



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Lyric Opera of Kansas City Offers Youth Opera Camp

KANSAS CITY, MO (July 24, 2012)- The Lyric Opera of Kansas City invites area children ages 9-18 to take part in the Company's annual summer youth camp Monday, July 30 through Friday, August 10. The camp will meet Monday-Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the new Lyric Opera Production Arts building located at 712 E 18th St. (at the corner of 18th and Charlotte in Kansas City, Missouri). This year, we will be celebrating 20 years of Educational productions.

Participants will learn many facets of opera while taking part in activities, visits from opera guests and workshops led by stage director Linda Ade Brand. Workshops will explore the areas of vocal technique, dramatizing, story theatre technique and proper characterization. Activities will be focused around the time period of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* as students study in-depth the music of this opera. Additionally, campers will perform a full choral recital and a 40-minute family original opera, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' Spelling Bee*. On August 10, families and friends are invited to a potluck luncheon and camp performance at the Opera Center.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' Spelling Bee is an adaptation of the classic children's fairy tale with a modern twist by Joe Winans and Paula Winans. It uses musical themes from great opera composers, including Puccini, Verdi, Bizet, Gilbert and Sullivan, Mozart and Rossini. This opera addresses the importance of friendship and love of reading books, and contains a strong anti-bullying message.

"Opera camp is an opportunity for young people of all ages to experience the music and drama of opera in a stimulating and fun setting." Director of Education, **Paula Winans** notes. "Our campers will learn to sing music from *Madama Butterfly*, as well as work

with professional opera singers, designers and directors to perform *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' Spelling Bee*. Best of all, they'll leave camp with a love for a wonderful new art form and with a lot of new friendships.”

The 55th season of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City will open with *Madama Butterfly*, September 15, 19, 21, 23, 2012; followed by *Il Trovatore*, November 3, 7, 9, 11, 2012; *The Flying Dutchman*, March 2, 6, 8, 10, 2013; and *The Mikado* April 20, 24, 26, 28, 2013. For season tickets, visit www.kcopera.org.

Please direct all media inquires to Ellen McDonald, 816-444-0052.

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