

O TRI-CITIES PERA

Summer 2009

Overture Newsletter

Reed W. Smith, General Director
Duane Skrabalak, Senior Artistic Director
Peter Sicilian, Artistic Director

Carmen Savoca & Peyton Hibbitt, Co-Founders

In This Issue:

TCO Receives Grants

Open-Air Concert To Feature
TCO Singers

First Ward Festival

Resident Artist Training
Program Vocal Competition

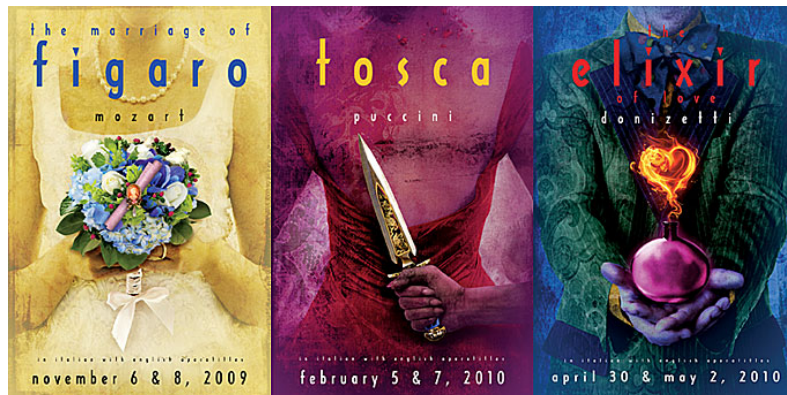
TCO Presents: *Cabaret Night!*

TCO's 8th Annual Golf
Tournament

Sam's Club Donates to TCO

Company Welcomes New
Interns

Tri-Cities Opera is proud to present three celebrated Italian operas for its 2009-2010 season. At the Forum Theatre in Binghamton, NY, the company will perform Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* on November 6 and 8, 2009, Puccini's *Tosca* on February 5 and 7, 2010, and Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* on April 30 and May 2, 2010. All three productions will be sung in Italian with English operatitles. For more information or to reserve tickets, please call (607) 772-0400 or visit us at www.tricitiesopera.com.



Tri-Cities Opera Receives Grants – July 9th, 2009

Binghamton, NY - Tri-Cities Opera has been awarded two grants in support of its popular touring education program known as the *Opera-Go-Round*. This program offers age-specific, free of charge musical performances for grades pre-K through 12.

TCO received a \$7,500 grant from the Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and The Finger Lakes, Inc. As a result, *Opera-Go-Round* will be able to give performances in various schools within Chemung and Southeastern Steuben Counties. The one-act opera *Little Red Riding Hood* will be included among these performances.

Tri-Cities Opera also received \$6,000 from the Roger L. Kresge Foundation to support *Opera-*

Go-Round at schools in the Broome County area.

"For many children this will be the first and perhaps only opportunity to experience an operatic performance," said General Director Reed W. Smith. "Tight school budgets often cause arts to be cut. The foundation grant will help fill the gaps this creates."

Tri-Cities Opera was founded in 1949 and enjoys an exceptional reputation in the opera world for its artist training program, set and costume design and seasonal opera productions. Each year, the company performs three operas at the Forum Theatre, 236 Washington St. in Binghamton, NY.

Tri-Cities Opera Participating in First Ward Festival

On Saturday, August 22nd, 2009, Tri-Cities Opera will be participating in the annual *First Ward Festival* to be held on Clinton Street in Binghamton, NY. Come out and support TCO and the community in this "Mile-Long Sidewalk Sale." We are accepting donations of any lightly-used items; no clothing please. If you would like to donate, please call **(607) 729-3444** for more information.

Free Open-Air Concert to Feature TCO Artists

Come enjoy an outdoor summer concert of arias, Broadway selections and popular songs performed by five talented members of Tri-Cities Opera's Resident Artist Training Program, three of whom are brand new to the company this season!

Accompanied by TCO staff member **John Isenberg** on the piano, new artists **Victoria Cannizzo**, *Soprano*, **Cabria Jacobson**, *Mezzo-Soprano*, and **Kirk Dougherty**, *Tenor*, will be joined by TCO favorites **Julie-Anne Hamula**, *Soprano*, and **Ariana Zbrzezny**, *Mezzo-Soprano*, in a concert sure to delight all.

Admission is FREE so be sure to mark the date on your calendar: August 27th, 2009, at 7:00pm in George F. Johnson Park, 201 Oak Hill Avenue, Endicott, NY. Come hear these wonderful singers and give our newest company members a warm welcome and show of support.

TCO's 8th Annual Golf Tournament – June 15th, 2009

On June 15th, 2009, Tri-Cities Opera successfully hosted their 8th Annual Golf Tournament at the Vestal Hills Country Club. All proceeds from the event will benefit Tri-Cities Opera and ensure the company's future success within the community.

