



*L*YRICAL *O*pera THEATER

**ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

7903 S. Palladium Dr.  
West Jordan, UT 84088

**D**ear Opera Friends and Supporters,

With great gratitude and pride, we reflect on Lyrical Opera Theater's 2025 season — a year filled with musical brilliance, laughter, and artistic achievement. We were honored to welcome our audiences to performances that celebrated the richness of operatic storytelling while strengthening our mission to bring professional opera and arts education to Utah communities.

Our 2025 season featured two beloved masterpieces that showcased the versatility and vitality of the operatic art form: *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauss II and *Falstaff* by Giuseppe Verdi. Each production offered audiences a unique journey, blending exceptional music, dynamic storytelling, and theatrical charm.

Johann Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus* delighted audiences with its sparkling melodies, elegant waltzes, and playful comedy. Set amid the glamour and mischief of a Viennese masquerade, the operetta invited patrons into a world of mistaken identities, celebration, and joyful escapism. Its effervescent score and witty humor created an atmosphere of laughter and festivity that resonated throughout the theater.

In contrast, Verdi's *Falstaff* brought to life one of opera's most sophisticated comic achievements. Based on Shakespeare's beloved character, the opera combined masterful ensemble writing with quick wit and heartfelt humanity. Through Verdi's final operatic masterpiece, audiences experienced a warm and humorous reflection on aging, friendship, and the folly of human vanity — reminding us that laughter remains one of life's greatest joys.

Beyond the stage, Lyrical Opera Theater continued its commitment to arts education and community engagement. Through outreach performances and educational initiatives, we introduced new audiences — especially young people — to the transformative power of live opera, nurturing curiosity, creativity, and a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts.

As we look back on this remarkable season, we are deeply grateful for the patrons, artists, volunteers, donors, and community partners whose support makes our work possible. Your enthusiasm and generosity sustain our mission and inspire us to continue producing meaningful artistic experiences for our community.

Thank you for being an essential part of the Lyrical Opera Theater family. We look forward to sharing many more seasons of music, storytelling, and artistic discovery together.

Yours in harmony,  
Lynnette Owens  
Executive Director  
Lyrical Opera Theater

# OUR BOARD and VOLUNTEER STAFF



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Board of Directors/  
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Sydney Leavitt  
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Stagehands consultant  
and website designer



Accounting

# Programs

## OPERA PRODUCTIONS

In 2025, Lyrical Opera Theater produced two fully staged operatic productions — *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauss II and *Falstaff* by Giuseppe Verdi — presented with affordable ticket pricing designed to increase accessibility for lower-income families and individuals.

Performances were offered on the west side of the Salt Lake Valley in an ethnically diverse community, expanding access to professional opera and enriching cultural opportunities for underserved audiences. Opera performances bring communities together through shared artistic experiences that enhance quality of life and foster cultural connection. These productions provided audiences with opportunities for enrichment, education, and collective engagement as patrons experienced and discussed the stories, characters, and music that opera uniquely offers. Participation in opera — whether as audience members or performers — encourages artistic growth, builds community bonds, deepens cultural understanding, and inspires a sense of purpose and achievement.

Our audiences and artists represented a wide geographic area, including Salt Lake, Davis, Tooele, Summit, Cache, Weber, and Utah counties. Both productions were staged at the Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center in Taylorsville, Utah. Principal roles were double cast with local Utah artists, and each production featured full costumes, scenery, props, and projected supertitles to enhance accessibility and audience understanding. Local pianists and musicians performed live lobby concerts for 45 minutes prior to each performance and during intermissions, creating a welcoming and immersive artistic environment.

Each opera performance was preceded by our educational pre-show lecture series, “An Insider’s Guide,” providing audiences with historical context, musical insights, and dramatic exploration of the works being presented. *Die Fledermaus* delighted audiences with its elegant Viennese charm, sparkling waltzes, and comedic intrigue. Filled with mistaken identities, lively ensembles, and festive energy, the operetta offered an evening of laughter and musical brilliance while celebrating the joy and escapism of Strauss’s timeless score. Verdi’s *Falstaff*, the composer’s final operatic masterpiece, brought Shakespeare’s beloved character to life through witty storytelling and sophisticated ensemble writing. The production blended humor with warmth and humanity, exploring themes of friendship, aging, and self-discovery while showcasing Verdi’s extraordinary musical craftsmanship.

## EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Lyrical Opera Theater continued its commitment to arts education through community outreach and training initiatives. We presented our educational outreach assembly, *Little Red Riding Hood...a Children’s Opera*, at 14 elementary schools and provided accompanying online educational materials demonstrating how opera promotes cultural diversity, creativity, and understanding. Our “An Insider’s Guide” educational series was presented prior to each opera performance, offering audiences deeper insight into the music, history, and storytelling of opera. Additionally, we supported the development of local artists — from emerging performers to seasoned professionals — by providing training and performance opportunities close to home. These experiences allowed participants to refine their skills through operatic productions and concerts while strengthening Utah’s local performing arts community.

## CLASSY CONCERTS

In 2025, Lyrical Opera Theater expanded access to classical music through its Classy Concerts series. Performances included concerts for audiences at the Excellence in the Community concert series, eight pre-show concerts for opera patrons, and eight concerts presented at senior living centers, bringing live classical music directly to community members who may have limited access to traditional performance venues.

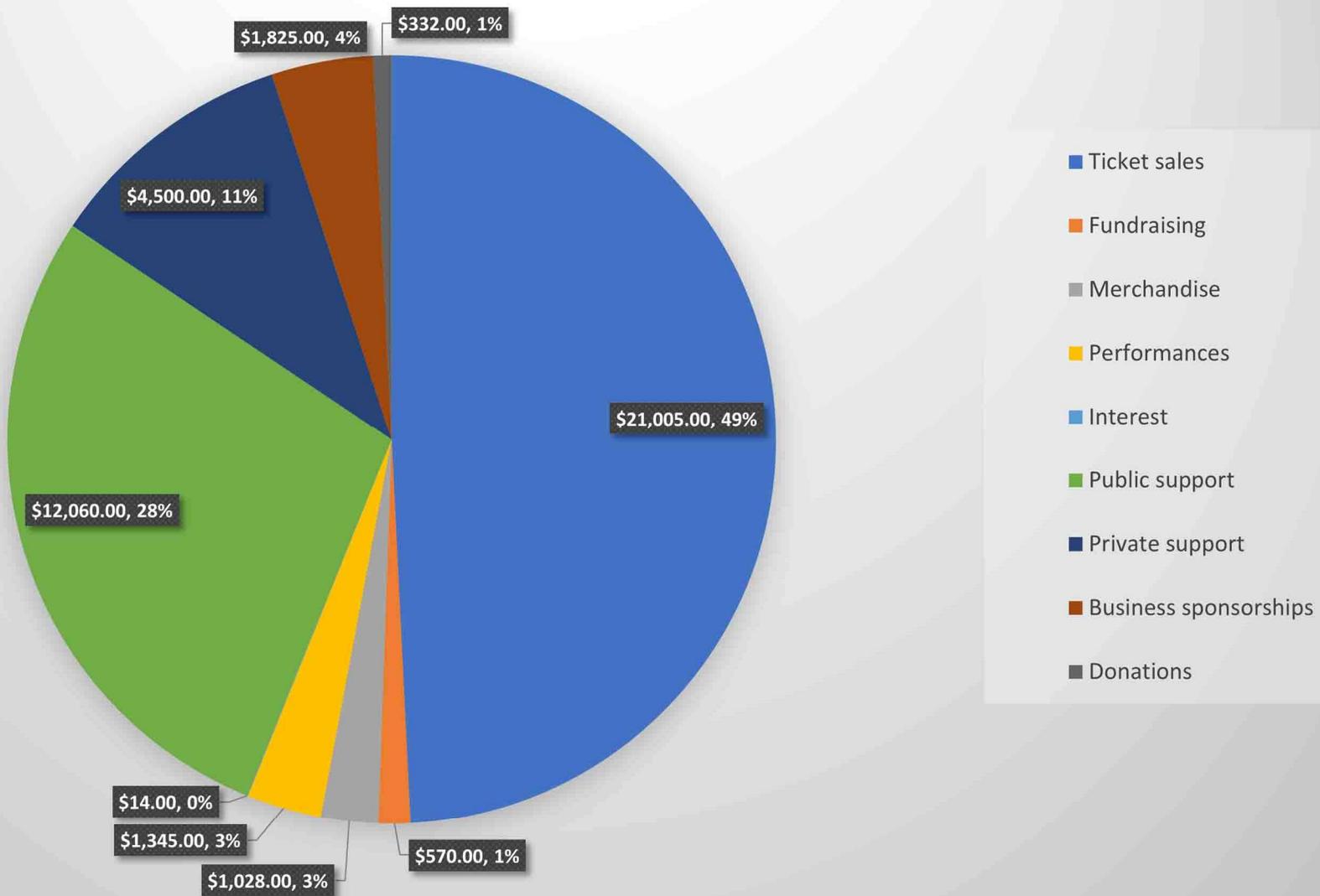
# FINANCIALS



In Kind Donations:

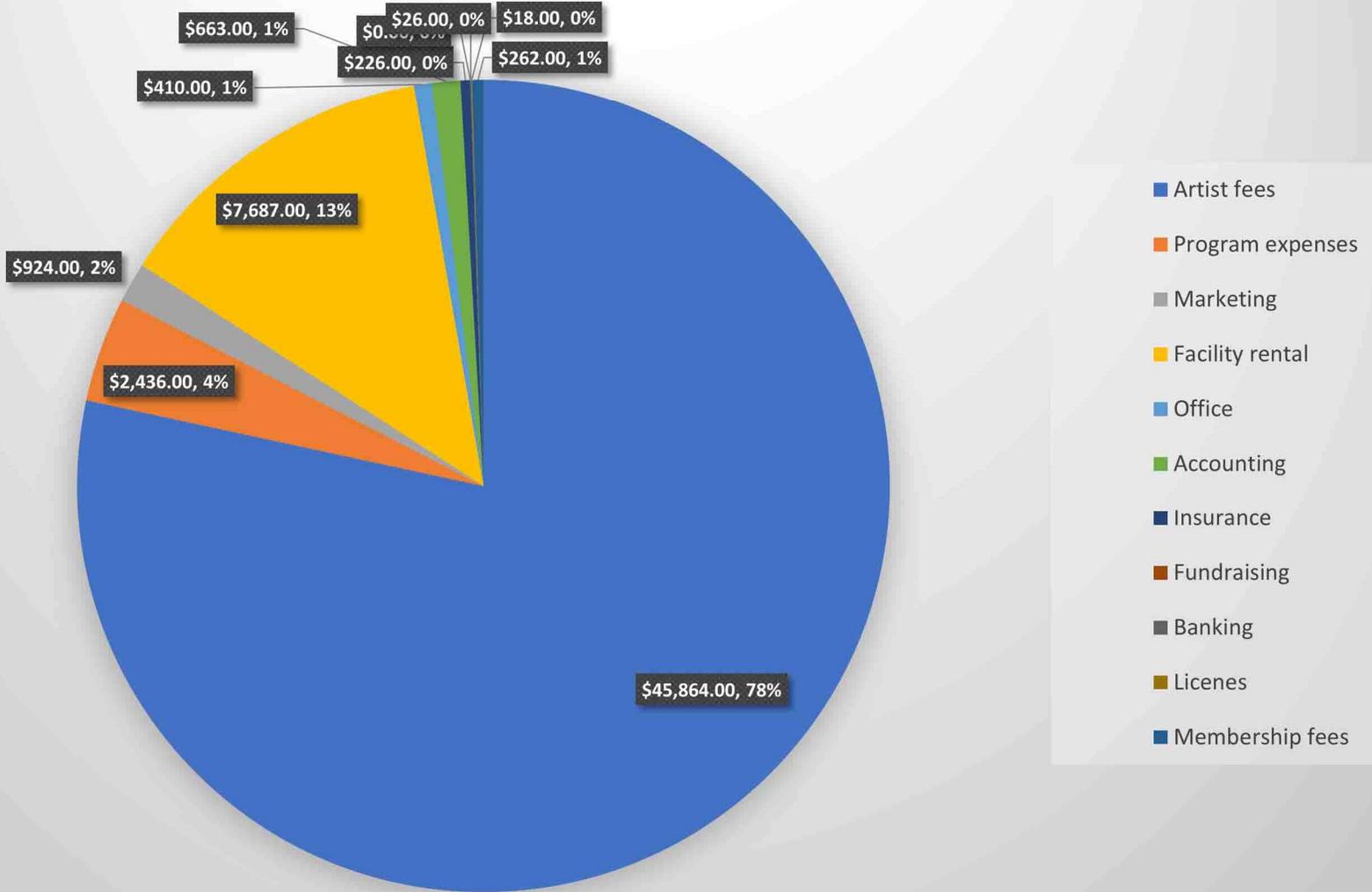
\$91,065

## Lyrical Opera Theater's Income 2025: \$42,679



# FINANCIALS (cont.)

## Lyrical Opera Theater's Expenses 2025: \$58,516



**ENGAGEMENT: 11,396**

**Adults: 2,202**

**Youth: 9,100**

**Artists: 94**

# PHOTOS

Educational Outreach: Leadership Learning Academy  
Little Red Riding Hood assembly



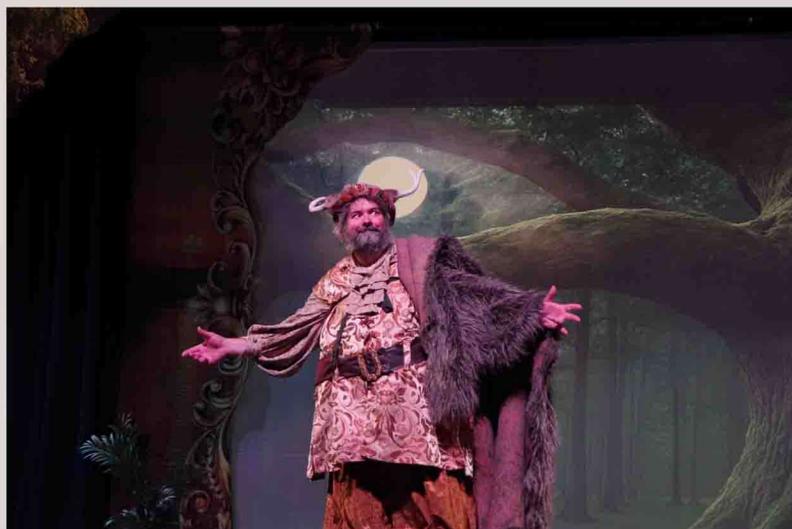
Aspen Ridge Rehabilitation Center



# Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss II



## Falstaff



## Classy Concerts



# PROGRAMS

Lyrical Opera Theater Presents:

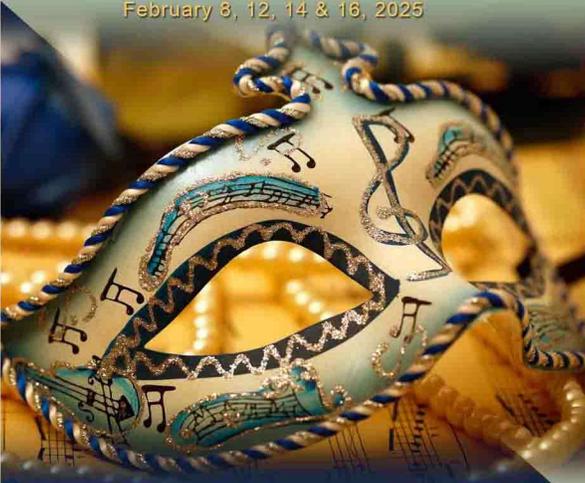
JOHANN STRAUSS II'S

## Die Fledermaus

Libretto by Karl Haffner and Richard Genée

Operetta in three acts set in Vienna, Austria in 1874

February 8, 12, 14 & 16, 2025



Mid-valley Performing Arts Center  
2525 S. Taylorsville Blvd.  
Taylorsville, UT

