

For Immediate Release

Announcing the

Highlands Opera Studio 2024 Season

July 25th – August 26th 2024

Haliburton, ON— December 5th, 2023

GREATLY REDUCED HOLIDAY PRICING UNTIL JANUARY 13th!

VIP PASS (valued @\$525) NOW ONLY \$185

Attend all 17 events or choose as many as you like + invitation(s) to exclusive VIP event(s)

Regular Season Pass (valued @\$185) NOW ONLY \$95

Choose 2 concerts + 2 opera performances + all 3 masterclasses

Youth/Young Adult (13-30) Pass (valued @\$115) NOW ONLY \$20

Choose 1 concert + 1 opera performance + all 3 masterclasses

Join us for the 18th season of Highlands Opera Studio! Highlights include one of the most popular comic operas of all time, Gioacchino Rossini's 'IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA' (The Barber of Seville) and the return of 'MISHAABOOZ'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.

3 MASTERCLASSES with RICHARD MARGISON, O.C.:

July 25th, 26th, & 27th @ 7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton

Hear the 2024 HOS professional singers sing for our Artistic Director, internationally acclaimed tenor & master voice teacher, Richard Margison, and listen in on what makes great singing even better. If you like watching 'The Voice', you'll love these Masterclasses!

4 CONCERTS:

'Opera to Broadway', August 1st @7:30 pm., St. George's Anglican Church. Enjoy an eclectic variety of favourite solos and ensembles from opera and musical theatre in an intimate venue.

'Pop Goes the Opera', August 7th @7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church. Featuring more great operatic & musical theatre selections;

'Celebrations!', August 10th @ 7:30pm, Abbey Gardens Performance Tent (TBC). Featuring music marking important musical anniversaries & achievements;

'Homecoming!', August 19th @7:30pm. St. George's Anglican Church. Welcome past HOS participants in an evening of reminiscence and great singing.

2 OPERAS:

'Mishaabooz's Realm', August 15th & 17th @7:30pm, Northern Lights Pavilion, Haliburton. Experience this powerful & moving work combining opera with traditional 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 Barber of Seville' (Il barbiere di Siviglia), August 22nd, 24th, 26th @7:30pm, August 25th @2:00pm, Northern Lights Pavilion. From Bugs Bunny cartoons to movie soundtracks, 'The Barber of Seville' by Rossini is one of the most popular and recognizable Italian comic operas. Join us for the hilarious antics as Figaro helps Almoviva outwit the doddering and conniving Bartolo for the hand of the beautiful Rosina. Fun for all ages! (In Italian with English Surtitles)

4 COMMUNITY PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN EVENTS:

'Why Choose Opera?', July 29th @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 3rd @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 12th @7:30pm, St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton. An evening featuring songs of all kinds in a relaxed atmosphere.

'Pop-up Performance TBA', August 16th @7:30, Northern Lights Pavilion, Haliburton
Save the date and keep your mind open!

“As we prepare for the 18th season of Highlands Opera Studio, we are excited to be providing 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 year round Opera Club, multiple concerts & masterclasses, and two fully staged-operas. Not only will we be offering an exciting & compelling LIVE 2024 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 2024 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, Ontario Arts Council (OAC), The Good Foundation, Vanda Treiser (in memory of Benjamin Treiser), The Jane Skoryna Foundation, a generous bequest from the estate of Madame la Juge, Anne-Marie Trahan, Lesley Young, 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, Tamar Simon, please email:

info@highlandsoperastudio.com and/or call 1-855-455-5533