This year, the participating teams were given a package consisting of eighteen holes, two golf carts, and a driving range warm-up, refreshments which were offered throughout the day and an evening dinner provided by Russell's Steak and Seafood House. **Julie-Anne Hamula** and **Ariana Zbrzezny**, two of TCO's Resident Artists, along with

Resident Artist Training Program Vocal Competition

Before there was an *American Idol*, there was **Tri-Cities Opera's Annual Vocal Competition!** Here is your opportunity to hear the "Stars of Tomorrow" perform a variety of arias and art songs in the intimate setting of the Opera Center, 315 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY.

Over \$14,000 in Prizes will be awarded at this year's competition!

The public is cordially invited to attend this event, which will take place on Thursday, September 3, 2009, at 7:00pm. Admission is \$10.00 per person, payable at the door. Proceeds will benefit the TCO Guild Vocal Competition Fund. Call the TCO box office at **(607) 772-0400** to reserve your seat for this exciting event!

Tri-Cities Opera Presents: Cabaret Night

Please join us on Saturday, September 12, 2009, for **Cabaret Night!** Come and enjoy an evening filled with SONG and "joie de vivre." Attendees will be treated to a martini and champagne social hour as well as fine *hors d'oeuvres*/light supper, which includes desserts and wine served all evening. We expect to sell out this event so call your friends and sign up for a table today! Cost is \$45 per person or \$360 for a table (8 person maximum). The event will be held on September 12, 2009, from 7:00pm to 10:00pm at the Tri-Cities Opera Center, 315 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY. To make a reservation call the Tri-Cities Opera box office **(607-772-0400)** today!

John Isenberg, TCO's staff accompanist, served as the evening's entertainment. Trophies were awarded to the teams with the "Longest Drive", the "Closest to Pin" and the "Closest to Line", as well as to the winning men's, women's and mixed teams.

For those who participated this year, we thank you for giving Tri-Cities Opera the opportunity to continue its tradition of providing enjoyment and education to the Southern Tier. For those unable to participate this year, we hope to see you at next year's tournament!

Sam's Club Donates to TCO – May 29th, 2009

At an employee meeting on May 29th, 2009, Sam's Club and its associates presented Tri-Cities Opera with a check for eight hundred dollars. Each year Sam's Club donates to an arts group in the Southern Tier as a way to give back to the community. This year, they were kind enough to donate to TCO. The check will be put towards the benefit of the company. We would like to extend our gratitude to Sam's Club and to those involved with this generous donation.

Company Welcomes New Interns

This summer, Tri-Cities Opera welcomes two new interns to the company. **Steven Ross** of Binghamton, NY, is a recent graduate of Binghamton University with a dual degree in Music and Biology. He is currently working at the Clinton Street Opera Center as an office assistant. **Jordan Summers** of Vestal, NY, is a Business of Music Major at SUNY Potsdam. Jordan is also in the office focusing on public relations and marketing.

During the off-season, our interns bring enthusiasm and dedication to Tri-Cities Opera as it prepares to start its 2009-2010 season. They are a welcome addition to the Tri-Cities Opera staff.

Help Tri-Cities Opera continue to *go green*. Sign up to receive the online *Overture* newsletter, which features full-color images and interactive links. Call (607) 729-3444 or send an email to editor@tricitiesopera.com to get on our emailing list.

Tri-Cities Opera Events Calendar

September 3, 2009	7:00PM	RATP Vocal Competition	Clinton St. Opera Center
September 12, 2009	7:00PM	<i>Cabaret Night</i>	Clinton St. Opera Center
October 31, 2009	7:00PM	Operalogue: <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>	Clinton St. Opera Center
November 6, 2009	8:00PM	<i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>	The Forum Theatre
November 8, 2009	3:00PM		
December 4, 2009	7:00PM	<i>Hansel & Gretel</i>	Clinton St. Opera Center
December 5, 2009	7:00PM		
December 6, 2009	3:00PM		
January 30, 2010	7:00PM	Operalogue: <i>Tosca</i>	Clinton St. Opera Center
February 5, 2010	8:00PM	<i>Tosca</i>	The Forum Theatre
February 7, 2010	3:00PM		
March 12, 2010	7:00PM	<i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	Clinton St. Opera Center
March 13, 2010	7:00PM		
March 14, 2010	3:00PM		
April 24, 2010	7:00PM	Operalogue: <i>The Elixir of Love</i>	Clinton St. Opera Center
April 30, 2010	8:00PM	<i>The Elixir of Love</i>	The Forum Theatre
May 2, 2010	3:00PM		
May 22, 2010	7:00PM	Tasting Opera IV	The McKinley, Endicott, NY
June 14, 2010	1:00PM	TCO's Annual Golf Tournament	Vestal Hills Country Club