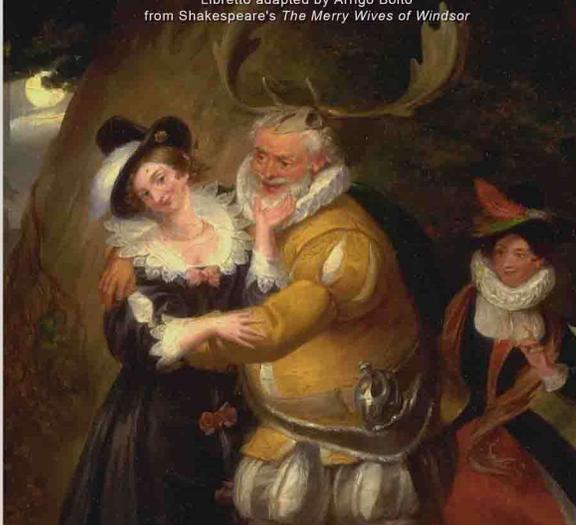
[www.LyricalOperaTheater.com](http://www.LyricalOperaTheater.com)

Lyrical Opera Theater Presents:

Giuseppe Verdi's

## FALSTAFF

Libretto adapted by Arrigo Boito  
from Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor*



September 13, 17, 19 & 21, 2025

Mid-valley Performing Arts Center  
2525 S. Taylorsville Blvd.  
Taylorsville, UT

[www.LyricalOperaTheater.com](http://www.LyricalOperaTheater.com)

## MUSIC & FUN

at the County Library

Library's Viridian Event Center

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CITY OF WEST JORDAN AND EXCELLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

### NOVEMBER

# FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS

AT THE LIBRARY'S VIRIDIAN EVENT CENTER








Library's Viridian Event Center

### Lyrical Opera Theater

Lyrical Opera Theater Presents a:

## GLASSY CONCERT



#### About Lyrical Opera Theater

Lyrical Opera Theater (LOT) is a non-profit organization proudly serving the Salt Lake Valley and surrounding communities. Dedicated to enriching Utah through professional opera and concert performances, LOT produces two full-scale operas each year at the Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center in Taylorsville, with Mozart's *The Magic Flute* coming in February 2026 and Verdi's *La Traviata* in September 2026. LOT also brings the magic of opera to young audiences through its educational outreach assembly, *Little Red Riding Hood*, a children's opera, performed in elementary schools across the Wasatch Front. In addition, the company offers over 16 free "Classy Concerts" annually, sharing world-class artistry with the community.

This elegant evening will feature beloved opera favorites such as Bizet's passionate "Habanera" from *Carmen*, Verdi's brilliant "La donna è mobile" from *Rigoletto*, and Puccini's exquisite "Flower Duet" from *Madama Butterfly*. Enjoy the artistry of some of Utah's finest voices—Jordan LeBaron (baritone), Angela LeBaron (soprano), Felicia Lundie (soprano), Luiz Meneghin (tenor), Lynnette Owens (mezzo-soprano), and Daniel Perez (tenor) masterfully accompanied by Lawrence Gee on the piano—as they bring these timeless masterpieces to life in an evening of passion, elegance, and unforgettable music.

First Friday Concert Series

### Upcoming First Friday Concert

**Salt Lake Symphonic Choir**  
Friday, December 5 | Activities, 6:30 pm | Concert, 7:30 pm  
Library's Viridian Event Center | [thecountylibrary.org/concerts](http://thecountylibrary.org/concerts)

### Upcoming Viridian Events

#### Classes

Learn something new or pick up a new hobby at weekly classes covering a wide range of topics. Classes are taught by experienced, passionate instructors and perfect for beginners.

**USU Extension: Parenting the Love and Logic Way® Sessions**  
November 18 and 25, 6:30 pm–8:30 pm

**Wasatch Woolpack: Long and Lustrous**  
Tuesday, November 18, 6:30–8 pm

Find a complete list of classes at: [thecountylibrary.org/ViridianClasses](http://thecountylibrary.org/ViridianClasses)

#### New Year's Gala

Ring in 2026 with sparkle, music, and celebration at this dynamic event featuring live music, dancing, karaoke, a balloon drop, and more.

Step into a night of lights and laughter in a dazzling celebration filled with energy and excitement. Enjoy the sounds of a live band, hit the dance floor, or belt out your favorite tunes during karaoke. Capture memories at our themed photo stations, share your resolutions, and savor festive refreshments throughout the evening. As the clock ticks closer to midnight, prepare for the thrill of a glittering balloon drop and a collective toast to the year ahead.

