



OPERA
FOR THE YOUNG

50th Anniversary

ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

Announcing an opportunity to support the future of Opera for the Young's programs and ignite enthusiasm for opera and the arts in children.



"OFTY provides an exceptional chance for my students to experience the fine arts, specifically the medium of opera, up close and personal. The idea of having an opera every year has become a part of the school community and the expectation is there for the future."

Neva Kimball,
Carollton Elementary Music Teacher



**REACHING STUDENTS
MEANS CONNECTING
WITH EDUCATORS**

Our staff works with teachers to provide a valuable arts experience tailored to each school's specific needs.



Help Ensure Opera Education....

"You never know what kind of influence your organization will have on some students," wrote Nick Ehlinger, the music teacher at River Valley Elementary in Spring Green. "My daughter was in an OFTY *Pirates* production long ago in elementary school... she's now in her second year of graduate school in Yale's opera program."

This kind of inspiration is not a singular occurrence. Many OFTY professionals fondly recall singing in one of our performances as a young chorister, and treasure that experience as their introduction to musical story-telling. Jeni Houser (left) remembers a long-ago performance in Stoughton as her earliest exposure to opera. Fast forward to January 2020 when Jeni made her Metropolitan Opera debut singing Mozart's *Queen of the Night*.

OFTY ensures that all students are introduced to opera and the arts through extensive pre-performance teaching materials and an interactive professional performance. Over these past 50 years, we have become a leader in arts education and are considered the nation's gold standard in opera outreach. 50 years is just the beginning of our story.

The Wartmanns' Dream

William and Joyce Wartmann's gift of \$100,000 established a fund to be held in perpetuity by OFTY. Their dream was for other generous donors to step forward with the goal of creating a million dollar fund that would provide **\$50,000** in revenue each year to OFTY.

You can be a part of this endeavor with a single or multi-year pledge to help OFTY raise **\$800,000**. Annual earnings will support basic program services without touching the endowment, as well as provide a reserve fund to provide security in the event of hardship.



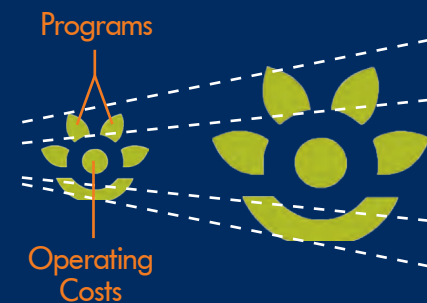
IGNITING A LOVE FOR THE ARTS...THROUGH OPERA

OFTY provides a positive introduction to the arts which is crucial to setting young people on a path to personal success, inspiring them toward careers that provide important services for all.

- Students with an education rich in the arts have higher GPAs and standardized test scores and lower drop-out rates - benefits reaped by students regardless of socio-economic status.
- Creativity is among the top five applied skills sought by business leaders... The arts - music, creative writing, drawing, dance - provide skills sought by employers of the 3rd millennium.
- Nearly one-half of the nation's healthcare institutions provide arts programming for patients, families, and even staff...because of their healing benefits to patients - shorter hospital stays, better pain management and less medication.

The endowment offers the security of knowing we are able to meet new challenges by providing the financial flexibility of a self-sustaining income stream.

Operating costs are at the heart of our mission. Investing in them allows our programs to grow.



A gift for the endowment is an investment in the heart of Opera for the Young's mission.



Make it
your legacy
to provide
children with
the opportunity
to learn
appreciation
of the arts
through opera.

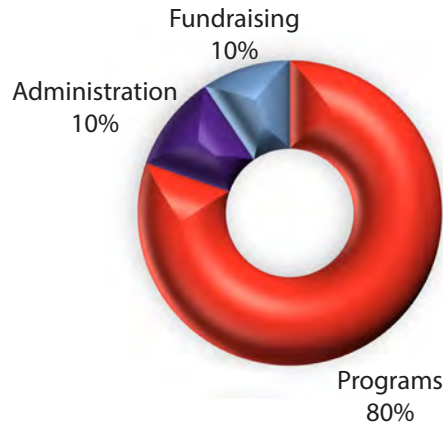
About Opera for the Young

Opera for the Young (OFTY) is a preeminent producer and presenter of opera for children in the United States, and since 1970 **we have introduced more than 2.5 million children to opera.** OFTY is unique - children's opera is our sole focus. The 2019/20 production, *The Pirates of Penzance*, will be an introduction to opera for over 75,000 children.

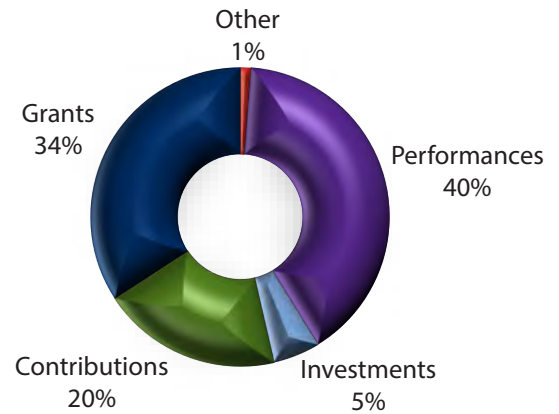
Opera for the Young® brings live, professional opera to elementary audiences with Fall and Spring tours. **Students perform onstage in chorus and cameo roles, acting and singing for their peers right alongside OFTY's professional artists.** All productions are fully staged, sung in English and adapted for kids.

Opera for the Young® keeps school performances affordable through fundraising. **We offer our programming to schools at 40% of the actual cost** through the generous support of individuals, corporations, foundations and government funding.

2018/19 EXPENSES



2018/19 INCOME



Opera for the Young...for the future

Gifts beyond annual support are vitally important, and giving to the endowment is an effective way to provide ongoing support for the heart of Opera for the Young's mission.

If you are 70½ years of age, or older, consider making a tax-free required minimum distribution from your retirement account. Stock gifts can also have tax advantages. Contact your financial advisor for details. For more information about ways to contribute, contact Saira Frank by phone at 608-277-9560 or by email at: saira@ofty.org.

