

August 26, 2025

Chris Cox, Director of Marketing and Communications

Office: (412) 281-0912, ext. 217; ccox@pittsburghopera.org

Pittsburgh Opera presents romance, broken hearts, free concerts, disco, and more this fall

[Pittsburgh Opera](#) kicks off its 2025–26 season, the company's 87th, with romance, broken hearts, free concerts, disco, and more.

From Puccini's passionate Parisian love story *La Bohème* and the taboo McCarthy-era romance in *Fellow Travelers*, to multiple free concerts and a special disco-themed celebration, Pittsburgh Opera brings world-class entertainment for every taste and budget.

Pittsburgh Opera strives to make opera accessible to all, and whether you prefer intimate concerts or grand spectacles, its autumn events present plenty of avenues to enjoyment.

Fall 2025 Highlights (listed chronologically) include:

[Resident Artist Welcome Party](#)

Squirrel Hill

Sunday, September 14

[Dock Divas](#) (free)

Riverlife's Shore Thing

Tuesday, September 23

[New Guard Summer Salon](#) (free)

Happenstance Cafe

Thursday, September 25, 2025

[Rising Stars Concert](#) (free)

Bitz Opera Factory

Sunday, September 28

[Song Shop Concerts](#) (free)

Bitz Opera Factory

Saturday, October 4, and Saturday, November 22

[Diamond Diva Disco](#), the 70th annual Diamond Horseshoe Celebration

Bitz Opera Factory

Saturday, October 11

[La Bohème](#)

Benedum Center for the Performing Arts

October 18, 21, 24, 26

[Fellow Travelers](#)

Byham Theater

November 14, 15, 16

Detailed information about each opera, concert, event, and more can be found on the following pages.

La Bohème

Music by [Giacomo Puccini](#); libretto by [Luigi Illica](#) and [Giuseppe Giacosa](#)

At the [Benedum Center for the Performing Arts](#)

Sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage

- *Last performed by Pittsburgh Opera in [2019](#)*

Performances

- Saturday October 18, 2025 * 7:00 PM
- Tuesday, October 21, 2025 * 7:00 PM
- Friday, October 24, 2025 * 7:00 PM
- Sunday, October 26, 2025 * 2:00 PM

Overview

When a candle flickers, love sparks.

Set against the backdrop of 1830's Paris, *La Bohème* follows four impoverished artists surviving with little more than friendship, passion, and their love for art.

When Rodolfo, a poet, and Mimì, a young seamstress, meet, the two are drawn into a tumultuous and passionate affair with a love that can only be broken by death.

La Bohème will make you laugh, and bring you to tears, with its timeless story and captivating music. Emotional and dramatic, it's no wonder Puccini's most celebrated opera has transcended the genre, inspiring both a ballet and the Broadway hit musical RENT.

These performances are sponsored in part by generous gifts from The Gailliot Fund and Drs. Athan and Lydia Georgiades.

Cast and Artistic Team

Marcello	Zachary Nelson
Rodolfo	Daniel O'Hearn **
Colline	Alan Williams +
Schaunard	Erik Nordstrom *
Benoit/Alcindoro	Kevin Glavin **
Mimì	Vuvu Mpofu
Musetta	Brittany Olivia Logan +
Parpignol	Logan Wagner **
Child	Pittsburgh Youth Chorister
Prune man	TBA
Customs Officer	TBA
Sergeant	TBA

Conductor	Antony Walker
Stage Director	Kristine McIntyre
Scene Designer	R. Keith Brumley
Scenery and Props for this production constructed by Lyric Opera of Kansas City	
Costumes designed for Utah Symphony Utah Opera by Susan Memmott Allred	
Lighting Designer	Marcus Dilliard
Wig & Make-up Designer	James Geier
Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master	Mark Trawka
Associate Coach/Pianist	James Lesniak
Assistant Stage Director	Dana Kinney *
Stage Manager	Cindy Knight
Assistant Stage Managers	Bee Anderson, Tess Naval

+ Pittsburgh Opera debut

* Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist

** Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Alumnus

Fellow Travelers

Music by Gregory Spears with a libretto by Greg Pierce, based on the novel by Thomas Mallon

At the Byham Theater, downtown Pittsburgh

Sung in English, with supertitles projected above the stage

- *These are the first performances by Pittsburgh Opera*

Performances

- Friday, November 14, 2025 * 7:00 PM
- Saturday, November 15, 2025 * 7:00 PM
- Sunday, November 16, 2025 * 2:00 PM

Overview

The Red Scare, tinted lavender.

