

**THE GLIMMERGLASS
 FESTIVAL 2020**

July 11–August 25

On the Mainstage

Rodgers / Hammerstein II
The Sound of Music
 July 11–August 25

Mozart / Da Ponte
Don Giovanni
 July 17–August 24

Handel / Rossi
Rinaldo
 July 12–August 18

Wagner
Die Feen (The Fairies)
 July 16–August 21



Special Events

Mozart
Così?
 ADAPTATION
 August 4–22

Sankaram / Rourke
The Jungle Book
 YOUTH OPERA
 August 3–18



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 for renewal now

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 as two productions starting
 October 7, 2019

Single tickets available
 January 2020

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www.glimmerglass.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

The Guild will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, September 29 at 3:00 pm at Farm Credit East, 7397 State Highway 80, Cooperstown, in the Town of Springfield, just north of the Festival campus. We are delighted to welcome as our speaker Glimmerglass Festival COO Andrea Lyons, who will speak about the many facilities the Company maintains and the improvements in process and planned for the future. We truly hope to see you there!

BOARD MEMBER ELECTION, AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate for the Class of 2019: Walt Ashley, Mary Brodzinsky, Fred Johnson, Rhonda King, Mary Margaret Kuhn, Jill Maney, Winnie Olsen, Carol Steigelman, and Laura Wetzel.

The Board wishes to thank Dennis Banks, Fran Bliven, Richard Redmond, and David Shove for their years of service to the Guild. The Nominating Committee is continually looking for Guild members willing to serve on the Board. Please contact me if you are interested.

607-544-1077 WALT ASHLEY
ashleywalt@hotmail.com

TOSCA, TRI-CITIES OPERA, SUNDAY OCTOBER 20, 2019

Forty tickets have been reserved downstairs and in the mezzanine of the Forum Theatre in Binghamton for a matinee performance of Puccini's *Tosca* on October 20. The cost would be around \$100 per person for tickets and transportation and I will find a place for lunch before the performance. There will be bus pickups in both Cooperstown and Oneonta. Jill Gardner, an alumna of the Glimmerglass Young Artists Program, will sing *Tosca* and Andrew Bisantz, a conductor at Glimmerglass from 2001 through 2005, will conduct. For more information, go to www.tricitiesopera.com

If you are interested in this trip, please let me know by **September 11**.
JEAN SEROKA
jjwilser3@yahoo.com

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE, OPERA SARATOGA, JUNE 2020

Opera Saratoga is presenting a new production of *The Pirates of Penzance* in late June 2020. Since I don't know how many fans of Gilbert and Sullivan our Guild has, I would like to know if you are interested in a bus trip to one of the performances. You can find out more by going to www.operasaratoga.org

Please let me know of your interest (not to be considered a reservation) by **September 30**. As always, friends and relatives are invited to come with you.

607-988-7007 JEAN SEROKA
jjwilser3@yahoo.com

The Guild of Glimmerglass Festival
 P.O. Box 191, Cooperstown, NY 13326
www.glimmerglassguild.org

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 Vice President..... Jill Maney
 Secretary..... Mary Brodzinsky
 Treasurer..... Joanne Tobey

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 Education..... Kathy Eisele
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 Grounds (ad hoc)..... Jean Lyon
 Hospitality..... Cynthia and William Goertemoeller
 Membership Winifred Olsen
 Nominating..... Walter Ashley
 Volunteer Services Rita Emanuel
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Rita Emanuel

News & Notes is the bimonthly newsletter of
The Guild of Glimmerglass Festival

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

What a fabulous season at the Festival this year! Despite the heat and the rains, the campus was beautiful and spirits were high. My sincere gratitude to all who made this possible. The opening parties, Day at the Festival for students, changeover meals, and closing party for *Noah’s Flood* simply would not have been possible without your generosity, time, and talent.

The July dinner at the Cooperstown Country Club was a fine evening of companionship, good food, and great music. Thanks to Chris Weiss for coordinating this special event.

The Annual Gala at the Otesaga was another great success. I am humbled by the decades that Dennis Banks has chaired this event and will miss his leadership as he rotates off the board. Thankfully Carol Steigelman has volunteered to fill the void. Bravi to our amazing Fundraising Committee and to Jill Maney and the Auction Committee for successful live and silent auctions.

