GENERAL OPERA RESOURCES

Books

A Young Person’s Guide to the Opera
Authors: Anita Ganeri, Nicola Barber. Editorial: This book features bright color photos and a dynamic layout that is ideal for readers who are after a more informal, friendly approach to the subject. Publisher: Harcourt, Inc. 2001.

Brundibar
Author: Tony Kushner. Illustrator: Maurice Sendak. Editorial: New York Times Best Illustrated Books Award. Based on a Czech opera that was performed 55 times by children in Terezin, a Nazi concentration camp, Brundibar is an odd, urgent little tale of a brother and sister who are desperately trying to get their hands on some milk for their sick mother. Reading Level: Ages 4-8. Publisher: Hyperion Book CH. 2003.

Bravo! Brava! A Night at the Opera: Behind the Scenes with Composers, Cast, and Crew

Can You Hear It?
Author: Dr. William Lach. Editorial: This visual and aural feast invites parents, educators, and young listeners to “listen and look” at 13 examples of pictorial music and visual masterpieces. The introduction prepares readers with an explanation of the connections between composers’ notes and art images. Reading Level: Ages 4-8. Publisher: Abrams Books for Young Readers. 2006.

The Dog Who Sang at the Opera

Getting Opera: A Guide for the Cultured but Confused
Author: Matt Dobkin. Editorial: Dobkin, former classical music editor of Time Out New York magazine, is a young, hip writer who, in this wonderfully engaging and enlightening guide to appreciating opera, specifically addresses his peers – “educated, in [his or her] twenties or thirties, a fan of theater, film, television, and music.” Publisher: Simon and Schuster. 2000.

Opera Cat
The Random House Book of Opera Stories

Author: Adèle Geras. Editorial: Geras has succeeded in capsulizing the basic plots of eight operas that have the potential to interest a young audience. She has chosen those that are based on familiar stories or that include fantasy, magic, and spectacle. Aida, Carmen, Hansel and Gretel, and The Love for Three Oranges are among the selections. Publisher: Random House. 1997.

Sing Me a Story: The Metropolitan Opera's Book of Opera Stories for Children

Author: Jane Rosenberg. Introduction: Luciano Pavarotti. Editorial: The text and illustrations exude the glamour, passion and lyricism of opera… In this vibrantly illustrated collection, 15 thrilling opera stories are brought to children in a most enjoyable way. Reading Level: Young Adult. Publisher: Thames & Hudson. 1996.

Story of the Orchestra: Listen While You Learn About the Instruments, the Music and the Composers Who Wrote the Music!


Stories from the Opera

Author: Husain Shahrukh. Illustrator: James Mayhew. Editorial: Let this book once and for all dispel any notions that children will not like opera. As this collection demonstrates, beneath that ornate and unfamiliar music are stories of fantasy, romance and suspense that have enchanted young and old for centuries. Reading level: Ages 9-12. Publisher: Barefoot Books. 2007.

Films/DVDs

Hansel and Gretel: An Opera Fantasy


In the Shadow of the Stars


Rachel Portman - The Little Prince

Actors: Teddy Tahu Rhodes, Joseph McManners, Mairead Carlin. Directors: Francesca Zambello. Editorial: Based on Antoine de Saint-Exupery's “Le Petit Prince," this is a remarkable staged version of the beautiful story, with music by Rachel Portman, who is more known for her film scores (she was awarded an Oscar for “Emma”), and a libretto by Nicholas Wright. Language: English. BBC Concert Opera. 2005.
Websites

- **San Francisco Opera**
  sfopera.com

- **San Francisco Opera Archive**
  http://archive.sfopera.com

- **All About Opera**
  allaboutopera.com
  (a collection of opera resources on the web)

- **The Aria Database**
  aria-database.com

- **The Metropolitan Opera**
  operainfo.org
  (International Radio Broadcast Information Center)

- **New York City Opera – Resource Center**
  nycopera.org

- **New York Times – Inside the Metropolitan’s Stage**
  http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2013/03/21/magazine/metropolitan-opera-stage.html?ref=magazine&_r=0

- **Opera America**
  operaamerica.org
  (National service organization based in New York supports opera and the musical arts internationally with education and awareness programs.)

- **Opera Glass**
  opera.stanford.edu

- **Opera Web**
  oper.it/operaweb/en/home.html
  (Ticket information)

- **Royal Opera House: The Opera Machine**
  http://www.roh.org.uk/opera-machine
  (*The Opera Machine* presents an extraordinary multi-angled view of the intricate theatrical process behind the scenes during a performance.)

- **San Francisco Symphony**
  (SFS Kids, instruments of the orchestra)

- **Opera America**
  http://www.operaamerica.org/content/Audiences/operaStaff.aspx
  (Resources for opera education staff)

- **Opera Chic**
  http://operachic.typepad.com/opera_chic/

*Sources: amazon.com, imdb.com*