



Rigoletto

Music by Giuseppe Verdi
Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave,
based on the play *Le Roi s'Amuse*
by Victor Hugo

Sharp-witted court jester Rigoletto is the philandering Duke's right-hand man, always quick to defend his patron's womanizing and mock his master's victims. But the joke is on Rigoletto.



Orpheus & Eurydice

Music by Christoph Willibald Gluck
Instrumentation by Hector Berlioz
Libretto by Ranieri de' Calzabigi
After the death of his beloved Eurydice, Orpheus vows to plunge into the Underworld itself to bring her back—as long as he does not look at her until they return to the land of the living again.



Partenope

Music by George Frideric Handel
Libretto by Silvio Stampiglia
Three suitors—Arsace, Emilio, and Armindo—all vie for the affection of the captivating Partenope. This playful, Baroque comedy of errors provides more laughs than you can Handel!



Working for the Macbeths

Music by Johanny Navarro
Libretto by Marcus Yi
Florinda is a lady-in-waiting to Lord and Lady Macbeth. After the witches prophesize that she will be the downfall of her new employers, Florinda is determined to fight fate and give the Macbeths a happy ending.



Romeo & Juliet

Music by Charles Gounod
Libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré, Based on the play by William Shakespeare
Shakespeare's tale of star-crossed lovers was destined for the operatic stage. The Montagues and the Capulets have been feuding for centuries. So when Romeo (a Montague) and Juliet (a Capulet) become hopelessly infatuated with each other, their young love starts down a path towards tragedy.

2026–2027

Learn About Opera

Pittsburgh Opera Education Programs

Pittsburgh Opera education programs are for educators, for students, for schools, for adults, and for you!

Join us to learn more about this fascinating art form. We pledge to be a quality educational partner, working to create opportunities for growth, enchantment, and meaningful learning.

Programs for Educators

Workshops for Educators

Our signature program is a unique, fun, and stimulating professional learning opportunity for teachers of all grade levels in all content areas.

Workshop topics include the five 2026–2027

season operas plus additional arts integration materials so that teachers have additional resources to use in their classes. Each workshop is recorded so that participants can attend live or at a later time. We include live presentations and/or performances by guest artists. And, we provide some of the workshop materials in advance for participants to explore at their convenience, so the actual “live” workshop time is short and engaging. We offer a total of six 1.5 hour workshops on Saturday mornings from 10:30 am–12:00 pm via Zoom, with a one hour networking time afterwards, plus one in-person set tour at the Bitz Opera Factory.



Romeo & Juliet Costume renderings by Sarah Bahr for Minnesota Opera

SEASON THEME: Opera Costumes Tell a Story

ZOOM:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|
| #1 | September 26, 2026 | <i>Rigoletto</i> |
| #2 | October 17, 2026 | <i>Orpheus & Eurydice</i> |
| #3 | December 5, 2026 | Costume Research, Design, and Tailoring |
| #4 | January 16, 2027 | <i>Partenope</i> |
| #5 | February 20, 2027 | <i>Working for the Macbeths</i> |
| #6 | March 13, 2027 | <i>Romeo & Juliet</i> |

IN PERSON:

- #7 Sunday, April 4, 2027 *Romeo & Juliet* Set Tour Workshop

Learn how to intersect the opera with classroom curricula in all content areas while networking with teachers from three states, nine intermediate units, and thirteen counties at Workshops for Educators.

Since the workshops and operas are unique each season, some teachers attend year after year.

Opera Academy

A stimulating and intensive program, Opera Academy is a year-long professional learning experience designed to immerse educators into the world of opera. Teachers from all grades and content areas develop lessons to connect the arts to other academic areas and prepare students to attend an opera performance. Opera Academy members receive a full season subscription, seven workshops, and a student performance or Opera Trunk presentation. In return, Opera Academy members document how they use opera in their classes.

Program for Students

Student Matinee for Grades 3–12:

Romeo & Juliet

Presented by Daniel G. and Carole L. Kamin

Tuesday, April 20, 2027 10:15 am–1:00 pm at the Benedum Center

Sung in French with English texts projected above the stage.

Tickets are only \$14 for students and adults.

