



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** October 27, 2023

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**Images at:** <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/j3kv236pfq6d9vpicpdp4/h?rlkev=bo8xe3fgz4s05sx4x58enqqbl&dl=0>

## **Sarasota Opera to Hold Open Auditions for the Children's Chorus for the Mainstage Production of *Carmen***

**Sarasota, FL** - Sarasota Youth Opera is inviting singers ages 8 to 18 to audition to participate in the Children's Chorus in its 2024 Winter Opera Festival production of Georges Bizet's *Carmen*. This is an exciting opportunity for young singers to have the chance to sing with professional opera singers. Auditions will be held at the Sarasota Opera House located at 61 N. Pineapple Avenue, Sarasota FL.

**November 14 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.** - Candidates will learn a musical excerpt from *Carmen*.

**November 16 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.** - Maestro DeRenzi will hold auditions.

All children's chorus members will be expected to commit to all performances and required rehearsals. A detailed schedule will be provided to interested candidates. There are 12 performances of *Carmen*: February 17, 20, 22, 25 (matinee), 28, March 2 (matinee), 5, 8, 13, 17, 19 (matinee), 22, 2024. (Note: All evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., matinee performances begin at 1:30 p.m.)

Sarasota Opera is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive community. We encourage individuals of all backgrounds and abilities to participate in this opportunity.

For questions or further information contact Cameron Maxwell, Sarasota Opera Youth Opera Coordinator at [cmaxwell@sarasotaopera.org](mailto:cmaxwell@sarasotaopera.org) or 941-328-1329.

## **ABOUT SARASOTA OPERA**

Sarasota Opera recently completed its 65th Season of bringing world-class opera to Florida's Gulf Coast. The company was launched in 1960 in the historic 320-seat Asolo Theater on the grounds of Sarasota's Ringling Museum of Art. In 1984 the company moved into the former A.B. Edwards Theater—now the Sarasota Opera House. Since then, the company has gained an international reputation as one of the leading regional opera companies in the U.S. through initiatives such as the Masterworks Revival Series and the Verdi Cycle. The company's Sarasota Youth Opera is the most comprehensive Youth Program in the U.S. The Sarasota Opera House, called "one of America's finest venues for opera" by Musical America, underwent a \$20 million renovation in 2007. The auditorium was named the William E. Schmidt Opera Theatre, in recognition of his leadership gift that year. Since 1983, the company has been under the artistic leadership of Victor DeRenzi and administrative leadership of General Director Richard Russell since 2012.

Sarasota Opera is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, The Department of State, the Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts. Programs are paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues.

Sarasota Opera • 61 N. Pineapple Ave. • Sarasota, FL 34236 • (941) 366-8450 | [SarasotaOpera.org](http://SarasotaOpera.org)