

Announcing

Highlands Opera Studio 2023 Season

July 27th – August 28th, 2023

GREATLY REDUCED HOLIDAY PRICING UNTIL JANUARY 20TH!

Haliburton, ON— December 6th, 2022. Join us for the 17th season of Highlands Opera Studio! Highlights include Gaetano Donizetti's hilarious opera sitcom, **'THE ELIXIR OF LOVE' (l'Elisir d'Amore)** and the return of **'MISHABOOZ'S REALM'**, an Indigenous opera inspired by and written in HALIBURTON COUNTY by Cree First Nation composer/creator, Andrew Balfour, originally produced and presented in 2017 by HOS in collaboration with L'Atelier Lyrique de l'Opera de Montreal. This powerful and important work, commissioned by HOS in the same year, was supported in its initial creation and premiere presentations in Haliburton and Montreal by the Canada Council for the Arts and Canadian Heritage.

RICHARD MARGISON MASTERCLASSES: July 27th, 28th, & 29th @ 7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton

Hear the 2023 HOS professional singers sing for our Artistic Director & Master Voice Teacher, Richard Margison, O.C., and listen in on what makes great singing even better.

CONCERTS:

- #1 **'Opera to Broadway'**, August 3rd @7:30 pm., St. George's Anglican Church;
- #2 **'Celebrations!'**, August 5th @ 7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church. Featuring music marking important musical anniversaries & achievements;
- #3 **'Pop Goes the Opera'**, August 9th @7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church, featuring great operatic & musical theatre selections including music of Giuseppe Verdi marking the 210th anniversary of his birth;
- #4 **'Homecoming!'**, August 21st @7:30pm. St. George's Anglican Church. Welcome past HOS participants in an evening of reminiscence and great singing.

OPERAS:

'Mishabooz's Realm', August 17th & 19th @7:30pm, Northern Lights Pavilion, Haliburton. Experience this powerful & moving work combining opera with Indigenous singers and instrumentalists, created for HOS by Cree First Nation composer/creator, **Andrew Balfour**. Mishabooz's Realm takes us on a journey from an Indigenous perspective through Creation, Colonization, and ultimately Hope for the Future.

'**The Elixir of Love**' (**L'Elisir d'Amore**) by **Gaetano Donizetti**, August 24th, 26th, 28th @7:30pm, August 27th @2:00pm, Northern Lights Pavilion. One of the best loved – and most regularly performed – of all Donizetti's operas, this two-act romantic comedy follows the fortunes of poor villager, Nemorino, who is in love with wealthy, beautiful heiress, Adina. A hilarious sitcom for all ages! (In Italian with English Surtitles) This production is dedicated to the memory of Craig Saunders.

COMMUNITY PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN EVENTS:

'**Why Choose Opera?**', July 31st @7:30pm, Abbey Gardens Performance Tent. Hear the 2023 participants sing their personal favourite music – other than opera – and talk about what brought them to opera.

'**Music on the Water**', August 12th @6:00pm. Launch your boat on a lake TBD in Haliburton County for a beach concert of opera, musical theatre, and pop! **Want it to be your lake? CONTACT US!** info@highlandsoperastudio.com

'**Casual Song Soiree**', August 14th @7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton. An evening featuring songs of all kinds in a relaxed atmosphere.

“As we prepare for the 17th season of Highlands Opera Studio, we are excited to be working on new and creative ways to share and celebrate the beauty of the un-amplified human voice with Haliburton County through Pay-What-You-Can Community Events, online singing lessons through the Highlands Opera Community School, our newly established year round Opera Club, multiple concerts & masterclasses, and two fully staged-operas. Not only will we be offering a FULL LIVE 2023 SUMMER SEASON featuring Canada's most accomplished young professional operatic artists but, through the generous support of the **ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION**, we will be offering digital viewing options & special community events for our 2023 ticket holders. Join us to listen, learn, reawaken your senses, and celebrate together. Looking forward to seeing you at the opera!” – Valerie Kuinka, General Director & Co-Artistic Director & Richard Margison, Co-Artistic Director of Highlands Opera Studio

Highlands Opera Studio is extremely grateful for the financial support of the **Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF)**, **RBC Foundation**, **BMO Financial Group**, **Azrieli Foundation**, and **Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC)**, along with a generous bequest from the **estate of Madame la Juge, Anne-Marie Trahan**, and our greatly appreciated community of private donors and sponsors .

1. To purchase tickets and for more information on all HOS activities, please visit:
www.highlandsoperastudio.com

2. For more information and to contact HOS Box Office Manager & Community School (Opera Club) Director, Corina Mansfield: info@highlandsoperastudio.com and/or call 1-855-455-5533