

## The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Challenge 2019-2021

Opera Theatre is delighted to announce a three-year, \$750,000 challenge grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support world premieres in the 2019, 2020, and 2021 seasons.

### Why did Opera Theatre receive the grant?

- The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation provides grants on an invitation-only basis to a small number of leading performing arts companies in the United States. The Mellon Foundation awards grants based on artistic merit and leadership, concentrating on companies that demonstrate a commitment to advancing an art form by presenting ambitious new works.

### Which contributions qualify for the Mellon Foundation Challenge?

- \$250,000 of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's gift to Opera Theatre is structured as a challenge grant, which OTSL must match two-to-one. **Opera Theatre must raise an additional \$500,000 to secure the Mellon Foundation's grant.** Qualifying gifts must represent newly received gifts to support the development and production of new and recent American opera in Opera Theatre's 2019, 2020, and 2021 festival seasons.

### How will my gift help?

- If you are a **new donor**, your gift of any dollar amount designated for season production support will help Opera Theatre meet its \$500,000 goal. You are considered a new donor if you have never contributed to Opera Theatre or if your most recent gift was prior to October 1, 2016.
- If you are a current donor and choose to make an **increased gift designated for a season production**, the **increased portion** of your gift will qualify for the Challenge. For example, if you contribute \$1,000 annually and choose to contribute \$1,500 this year, you may designate the additional \$500 for a season production and this portion of your gift will qualify for the Mellon Challenge.
- If you have already completed your annual gift but wish to participate in the Challenge, you may choose to make an **additional gift** or pledge designated for a season production. The additional gift amount will qualify for the Mellon Challenge.
- You can make your gift even more meaningful by **pledging your support now for the three-year challenge period**. Please contact Nicole Freber at the number below if you are interested in considering a three-year commitment.

### Challenge Time Period

- The Mellon Foundation Challenge is a three-year initiative, so gifts that meet the challenge terms in the 2019, 2020, or 2021 seasons will qualify. Gifts and pledges must be paid in full by September 30, 2021.

### For more information, please contact:

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