At the height of the McCarthy era, naive college graduate Timothy Laughlin comes to Washington eager to join the crusade against communism. But a chance encounter with a handsome State Department official, Hawkins Fuller, leads to Tim's first job—and his first relationship with a man.

Under the threat of increased government scrutiny, this complicated and clandestine affair will put both men's loyalties and convictions to the ultimate test. As the poisonous political climate pollutes their relationship, love becomes a casualty of what it takes to "play the game" in Washington.

Based on Thomas Mallon's 2007 gut-wrenching novel, *Fellow Travelers* was praised as "a near-perfect example of fast-flowing musical drama" by *The New York Times* and is already widely considered a contemporary classic.

Cast and Artistic Team

Timothy Laughlin	<u>Logan Wagner</u> *
Hawkins Fuller	<u>Erik Nordstrom</u> *
Mary Johnson	<u>Shannon Crowley</u> *
Senator Charles E. Potter/General Airlie/Bartender	- <u>Joel Balzun</u> ⁺
Estonian Frank/Interrogator/Senator Joseph McCarthy	- <u>Daniel Teadt</u> **
Potter's Assistant/Bookseller/Party Guest/Technician/French Priest	- <u>Matthew Soibelman</u> *
Tommy McIntyre	<u>Yazid Gray</u> **
Miss Lightfoot	<u>Lauryn Davis</u> *
Lucy	<u>Audrey Welsh</u> *

Conductor	<u>Antony Walker</u>
Stage Director and Concept Designer	<u>Brian Staufenbiel</u> ⁺
Scene & Props Designer	Jacquelyn Scott
Original Costume, Wig & Make-Up Designer	Y. Sharon Peng
Original Lighting Designer	Spense Matubang
Lighting Designer	Todd Nonn
Wig & Make-up Designer	James Geier
Assistant Conductor	<u>Glenn Lewis</u>
Chorus Master	<u>Mark Trawka</u>
Associate Coach/Pianist	<u>James Lesniak</u>
Assistant Stage Director	<u>Dana Kinney</u> *
Stage Manager	Cindy Knight
Assistant Stage Managers	Bee Anderson, Tess Naval

An Opera Parallèle production.

+ Pittsburgh Opera debut
 * Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist
 ** Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist alumnus

Additional Events

[Resident Artist Welcome Party](#)

Squirrel Hill
 Sunday, September 14

Welcome the returning Resident Artists back to Pittsburgh and get to know the new singers, hosted by the FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera. [RSVP online.](#)

[Dock Divas \(free\)](#)

Riverlife's Shore Thing
 Tuesday, September 23

Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artists present a buoyant evening of siren songs, aquatic arias, and freshwater melodies at Riverlife's Shore Thing performance space on the North Side on Tuesday, September 23rd, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM. As the sun sets, enjoy Shore Thing's

menu of Barge Bites and Beer while our Resident Artist singers serenade you with operatic favorites and standards from the American Song Book—the perfect swan song for Summer!

New Guard Summer Salon (free)

Happenstance Café, 3832 Penn Avenue in Lawrenceville
Thursday, September 25, 2025

Join Pittsburgh Opera's New Guard at Happenstance Café for an evening of cocktails, light bites, and a performance by our Resident Artists! Admission is free and complimentary appetizers will be served. A cash bar is offered. [Pre-register](#) and get a free drink ticket at the door!

Diamond Diva Disco

Bitz Opera Factory, [2425 Liberty Avenue](#) in the Strip District
Saturday, October 11

The 70th annual Diamond Horseshoe Celebration kicks off our 2025-26 season. Enjoy good vibes, sip funkadelic refreshments, and boogie the night away at a glittering evening that fuses opera with disco. [Get tickets online](#).

Song Shop Concerts (free)

Bitz Opera Factory
Saturday, October 4, and Saturday, November 22

Pittsburgh Opera's free, informal Song Shop concerts feature the [Resident Artists of Pittsburgh Opera](#). Beginning at 12:00 PM on selected Saturdays, these one-hour performances are free, fun, and open to everyone. Guests are encouraged to bring a friend and bring a lunch. [FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera](#) provide a reception after each Song Shop concert. Themes vary from concert to concert.

Pre-Opera Talks (free)

Ticketholders are invited to attend a Pre-Opera Talk one hour before each performance's curtain at all Pittsburgh Opera performances at the Benedum Center, Byham, and Calvary Episcopal. Learn about the composer, the story, and some juicy details about the opera. These talks are free to all ticketholders.

Meet the Artists (free)

After one performance of each opera, patrons are invited to join [General Director Christopher Hahn](#) immediately following the performance to enjoy lively repartee, as Mr. Hahn interviews the stars of the production. The Fall 2025 Meet the Artists events will be on Tuesday, October 21 (*La Bohème*) and Friday, November 14 (*Fellow Travelers*).

