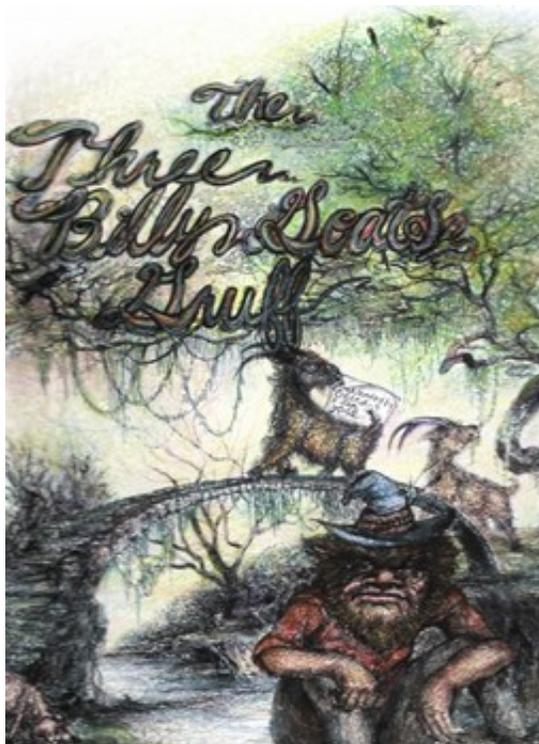


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Opera San Jose presents 'Billy Goats Gruff' in support of anti-bullying

EVENTS BAY AREA | OCTOBER 15, 2012 | BY: P.K. COSTA |



Opera San Jose is hosting a one-act performance of “Billy Goats Gruff” in support of anti-bullying on Nov. 1 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library in San Jose.

Credits: Original Artwork by Sophie Smith

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Opera San Jose celebrates [National Opera Week](http://www.examiner.com/topic/national-opera-week/articles) October 26 through November 4, 2012, with a special launching of the one-act free performance of “[Billy Goats Gruff](http://www.examiner.com/topic/billy-goats-gruff/articles)” on Thursday, November 1, 2012, at 4 p.m. at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library located at 150 E. San Fernando Street in downtown San Jose.

As a special celebration for National Opera Week, Opera

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San Jose is sponsoring this event along with a special message that addresses a huge problem in America – bullying.

This incredible classic tale of “Billy Goats Gruff” is not just in celebration of National Opera Week and the classic tale of three billy goats – this tale adds a contemporary twist to the story by tackling “bullying” – teaching kindness as it

promotes tolerance – as it engages the audience in a way that draws attention, touches hearts and help teach youth about a very important and sadly growing issue.

This classic fairytale is set with recognizable melodies of beloved composers from some of opera’s most popular classics such as Mozart, Rossini and Donizetti. This is indeed a special performance worth spending the afternoon with your children for.

In 2011, an Advisory Council to eradicate bullying in county schools was formed by Santa Clara County Board of Education President, Joseph Di Salvo. “As a former elementary and middle school principal, this has been a subject that has touched me in many divergent ways,” sated Di Salvo. “The threat of being bullied is one of the number one reasons for students staying at home.”

In response to Di Salvo’s initiative, Opera San Jose is presenting “Billy Goats Gruff” as part of the K-12 educational programming for the 2012-2013 season. “Billy Goats Gruff” not only offers a new, positive experience but also an artistic expression of an art form that may address an on-going problem in schools and communities according to Opera San Jose’s General Director Irene Dalis who added, “We hope to do our part to educate young people about this serious matter and it is fitting that we would launch our program during a week that celebrates the influence of opera in America.

This is a free event and open to the public; no registration required. What a wonderful opportunity to teach children about bullying and perhaps even how to begin "talking" about what can sometimes be a tough subject to bring up. It's also a great reason to take an afternoon off to enjoy some quality time with your children.

* * *

Additional information:

The Opera San Jose special one-time, free performance of “Billy Goats Gruff” will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2012, at the Dr. Martin King Library on the second floor of the library, room 225/229, located in downtown San Jose at 150 E. San Fernando Street at Fourth Street. No reservations required. This is a free event; no registration necessary.

As a special treat for opera-goers, Opera San Jose is currently booking “Billy Goats Gruff” for the 2012-2013 season. Additionally, schools and organizations can contact Outreach Coordinator Lettie Smith at 1-408-437-4464 for additional information; or visit www.operasj.org (<http://www.operasj.org/>) for an online information and order form.

Visit the website of [National Opera Week \(http://www.operaamerica.org/operaweek\)](http://www.operaamerica.org/operaweek) or [Opera San Jose \(http://www.operasj.org\)](http://www.operasj.org) for additional information.

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P.K. has been a journalist and editor for over 17 years, has pursued multiple careers in journalism, high-tech marketing, real estate and has written two books: A volume of poetry and a guide to self-publishing. P.K. is an advocate of truth, traditions and unconventional philosophy, with an even...