



F O R T W O R T H
O P E R A

NEWS RELEASE

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4,000 STUDENTS WILL GET TO SEE OPERA WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RAISED FUNDS

FORT WORTH, TX — Fort Worth Opera announced today that the company will offer Student Night tickets to 4,000 high school students in Title I schools in Fort Worth. This educational opportunity is made possible by soprano Jayden Goldberg who raised the funds as her senior-year project.

The students will attend final dress rehearsals of a great American opera, *Porgy and Bess*; a bilingual mariachi opera *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina (The Past Is Never Finished)*, featuring legendary Mariachi Nuevo Tecalitlán; and a world premiere of *Companionship* by Rachel J. Peters. These performances will be combined with classroom studies, encouraging further engagement with opera and appreciation of diverse cultural identity – Texas ranks second in the country in cultural diversity.

"Fort Worth Opera's goal is to expand opportunities in order to achieve positive impact and nurture the next generation of opera lovers," said Tuomas Hiltunen, General Director of Fort Worth Opera.

"Everyone deserves a chance to experience the story of human drama as told through the beauty, artistry, and passion of a live opera," said Jayden Goldberg, who is pursuing vocal studies at Boston Conservatory.

ABOUT FORT WORTH OPERA: Founded in 1946, Fort Worth Opera is the oldest continually-performing opera company in Texas, and one of the 14 oldest opera companies in the United States. The organization has received national acclaim from critics and audiences alike for its artistic excellence. Beginning in 2017, Fort Worth Opera launched the second phase of its landmark, 10-year *Opera of the Americas* initiative with *Noches de Ópera (Nights of Opera)*, a groundbreaking campaign which introduces powerful operas, each reflecting the diverse cultures of American audiences.

Fort Worth Opera is sponsored in part by awards from The Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County, The City of Fort Worth, and the Texas Commission on the Arts. Additional Fort Worth Opera sponsors include: the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the Amon G. Carter Foundation; American Airlines; Visit Fort Worth; Texas Commission on the Arts; Townplace Suites; Autobahn; Crystelle Waggoner Charitable Trust, Bank of America, Trustee; The Pangburn Foundation, J.P. Morgan Chase, Trustee; and the Sid W. Richardson Foundation.