[Rising Stars Concert](#) (free)

Bitz Opera Factory

Sunday, September 28

Rising Stars is the community's first opportunity to meet the incoming [Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists](#). This performance is free and open to everyone. At *Rising Stars*, each Resident Artist singer first performs a selection of his or her own choosing, followed by one chosen by [General Director Christopher Hahn](#) and [Music Director Antony Walker](#). A final aria to conclude the concert is selected by the audience.

WQED BROADCASTS/PREVIEWES

Pittsburgh Opera 2024–25 Season Performances on WQED-FM 89.3 and wqed.org/fm

Pittsburgh Opera, in collaboration with Classical WQED-FM 89.3, will broadcast the 2024–25 season productions, giving listeners an opportunity to enjoy the operas all over again. The broadcasts are at 1:00 PM, unless otherwise noted, on consecutive Saturdays from September 13th through October 11th, 2025.

- ***Tosca*** – Saturday, September 13
- ***Cavalleria Rusticana & Pagliacci*** – Saturday, September 20
- ***Armida*** – Saturday, September 27
- ***Madama Butterfly*** – Saturday, October 4
- ***Woman With Eyes Closed*** – Saturday, October 11

Pittsburgh Opera 2025–26 Previews on WQED-FM 89.3 and wqed.org/fm

Hosted by WQED's Anna Singer, these half-hour previews of each upcoming opera are broadcast twice before each production opens, giving listeners an in-depth introduction to the opera's singers, music, and production. Unless otherwise noted, the Saturday broadcasts are at 12:30PM, and the weeknight broadcasts are at 7:00PM.

- ***La Bohème*** – Saturday, October 11 & Friday, October 17, 2025
- ***Fellow Travelers*** – Saturday, November 8 & Thursday, November 13, 2025

TICKETS

Opus Pass

Pittsburgh Opera's [Opus Pass](#) lets patrons see as many live opera performances as they want all season. For one low monthly price, passholders get a year's worth of unlimited admission to every performance of every opera, subject to availability.

Subscriptions

Subscription packages range from \$35.50 - \$581.

Subscribers enjoy the benefits of:

- The best seats at the best prices

- Easy, flexible, free ticket exchanges
- Discounted reserved parking at Theater Square Garage
- 15% discount on additional single tickets to all operas
- Money-Back Guarantee – if subscribers are not satisfied with their first opera, Pittsburgh Opera will refund the balance of the subscription

Group Tickets

Pittsburgh Opera makes opera accessible to all groups in the Pittsburgh area by providing great discounts and special services to group ticketholders. A group at Pittsburgh Opera can be as few as 6 people! In addition, college and university students, faculty, and staff are eligible for our [Cheap Seats program](#) – see pittsburghopera.org/CheapSeats for details.

For more information about [group ticket services and discounts](#), contact Wendy Parkulo at (412) 281-0912, ext. 213 or groups@pittsburghopera.org.

Single Tickets

[Single tickets](#) are now on sale and start at just \$20. Tickets for kids and teens ages 6–18 are half price. Subscribers save 15% on single ticket purchases beyond what's in their subscription package. For tickets, call (412) 456-6666 or visit opera.culturaldistrict.org.

SPONSORSHIPS

Pittsburgh Opera's season is made possible, onstage and off, by support from all corners of the community. Pittsburgh Opera offers a range of flexible gift options and potential tax benefits for individuals, local businesses, and corporations. Sponsorship opportunities include:

- **Production Sponsorships** – *Help bring a production to life while pulling back the curtain and entertaining clients or friends. Gifts begin at \$10,000.*
- **Resident Artist Sponsorships** – *Support future opera stars while building personal relationships with artists. Gifts begin at \$10,000.*
- **Family Day & Community Programs** – *Underwrite free or low-cost concerts, because everyone deserves access to opera. Gifts begin at \$5,000.*
- **Parties & Events** – *Sponsor Galas, networking events, parties, and happy hours. Gifts begin at \$500.*

True to its mission of accessibility, **Pittsburgh Opera is also debuting Piece by Piece, a new mini-sponsorship program.** With gifts starting at just \$65, patrons can sponsor a detail that matters—such as Mimi's candle, Rodolfo's coat, or even the falling snow in *La Bohème*—and help bring each production to life. It's an approachable, meaningful way for anyone to step into the story.

To learn more about becoming a sponsor, contact Pittsburgh Opera at 412-281-0912 x226 or development@pittsburghopera.org.