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Opera San José Celebrates National Opera Week

SAN JOSE, CA— **Opera San José** joins dozens of other opera organizations nationwide to celebrate **National Opera Week (October 28 – November 6)**, coordinated by OPERA America, the national service organization for opera, with support of the National Endowment for the Arts.

As part of the week-long celebration, **Opera San José** will present two free public performances at the **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library** in downtown San José and partner with the **Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority** to encourage patrons to ride the VTA to the opera.

On Tuesday, November 1 at 12 noon, the company will present a preview of two one-act operas, Leoncavallo's emotional tour de force, *Pagliacci*, and Poulenc's monodrama, *La voix humaine*. The program will include a selection of arias and duets performed by members of the cast, followed by a panel discussion with members of the creative team, moderated by Opera San José's general manager Larry Hancock.

On Friday, November 4 at 4 pm, children of all ages are invited to a performance of a one-act touring opera based on Engelbert Humperdinck's classic, *Hansel and Gretel*. Performed in English by Opera San José's singers, *Hansel and Gretel* provides children with a positive experience of an art form that may be new to them, offering a fantastic introduction to opera and theatrical storytelling through music and voice.

Both events will be held on the 2nd floor of the library in room 225/229, located at 150 East San Fernando Street at 4th Street in downtown San José. No reservations are required.

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Opera San José will extend the celebration through the month of November by partnering with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority to encourage patrons to take public transit to the California Theatre for performances of the company's double-bill of *Pagliacci* and *La voix humaine*, November 12-27. VTA monthly pass holders can save 20% on tickets to any performance of *Pagliacci* and *La voix humaine* by presenting a valid monthly fare pass at time of purchase.

For more information on Opera San José visit www.operasj.org. For more information on National Opera Week visit www.operaamerica.org/operaweek. For VTA fares and schedules visit www.vta.org.

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.

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