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Pittsburgh Opera announces free 'Pull Back the Curtain' weekly Livestreams

PITTSBURGH, PA

Beginning Thursday, July 23rd at 4:00PM Eastern time, <u>Pittsburgh Opera</u> will begin Livestreaming a free weekly web series called 'Pull Back the Curtain.'

The Livestreams will be hosted by Pittsburgh Opera Manager of Artistic Operations Rob Boldin. Each week, Rob will interview special guests from the opera community – singers, musicians, stage directors, and more. The lively discussions will give viewers behind-the-scenes looks at what it's like being an opera singer, how operas are made, and why opera has thrived for centuries.

Each 'Pull Back the Curtain' episode will last between approximately 15-30 minutes, and be broadcast on Pittsburgh Opera's <u>Facebook page</u>. Having a Facebook account in not required for watching, but is required for commenting or submitting questions.

Each episode will be posted to three locations after its broadcast:

- A special webpage, pittsburghopera.org/curtain
- The Pull Back the Curtain playlist on Pittsburgh Opera's YouTube Channel
- Pittsburgh Opera's Facebook page

"We are excited to provide these engaging weekly events" says Pittsburgh Opera General Director Christopher Hahn. "They'll give our audience free opportunities to go backstage, figuratively speaking, and hear candid conversation with some of the many people it takes to make opera happen."

The Livestreams are free, but viewers will have the opportunity to make free-will donations via Pittsburgh Opera's new 'one-click giving' platform at pittsburghopera.org/givenow.

For the inaugural episode, Rob will be joined by former Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists <u>Brian Vu</u> and <u>Ashley Fabian</u>. Fabian, a lyric soprano who was a Resident Artist from 2017-2019, was a winner of the 2020 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in her home district of South Carolina. Vu, a baritone who was a Resident Artist from 2015-2017, made his debut with the Metropolitan Opera last season in *Der Rosenkavalier*.

The series is tentatively scheduled to run until mid-September, with each episode airing Thursday at 4:00PM Eastern unless otherwise noted. Visit pittsburghopera.org/calendar for a current schedule.