Shakespeare’s tale of star-crossed lovers was destined for the operatic stage. The Montagues and the Capulets have been feuding for centuries. So when Romeo (a Montague) and Juliet (a Capulet) become infatuated with each other, their love takes a path towards tragedy.

Students will enjoy a complete mainstage performance of Gounod’s sumptuous masterpiece with full orchestra, top-quality singers, and colorful production elements. *Romeo & Juliet* provides rich learning opportunities about music, history, literature, and world languages.

Attend the prerequisite workshop to receive extensive education materials, including a *Study Guide, Lesson Ideas, PowerPoints, and an Arts Discovery Packet.*



Ken Howard for Minnesota Opera

Programs for Schools

Opera Trunks

Opera Trunks are large, colorful steamer trunks on wheels filled with books, costumes, music, and lesson activities—all the materials needed to introduce opera. Trunk package

includes orientation, transportation, one month trunk residency, and a presentation by teaching artists at the residency location. ***If students can't come to the opera, we take the opera to them!***



- ... ***Madama Butterfly Trunk*** features the Japanese culture and Puccini's music.
- ... ***Opera Improv Trunk*** features well-loved operas for students to explore.
- ... ***Carmen Trunk*** features the Roma culture and Bizet's music.
- ... ***Bravi Tutti Trunk*** features behind-the-scenes and opera production elements.
- ... ***Tot Trunk*** features child-friendly operas and activities for PreK–Grade 3 students.

Opera Opportunity Tickets for Grades 7–12

Students and teachers from eligible middle and high schools may purchase reduced-price opera tickets for Pittsburgh Opera performances. Ticket prices range from \$7 to \$15, and are based on a sliding scale according to a school's percentage of free/reduced price lunch. Teachers attend a workshop and get materials to prepare students. Some schools have even created Opera Clubs!

A student group enjoys a trip to the Benedum Center to attend *Falstaff*.



Programs for Adults

Audio Commentary

Pittsburgh Opera offers an audio description service for patrons with visual impairments at select performances. Through Assistive Listening Devices, patrons can hear the Supertitles read simultaneously with their appearance on the screen, as well as descriptions of the set, characters, and costumes.



2026–2027 dates, 7:00 pm performances:

<i>Rigoletto</i>	Friday, October 16, 2026 at the Benedum
<i>Orpheus & Eurydice</i>	Friday, November 20, 2026 at the Byham
<i>Partenope</i>	Tuesday, January 26, 2027 at Pittsburgh CAPA
<i>Working for the Macbeths</i>	Tuesday, March 2, 2027 at the Bitz Opera Factory
<i>Romeo & Juliet</i>	Friday, April 23, 2027 at the Benedum



Photo by David Bachman

OSHER Lifelong Learning Courses

Pittsburgh Opera offers a variety of courses for members of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh. The goals of the courses are to provide learning and social enrichment opportunities that increase knowledge, enhance skills, and provide interactions with peers. Courses meet on the Zoom platform, and include audio clips, video clips, handouts, study guides, and PowerPoints.



Opera is a window to the human soul.

Education Department Special Publications

Activity Discovery Packet

The activities and lesson suggestions in Activity Discovery Packets address all Pennsylvania Academic Standards and are designed to provide arts education experiences for students, to enhance existing curricula, and to provide engaging opportunities for active involvement in learning—whether at school or at home.

Lesson Plan Stems

A handout for teachers—includes more than 100 lesson ideas for intersecting the opera with classroom curricula in all content areas, plus entry points for character education discussions.

Study Guide

A concise introduction to the opera—includes the characters and synopsis, biographies, and articles related to the historical and cultural context of the opera. Study Guides are available not only for the season operas, but also for additional repertoire studied in education programs.

PLEASE NOTE:

*Most programs require advance registration.
Unless otherwise noted, most education programs occur on the Zoom platform.*

For more information about Pittsburgh Opera's education programs, please contact:

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**PITTSBURGH
OPERA
EDUCATION**

**Pittsburgh Opera Education
thanks our generous supporters:**

2026–2027 *Romeo & Juliet*

Student Matinee

Presented by

Daniel G. and Carole L. Kamin

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