SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA HOSTS FREE COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 10:30 A.M.—2:30 P.M.
WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE

Onstage Musical Demonstrations; Sing-Alongs with the Adler Fellows and Opera Chorus; Stage Combat Workshops; Makeup and Costume Demonstrations; Costume Photo Booth; Family Activities Including Prop-Making and Costume Crafts, Scavenger Hunt and More!

Festivities Include Off The Grid Food Trucks and Opera House Outdoor Beer/Wine Garden

Scenes from San Francisco Opera's 2012 Community Open House. Photos by Kristen Loken.

San Francisco, CA (October 22, 2013) – San Francisco Opera hosts its second Community Open House at the War Memorial Opera House on Saturday, November 9, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Open House is free to the public and will feature events and activities for all ages.

This special community event is structured for individuals and families who have a curiosity about opera and are interested in learning more about the world of opera, including production and artistic elements, for anyone who wants to have an up-close opportunity to experience this grand art form deconstructed. The Community Open House also provides an opportunity to explore the historic War Memorial Opera House, which opened on October 15, 1932. Last year, over 4,000 people attended the inaugural Community Open House.

The 2013 Open House will feature onstage musical demonstrations including highlights from Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra conducted by Resident Conductor Giuseppe Finzi and vocal selections (sung in English) featuring Adler Fellows Laura Krumm and Joo Won Kang. The San Francisco Opera Chorus, led by Chorus Director Ian Robertson, is also featured in an onstage musical demonstration.

Activities include sing-alongs with the San Francisco Opera Chorus and San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows; stage combat workshops; costume, wig and makeup demonstrations; a costume photo booth; an opportunity to meet San Francisco Opera General Director David Gockley; and family activities throughout the opera house lobbies including a scavenger hunt, prop-making, costume crafts, and more, with workshops designed for both adults and families. Exhibits including costume displays will also be featured, and attendees can enter to win tickets to San Francisco Opera's *The Barber of Seville* or *The Barber of Seville for Families*. While attendees of all ages are welcome throughout the day, activities during the morning session (beginning at 10:30 a.m.) will be geared mainly toward families and the afternoon session (beginning at 12 p.m.) will provide more opportunities for adult patrons.

Food and refreshments available during the event include a selection of Off The Grid food trucks as well as snack/light fare concessions in the War Memorial Opera House lobbies. In addition, a beer/wine garden in the outdoor Loggia (Grand Tier level) of the Opera House will be open beginning at 12 p.m.

Now celebrating its 91st Season, San Francisco Opera commemorates the bicentennial births of Giuseppe Verdi and Richard Wagner with productions of Verdi's *Falstaff* (October 8—November 2), Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman* (October 22—November 15), and a once-in-a-lifetime performance of Verdi's choral masterpiece *Messa da Requiem* (October 25) featuring the combined orchestras and choruses of San Francisco Opera and Italy's renowned Real Teatro di San Carlo of Naples conducted by Nicola Luisotti, music director of both companies. The current season is also highlighted by a new production of Gioachino Rossini's beloved *The Barber of Seville* (November 13—December 1) and two special performances of *The Barber of Seville for Families* (November 24 & 30). For more information about San Francisco Opera's 2013-14 Season, visit sfopera.com.

San Francisco Opera's Community Open House is made possible, in part, by Chevron. The Open House received funding from OPERA America's Building Opera Audiences Grant Program, generously supported by the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

San Francisco Opera's November 9 Community Open House is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required, however registering online at sfopera.com/openhouse will enter you in a random drawing to win tickets to San Francisco Opera's *The Barber of Seville* or *The Barber of Seville for Families.*

Food and refreshments available during the event include a selection of Off The Grid food trucks and food and refreshment concessions in the War Memorial Opera House lobbies. In addition, a beer/wine garden in the outdoor Loggia of the Opera House will be open beginning at 12 p.m. The San Francisco Opera Shop will also be open. For more information, visit sfopera.com/openhouse or call San Francisco Opera at (415) 864-3330.

The War Memorial Opera House is located at 301 Van Ness Avenue at Grove Street in San Francisco. Patrons are encouraged to use public transportation to attend San Francisco Opera events. The War Memorial Opera House is within walking distance of the Civic Center BART station and near numerous bus lines, including 5, 21, 47, 49 and the F Market Street. For more public transportation information, visit bart.gov and sfmuni.com.

- SFO -

For further press information or to obtain San Francisco Opera Community Open House–related photographs, please visit sfopera.com/press or contact:

Jon Finck (415) 565-6472 / jfinck@sfopera.com
Julia Inouye (415) 565-6430 / jinouye@sfopera.com
Robin Freeman (415) 565-6451 / rfreeman@sfopera.com
Gelane Pearson (415) 565-6470 / gpearson@sfopera.com