



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Opera Colorado to Hold Chorus Auditions for 2019-20 Season

Auditions take place by appointment on Saturday, April 6

Denver (March 8, 2019) — Opera Colorado invites local singers to participate in upcoming chorus auditions for its 2019-20 season. Productions in the season include Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* and Puccini's *Tosca*. Performances for all three productions will be presented at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House at Denver Performing Arts Complex in downtown Denver.

Chorus auditions will take place on Saturday, April 6, from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Opera Colorado Opera Center, located at 4121 S Navajo Street, Ste 100, in Englewood. Auditions will be sung for Opera Colorado Chorus Master Sahar Nouri.

Opera Colorado will audition male and female voice types, with preference given to tenor and baritones/basses. Singers should prepare two selections from art song or opera repertoire to perform at the audition; it is preferred that one of these is in a foreign language. Repertoire should be memorized. A pianist will be provided.

Singers selected for participation in one or more production will need to be available for weekday evening and weekend rehearsals. The start and end dates of rehearsals for each production are indicated below. Chorus members are compensated with a modest stipend and two complimentary tickets to the production's final dress rehearsal, and also receive an exclusive discount on performance tickets.

REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE DATES

***The Barber of Seville* Chorus** | September 27 – November 10, 2019

***Pagliacci* Chorus** | February 3 – March 1, 2020

***Tosca* Chorus** | March 30 – May 10, 2020

CHORUS AUDITION DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 6, 2019

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location: Opera Colorado Opera Center, 4121 S Navajo Street, Ste 100, Englewood, CO 80110

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN AUDITION: For more information or to schedule an audition, please email auditions@operacolorado.org and include an updated resume with your audition request. Requests for auditions are on a first-come, first-served basis.

ABOUT CHORUS MASTER SAHAR NOURI: In 2019-20, Iranian pianist and conductor Sahar Nouri returns to Opera Colorado for a third season serving as the company's chorus master, assistant conductor, and pianist coach. Previously, Nouri has worked at Houston Grand Opera, Dallas Opera, Glimmerglass Festival, Opera North Carolina, Utah Opera, Aspen Opera Center, Opera Steamboat, Merola Opera, and Opera in the Heights. A graduate of the prestigious Houston Grand Opera Studio, Nouri's repertoire includes numerous classic operas as well as world premieres of *Prince of Players* (Carlisle Floyd), *O Columbia!* (Gregory Spears), *Steal a Pencil for Me* (Gerald Cohen), and *Today It Rains* (Laura Kaminsky). A multi-lingual, Nouri has done studies in the Czech Republic, Italy, and Austria, and is frequently in demand as a language coach and recitalist.

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ABOUT OPERA COLORADO

Opera Colorado has served as a cornerstone of Denver's cultural community since 1981. In addition to its mainstage performances at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House each season, the company affirms its commitment to the future of the art form by annually presenting new works; with its nationally recognized Artist in Residence Program that trains the next generation of opera performers; and by each year reaching more than 40,000 students and adults through its many education and community engagement programs throughout the Rocky Mountain region. The 2018-19 season features Verdi's *La Traviata* (November 2018) and Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* (May 2019) at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, and a sold-out double-bill of the one-act operas *After Life* and *Josephine* by Tom Cipullo at the Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art (February/March 2019). The upcoming 2019-20 season will include Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* and Puccini's *Tosca*, all at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House. For more information, visit www.operacolorado.org.