

EDUCATION PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

opera in the classroom

K-12 SCHOOL

Opera Arts Resources in Action (ARIA) is San Francisco Opera's suite of K-12 education programs that integrate learning about opera into the classroom. Opera ARIA programs feature an extended collaboration between educators and Opera teaching artists, a high level of flexibility and choice for the educators including customized lesson plans, and comprehensive professional development.

- **Network** – ARIA's signature program provides K-8 classes with in-depth opera education over the course of a semester or more. Classes learn about the operatic art form, study a specific opera prior to seeing a final dress rehearsal of the work in the War Memorial Opera House, then produce their own mini-opera.
- **Residency** – K-8 educators choose to concentrate on one element of opera (story, theater, music, or visual arts) and have four to twelve classroom visits with an Opera teaching artist.
- **Practicing Everyday Arts Knowledge (PEAK)** - Matches the multi-disciplinary character of opera with the multi-subject nature of high schools (Grade 9-12), partnered with the study of a specific opera. A teaching artist visits the classroom between four and twelve times.
- **Professional Development for Educators (PD) and Dress Rehearsals** – PD sessions instruct Grade 3-12 and University educators on how to prepare their students for attendance at a San Francisco Opera final dress rehearsal or movie.

UNIVERSITIES

- **University Programs**— Partnerships with universities and professors that foster connections between an opera and coursework.

lifelong learning at the opera

ADULTS

- **Overture Workshops** – These interactive classes explore how opera is produced and are offered as a four-session course and as individual classes.
- **Pre-Opera Talks** – 25 minute lectures introduce patrons to an opera's story, characters and music 55 minutes prior to each performance at the War Memorial Opera House and prior to movie screenings at the Kabuki Theater.
- **Symposia and Partner Lectures** – Symposia are presented when rare opera experiences, like the RING Cycle or world-premieres, are produced. On these occasions, community partners often also present lectures/events in collaboration with the Education Department.
- **Senior Lectures & Dress Rehearsals** – Launched in 2013, this pilot program presents lectures about a specific opera at local, underserved senior centers. Attendees are then invited to watch the final dress rehearsal of that opera.

FAMILIES & COMMUNITY

- **Family Workshops** – Interactive workshops precede family-friendly opera performances or movie screenings. They introduce participants of all ages to the opera they are about to see through interactive activities such as staging scenes and singing melodies.
- **Family Activities** – Active opera-related projects that occur at family-friendly simulcasts or Open House-type events.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

- **Family Movies** — Condensed "Opera in an Hour" versions of SFO productions created by the SFO Media Suite for use in ARIA programs and family events. Opera titles include: *The Magic Flute*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Girl of the Golden West*, and *Carmen*.
- **Web content** – Extensive online resource materials are created for each student dress rehearsal. Educators use the resources, including curriculum connections, program articles, production photos, and audio clips, to prepare their students to see the opera.