I’m delighted to celebrate two honors that were announced at the Company’s Volunteer Reception in late August. The Guild’s Volunteer(s) of the Year award went to Cynthia and Bill Goertemoeller. This year they took on the mantle of Hospitality Chairs, pulling together the Eat and Greet for the entire Company, coordinating the four opening performance receptions, and serving as captains for the first changeover meal. Guild members Jean and Joe Seroka were recognized by the Company as Ushers of the Year. These are well-deserved honors for enormous service. Congratulations to you all!

With sadness I share the passing of Guild members Luis Merlo, Carsten Sibbern, and Vance Richards. Luis passed away over Memorial Day, and he was greatly missed at his usher station in the balcony this season. Carsten Sibbern died in late June, and Vance Richards in early August. Carsten and Vance were regular fixtures at Guild hospitality functions. Dennis Banks dubbed them the Hydration Team, as they usually looked after the liquid refreshments. They also served many box lunches to patrons alongside their beloved wives. Our deep condolences to the Merlo family, Rosemary Sibbern, and Angie Richards, along with our gratitude for the service and comradery of their loved ones.

See you at the September 29 Annual Meeting!

MARY MARGARET KUHN

FROM THE FESTIVAL BOARD CHAIRMAN

A huge thank you to The Guild of Glimmerglass Festival for your continual support of the Festival. Not too sure where the summer flew, but thanks to the Guild and the volunteer ushers July and August went like clockwork. Over the full season (July 6–August 24), we welcomed almost 36,000 patrons to the Festival with many performances sold out.

Board chairman continued on page 3

Board chairman continued from page 2

The end of the season is bittersweet because we say goodbye to so many friends among our interns, young artists, and guest artists. Many will return, so we are already looking forward to the next season.

Next up for the Company: after September 1 the scaffolding will return for the completion of our roof project, one of many continuing improvements on the campus.

And on a personal note: I earned my Guild apron this summer by serving at changeover dinners. What an honor!

ROBERT NELSON

FROM THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The south lawn swale showed good growth this season though deer and other nibblers have destroyed some of our early plantings. My thanks to those who answered the call to tidy the hostas scrunched by the roofing machinery.

Next season there will be more information about new landscaping, giving you a chance to supply more color to the campus.

May the 2020 weather be kinder to all gardeners. Winter well.

JEAN LYON

OPERA VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL

Our Guild has for many years been a member of Opera Volunteers International and its predecessor, Opera Guilds International. OVI is a non-profit organization that celebrates the hard work of volunteers and helps encourage volunteer involvement by recognizing achievement and creativity, supporting volunteer projects, and advocating for continuing involvement of volunteers in opera.

OVI provides national recognition for outstanding volunteers through its Partners in Excellence awards. The first Glimmerglass Guild members to receive this prestigious award were Don and Mary Ellen Fenner in 1994. Since then it has been awarded to Lib Flavin (1999), Richard and Harriett Johnson (2000), Mary Dunkle (2002), Don and Susan Drake (2014), Dennis Banks (2017), Abby Kreh Gibson (2018), and Thomas Simpson (2019).

For more information: www.OperaVolunteers.org

RITA EMANUEL

GUILD GALA 2019

The evening of August 6 began with a drizzle and ended with a celebration. Those who attended this year's gala enjoyed good food, good company, and, of course, wonderful music from this year's young artists.

Generous bidders made both the live and silent auctions

successful, helping to raise \$14,710. Highlights included a week-long stay in Valerie Elbrick Hanlon's apartment in Paris (offered twice by that very generous donor); a cocktail party for 25 guests at the home of Anne O'Connell; and the spontaneous offer of a stay at the London, England apartment of Tom Morgan and Erna Morgan McReynolds.

New for this year was "Wine by Chance," organized by Rita Emanuel and Winnie Olsen. Of the 25 identically wrapped and numbered bottles, twenty four were purchased locally with contributions from members of the Guild Board. Participants purchased bottles by number with a chance that their choice would be the prize: a premium bottle that included as a bonus a second premium bottle, both donated by Johannes Neckermann. The event proved very popular and all bottles sold out quickly.

Thank you to all who helped with the auction. In addition to donors this includes committee members Carol Steigelman, Karin deWaal, Susan Huxtable, and Tara Sumner; Joanne Tobey, who provided lots of advice and assistance; and most especially all those who bid on auction items!

JILL MANEY

COUNTRY CLUB DINNER 2019

The annual Guild dinner at the Cooperstown Country Club was held on July 18 and attended by 68 members and guests. Dinner was a delicious three course meal. The musical program included remarks by Maestro Joseph Colaneri, and performances by Young Artists Gretchen Krupp (mezzo-soprano), Wm. Clay Thompson (bass), Abigail Paschke (soprano), and Aaron Crouch (tenor). It was a wonderful evening of fine music, good company, and great weather for enjoying Ostego Lake.

