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## **Opera Colorado Announces Details for Digital Programming and Launches OC Amplified Resilience Fund**

*Offerings include two free digital concerts produced in partnership with Rocky Mountain Public Media and pay-what-you-can digital education programs for schools and families*

**Denver, CO (January 13, 2021)**—Opera Colorado is pleased to announce **details for upcoming digital programming**, beginning in March, under its Opera Colorado Amplified series, including two free digital concerts—*The Promise of Living* and *April in Paris*—and educational programs for schools, families, and community organizations—*Storytime Sessions*, *Brain Breaks*, and *Arias & Ensembles*.

As part of an exciting new relationship, **Opera Colorado has partnered with Rocky Mountain Public Media** for the production and distribution of these programs. In addition to lending their production resources and expertise to *The Promise of Living* and *April in Paris*, Rocky Mountain Public Media will broadcast select education programs produced by Opera Colorado to its audiences on RMPBS and PBS Kids.

“Rocky Mountain PBS and Opera Colorado both strive to strengthen the civic fabric of Colorado through our work, so this partnership is a natural fit,” said Amanda Mountain, President & CEO of Rocky Mountain Public Media.

“We at Opera Colorado are extremely excited to work with world-class artists and bring unique, accessible, digital programming to the Colorado community and beyond. During these challenging times, we all need musical moments to look forward to, to lift us up and help us to better understand the world around us. We are honored to partner with our friends at Rocky Mountain Public Media to bring these concerts to life and share them with as many people as possible,” said Greg Carpenter, General & Artistic Director.

Opera Colorado is also launching the **Opera Colorado Amplified Resilience Fund**, established to raise the \$200,000 needed to produce this new digital content and execute creative, in-person programming when it is safe to do so. Donations can be made at [operacolorado.org/resilience](http://operacolorado.org/resilience).

Here’s what you need to know about Opera Colorado’s digital programming:

### **The Promise of Living** Free Digital Concert

**Dates:** Premieres March 4 and is available on demand through March 18

**Description:** Embark on a journey through American history that highlights the challenges, opportunities, and successes of the Black experience. Laquita Mitchell and Nmon Ford are the creators and stars of this

multimedia program featuring pianist Israel Gursky, Denver's own Davis Contemporary Dance, poetry, and music by Copland, De Falla, Price, and more. Explore enslavement and exodus, war and rebellion, and the promise of the American dream—the promise of living—in this unique digital concert featuring original choreography by Terrell Davis.

**Reservations:** This program is free, but audiences must register. Registrations are available now on [operacolorado.org/promise](http://operacolorado.org/promise).

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### **April in Paris**

Free Digital Concert

**Dates:** Premieres April 15 and is available on demand through April 29

**Description:** Tune in to this television-style digital program celebrating all things French! *April in Paris*, starring Catherine Cook with pianist Sahar Nouri and directed by David Lefkovich, features three whimsical episodes inspired by the Golden Age of television. You'll see Cook become Julia Child in Lee Hoiby's *Bon Appetit!*, transform into a Paris cabaret singer for a performance of delightful French songs, and more surprises.

**Reservations:** This program is free, but audiences must register. Registrations are available now on [operacolorado.org/april](http://operacolorado.org/april).

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### **Storytime Sessions**

Digital Performance Series

**Dates:** Available on demand January 25 through May 31. Rocky Mountain Public Media broadcast information will be available at a later date.

**Description:** Step inside Bravo Books, where stories come to life! There you will meet the Finley brothers, the owners of the bookstore. They know just how magical a story can be and share that knowledge with anyone who may drop in. Each character pulls you into the pages of some of the most beloved tales and tunes from opera, musical theatre, and more. These two 30-minute “chapters” that can be enjoyed together or individually are suitable for all ages, and specially tailored towards students.

**Reservations:** These programs are pay what you can. Purchase access at [operacolorado.org/storytime](http://operacolorado.org/storytime).

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### **Brain Breaks**

Digital Activity Series

**Dates:** Available on demand February 15 through May 31. Rocky Mountain Public Media broadcast information will be available at a later date.

**Description:** Let's be honest, school feels different this year and everything seems more challenging. Sometimes you just need to take a break, take a breath and get creative. That's where Brain Breaks come in. These short, interactive sessions are designed get you up and moving, learning about music and the arts. Available as a series of ten short episodes, Brain Breaks will spark creative thinking and set the tone for the rest of your day.

**Reservations:** These programs are pay what you can. Purchase access at [operacolorado.org/brainbreaks](http://operacolorado.org/brainbreaks).

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### **Arias & Ensembles** Digital Concert Series

**Dates:** Available on demand March 15 through May 31

**Description:** This series of concerts are led by an emcee and conducted virtually for the safety of the audience and performers. In Arias & Ensembles, selections are performed as they would be on stage, but without the use of sets and costumes, creating an intimate and engaging experience. Featuring the Opera Colorado Artists in Residence, these delightful programs include solo and ensemble pieces from opera, musical theatre, and more.

**Reservations:** These programs are pay what you can. Purchase access at [operacolorado.org/arias](http://operacolorado.org/arias).

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Details regarding in-person OC Amplified programs, including the Chamber Music Series, *Fiestas con Opera Colorado*, *An Afternoon of American Song*, and other performances by our Artists in Residence will be announced this spring as COVID-19 guidelines develop.

For more information about current and future programming at Opera Colorado, visit [operacolorado.org](http://operacolorado.org) or contact Jennifer Colgan at [jcolgan@operacolorado.org](mailto:jcolgan@operacolorado.org) or 303.468.2025.

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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 45,000 students and adults through its many education and community engagement programs throughout the Rocky Mountain region. For more information, visit [operacolorado.org](http://operacolorado.org).

### **ABOUT ROCKY MOUNTAIN PUBLIC MEDIA**

Rocky Mountain Public Media (RMPM) is Colorado's largest statewide, member-supported, multimedia organization and the parent company of Rocky Mountain PBS (RMPBS), KUVO JAZZ and THE DROP. Rocky Mountain Public Media has more than 90,000 members representing every county in Colorado and reaches 98 percent of the state's citizens through television, radio and digital platforms. A non-commercial media organization by and for the people of Colorado, RMPM creates high-quality local and multimedia content through Regional Innovation Centers in Denver, Colorado Springs, Durango, Grand Junction and Pueblo. RMPBS, started in Denver in 1956 as Colorado's first public television station, is now a statewide television network, with stations in Denver (KRMA), Pueblo/Colorado Springs (KTSC), Steamboat Springs (KRMZ), Grand Junction (KRMJ) and Durango (KRMU). In its 35th year, KUVO JAZZ broadcasts jazz, blues, and a lineup of locally produced diverse music programs. Launched in 2019, THE DROP is the People's Station for R&B and Hip Hop.

In 2020, RMPM relocated to the Buell Public Media Center. For information about the Center, RMPBS, KUVO JAZZ and THE DROP, visit the [media kit](#).