

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Challenge 2019-2021

Opera Theatre is delighted to announce a new three-year challenge grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support world premieres in the 2019, 2020, and 2021 seasons. The Foundation has pledged \$750,000, which Opera Theatre must match with \$500,000 in new and increased support during the same time period.

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?

- **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 operas 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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