CHRIS WEISS

GUILD HOSTS FIRST NIGHT PARTIES

As in the past, the opening night of each 2019 mainstage production was celebrated with a party in the Pavilion, sponsored by contributions to the Guild's First Night Fund and hosted by The Guild of Glimmerglass Festival. Cast members and their special guests, along with musicians, ushers, and administrative and production staff, celebrated with catered foods served by Guild volunteers. Here's a snapshot of each party and its sponsors:

Show Boat: Catered by Humphrey's East End Bistro in Oneonta and starring Three-Cheese Mac and Cheese, with and without bacon. Sponsored by Ernest Adams, Jr., Walter Ashley, Allen Carpenter, Jane Grastorf, Kate and Bruce Johnson, Mary Margaret and Paul Kuhn, Bill McColl, Florence and Lauri Selin, James Schultz, and Dick Woodhouse.

La Traviata: Catered by Brooks' House of BBQ in Oneonta

First Night continued on page 4

A DAY AT THE FESTIVAL FOR STUDENTS

Do you recall the *first time* you attended a professional musical theater or operatic performance? During your school years, did you have an opportunity to participate in a theatrical performance? Do you remember your first trip “behind the scenes” when you saw the house as a performer sees it: the orchestra pit before you, markings on the stage floor, scenery overhead that will be safely set in place on cue, and props laid out in the wings to be carried onstage? Do you remember when you *really* began to understand the teamwork involved in live theater and how individuals prepare themselves for careers in this art form?

For many years the Guild’s Education and Community Engagement Committee has worked in close partnership with the Company to host “A Day at the Festival for Students.” This season included discounted tickets for the July 20 performance of *Show Boat*. We have always wanted more student attendance at this event and everyone was deeply committed to promoting and publicizing it widely. In March, we began working with Brittany Lesavoy (Director of Communications) and Sean Sansevere (Group Sales Coordinator) to outline the day’s program and plan promotion. Through Facebook, the Guild newsletter, our personal networks, and announcements at Metropolitan Opera HD broadcasts and Talking Opera programs, we encouraged our community to recruit participants.

Despite dire predictions of excessive heat, we doubled participation from the previous season and 36 individuals joined us! Sean and Guild volunteers greeted the group of elementary through graduate school students, parents, and teachers on campus at 10:00 am. They moved into the preview tent for a panel discussion with three different Company members: Tucker Reed Breder (Young Artist and dance captain in *Show Boat*), Mary Kate Kenney (Development Intern), and Wyatt Nyman (Assistant Technical Director–Stage Operations). Sean then led the group on a tour of the campus which included an onstage scenery demonstration by Wyatt and his crew and a walk backstage and through the costume shop. When they arrived at the pavilion, the “Three Cooks” (Mary Margaret Kuhn, Tom Simpson, and Dennis Banks) and committee member Laura Wetzel were laying out lunch for them. After lunch, Kamna Gupta (Young Artist, Assistant conductor for *Show Boat*) gave them an overview of the work they would be experiencing.

Most of the students were attending a Glimmerglass

THE GUILD OF Glimmerglass FESTIVAL

News & Notes

P.O. Box 191
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www.glimmerglassguild.org

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performance for the first time and feedback from them was overwhelmingly positive. Thanks to everyone who helped make it such a great experience for them!

KATHLEEN EISELE

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Membership Committee chair Winnie Olsen reports the following new and renewing members since the July newsletter: David Frankford, Martha and Joseph Membrino, Catherine Raddatz, Angelika Mahnert Rashkow, Senator James and Cindy Seward, Nancy Tarr, Lynn Weddington Tucker, and Henry Wager.

We’re delighted to have you as members of the Guild!

First Night continued from page 3

and featuring both their famous barbequed chicken and veggie burgers, accompanied with assorted salads. Sponsored by the Guild Board of Directors in honor of Francesca Zambello.

The Ghosts of Versailles: Catered by Boom Co. Traveling Café in Milford and featuring a variety of party foods. Sponsored by Liz Harvey.

Blue: Catered by Humphrey’s and starring Meaty Ziti and Roasted Vegetables Lasagna. Sponsored by Martha Duke.

CYNTHIA AND BILL GOERTEMOELLER