Dr. Joan Perry Wilcox

Ms. Barbara Zech

Mr. & Mrs Richard Zeckhauser

CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS, AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

\$100,000+









The Cornelia T. Bailey Charitable Trust The Edward H. Benenson Foundation

\$25,000-\$99,999







Daft Family Foundation
The Gladys and Sy Ziv Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999















\$7,500 - \$9,999



\$5,000 - \$7,499













GE Foundation
The Ruth Nelson Kraft Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999





Mae Cadwell Rovensky Foundation The BMC Charitable Foundation

UP TO \$2,499





















Lawrence and Marjorie Stoll Foundation The Scout Guide Palm Beach

Financials

Palm Beach Opera ended fiscal year 2019 with a balanced budget and an unrestricted operating surplus of \$929,182. This marks the third year in a row that Palm Beach Opera has achieved an operating surplus while expanding its programs at the same time. Palm Beach Opera continues to maintain a robust balance sheet with a year-over-year increase in net assets of \$3.4 million.

As the Co-Producer Society continued to build excitement and interest in donor engagement, fiscal year 2019 saw substantial growth in individual giving with over \$1.1 million in new and increased donations over fiscal year 2018. Fiscal 2019 ticket sales surpassed the prior three years' sales numbers, and overall earned revenue has increased steadily each season for the past four years.

In pursuance of Palm Beach Opera's commitment to building a secure and stable financial future, \$800,000 was added to the opera's Board designated reserve fund, bringing it to a total of \$838,499 by the end of fiscal year 2019, in addition to the \$1.2MM endowment fund.

For a complete copy of our audited financial reports for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, please visit **pbopera.org/reporting.**

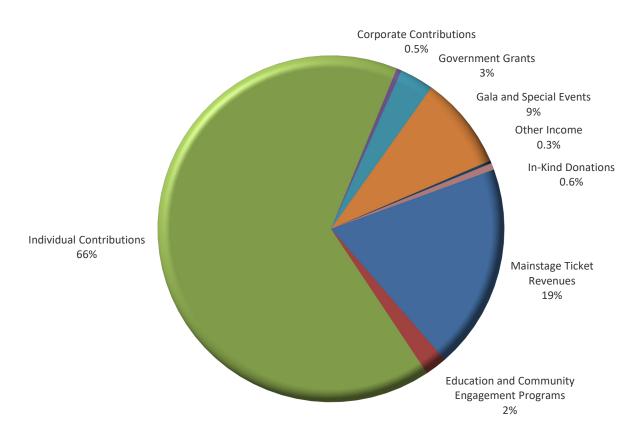


Financials continued

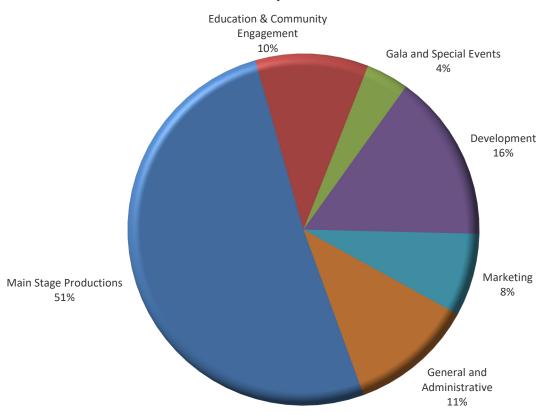
2018-2019 Operating Revenue	
Main Stage Productions	\$1,279,604
Education and Community Engagement Programs	\$134,871
Individual and Foundation Contributions	\$4,372,479
Corporate Contributions	\$30,450
Government Grants	\$211,241
Gala and Special Events	\$582,480
Other Income	\$16,949
In-Kind Donations	\$42,189
Total Income	\$6,670,263
2018-2019 Operating Expenses	
Main Stage Productions	\$2,935,647
Education & Community Engagement	\$596,859
Gala and Special Events	\$225,497
Development	\$889,156
Marketing	\$436,640
General and Administrative	\$657,282
General and Administrative	7037,202
Total Expenses	\$5,741,081
Net Operating Surplus	\$929,182
Statement of Financial Position	
As of May 31, 2019	
<u>Total Assets</u>	\$6,759,636
Total Liabilities	\$713,638
Board Designated Operating Reserve	\$838,499
Undesignated Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$283,782
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	\$4,923,717
Total Net Assets	\$6,045,998
Statement of Activities	
As of May 31, 2019	
Revenues	
Total Earned Revenue	\$1,414,475
Total Contributed Revenue	\$7,732,211
Total Revenue	\$9,146,686
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Expenses	
Program Services	\$3,758,003
Development	\$889,156
General & Administrative	\$1,093,922
Total Expenses	\$5,741,081
Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$3,405,60 <u>5</u>

Financials continued

Revenues



Expenses



PALM BEACH OPERA

Board of Directors 2018-2019 Season

OFFICERS

Dennis K. Williams, Chairman
Nathan Leventhal, President
Jeffrey H. Alderton, Vice President
Gladys Benenson, Vice President
William G. Brown, Vice President
Sanford H. Fisher, Vice President
David Genser, Vice President
Charles Gottesman, Vice President
Dr. Marsha Laufer, Vice President
Ari Rifkin, Vice President
Peter A. Hoffman, Secretary & Treasurer

LIFETIME GRAND PATRONS

Gladys Benenson Ronnie Isenberg Mary M. Montgomery

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sanford M. Baklor
Dr. Robert Biscup
David Brodsky
Annette Y. Friedland
Ann Fromer
Paul A. Goldner
Ronnie Isenberg
Florence Kaufman
Ingrid Kosowsky
John J. Pohanka
Marc Solomon
Ed Streim

EMERITI

Hans D. Baumann Dr. Flizabeth Bowden Claire Chasanoff* Rita Denerstein John A. Domenico Leon Fassler* Arlette Gordon **Chuck Hardwick** Dr. David I. Kosowsky* Howard Lester* Virginia Longo Charlotte Miller Sunny Miller Mary M. Montgomery Robert M. Montgomery* Helen K. Persson* M. Mac Schwebel* Muriel Shapiro* Reneé Silvester* Barbara Weimer Sy Ziv*

^{*} In Memoriam

PALM BEACH OPERA

Administrative Staff 2018-2019 Season

DANIEL BIAGGI

General Director

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

David Walker, Managing Director
Natalie Parker, Individual & Planned Giving Manager
Alexandra Richter, Individual Giving & Grants Manager
Loren Varvarigos, Special Events & Corporate Relations Manager
Rick Zullo, Marketing & PR Manager
James Clements, Education & Community Engagement Manager
Jennifer Isola, Audience Services Manager
Adina Antonucci, Marketing & PR Associate Manager
Abbey Ward, Education & Community Engagement Associate
Dennis Perry, Audience Servies Associate
Ann Baskind, Guild & Patron Relations Liasion

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Joe Cremona, *Director of Finance & Administration* Stephanie Troughton, *Office Manager*

ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION

Scott Guzielek, Director of Artistic Operations
David Stern, Chief Conductor
Jeff Bruckerhoff, Director of Production
James Barbato, Assistant Director of Artistic Operations
Greg Ritchey, Associate Conductor and Chorus Master
Timothy Cheung, Head Coach, Benenson Young Artist Program and Bailey Apprentice Artist Program