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### **Opera San José Receives NEA Grant**

SAN JOSE, CA—General Director **Irene Dalis** announced today that **Opera San José** has received a \$25,000 grant from the **National Endowment for the Arts** to support the company's educational outreach programs for youth and adults during the 2011-12 season.

The grant award will support Opera San José's one-act touring opera based on Engelbert Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, and other educational programs including preview lectures, opera history seminars, and vocal and drama masterclasses. Opera San José is one of 26 opera companies in the country to receive a grant as part of the federal agency's second round of fiscal year 2011 Access to Artistic Excellence grants.

"We are grateful to the **National Endowment for the Arts** for recognizing Opera San José," says General Director, **Irene Dalis**. "This important grant has endowed us with the resources to continue our mission of providing cultural and educational programs that both enrich the opera experience and encourage future generations of artists and audiences."

For more information on Opera San José visit, [www.operasj.org](http://www.operasj.org). For more information on the National Endowment for the Arts visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

#### **About Opera San José**

**Opera San José**, performing at the historic **California Theatre** in downtown San José, is a professional, regional opera company that is unique in the United States. Maintaining a resident company of principal artists, Opera San José specializes in showcasing the finest young professional singers in the nation. In addition to mainstage performances, Opera San José maintains extensive educational programs in schools and in the community at large, and offers *Preview* lectures and *Introduction to Opera* talks for all mainstage productions.

**About the National Endowment for the Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector.

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