Space is limited and registration is required. Ages 18 and up.

**Wednesday, December 31, 10 pm–1 am**  
[thecountylibrary.org/AdultNightOut](http://thecountylibrary.org/AdultNightOut)

For info on other County Library events: [thecountylibrary.org/calendar](http://thecountylibrary.org/calendar)

# Our Greatest Successes

**Lyrical Opera Theater** achieved remarkable artistic and community successes throughout the year, highlighted by vibrant productions, expanded educational outreach, and meaningful audience growth.

Our production of *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauss II delighted audiences with its charm, humor, and energy. Presented in an English adaptation by Utah artist Anthony Buck, the translation was masterfully crafted to fit Strauss's musical lines while incorporating thoughtful updates that preserved the spirit and historical setting of the original work. The production showcased accessible opera at its finest, welcoming both longtime patrons and first-time attendees.

In September, Lyrical Opera Theater presented Verdi's *Falstaff*, featuring internationally acclaimed artist Christopher Clayton in the title role. Widely regarded as one of the most musically demanding operas in the repertoire, *Falstaff* challenged our artists with intricate ensemble writing and rapid musical exchanges. Through lively staging, dynamic performances, and a commitment to artistic excellence, we brought the beloved rogue vividly to life. Our practice of double-casting as many roles as possible ensured artistic continuity and performance stability without compromise.

Strategic marketing initiatives, combined with promotional support from Salt Lake County, enabled us to reach new audiences and significantly expand our community impact. These efforts strengthened visibility for opera on the west side of the Salt Lake Valley and introduced many new patrons to live operatic performance.

Our concert programming continued to flourish through our beloved *Classy Concerts*, alongside the launch of a new series, *Excellence in the Community*. This special performance at the Viridian Event Center reached an audience of more than 750 attendees and concluded with a standing ovation following an introduction by West Jordan Mayor Dirk Burton. Additionally, eight pre-show *Classy Concerts* and eight performances at senior living communities brought live music directly to audiences, enriching lives through accessible cultural experiences.

Education remained central to our mission. Participation in our children's opera assembly, *Little Red Riding Hood*, reached more schools than ever before, supported by new outreach strategies that strengthened school partnerships. We also expanded learning opportunities through our *Insider's Guide* pre-show lectures, educational video content, and quarterly newsletters, deepening audience understanding and appreciation of opera. Together, these accomplishments reflect a year of artistic excellence, community engagement, and meaningful growth as Lyrical Opera Theater continued to enrich Utah communities through performance and education.

## 2026 Goals

1. Add one new production, *The Magic Flute*, to our operatic repertoire.
2. Maintain our educational outreach assembly for elementary schools, "*Little Red Riding Hood...a children's opera*" performing at 20 schools in 2026.
3. Get three more business sponsors, two more foundations and expand our regular donors list.
4. Expand our volunteer base by setting up a volunteer tracking and gratitude program.
5. Improve our *Classy Concerts* by building on our relationship with the concert series "*Excellence in the Community*."

## Thank you to our donors!

Abel, Holly Seely	Dobbins, Eileen	Lui, Shuk Han	Schaub, Jacob
Anderson, Andy	Elliot, Cherise	Lundie, Felicia	Schaub, Lori
Anderson, Karen	Ferrara, Teresa	Lundie, Kimberly	Schindler, Andi
Anderson, Holly Harris	Forchic, Lori & Dennis & family	Lundskog, River & family	Seamons, Sarah
Anderson, Linda	Freeman, Cynthia	Meneghin, Luiz	Siddoway, Deborah
Arbizu, Christopher	Fulton, Teresa	Newman, John	Smith, Carole
Arbizu, Marcus	Gamonal, Ernie	Nichols, Cynthia	Sohm, Sue
Arbizu, Ray	Gordo, Flaco	O'Crowley, Rachael	Solomon, Andi
Bedore, Bob	Hamilton, Jane	Owens, Lynnette	Sorenson, Mary
Benson, Jessica	Hancock, Elijah	Owens, Max & Ruth	Southwick, Jeannie
Bobo, Lauren	Hans, Dell Loy	Owens, Steven	Stuart, Peggy
Borgenicht, Louis	Heinrich, Marilyn & Lee	Parker, Steve	Suiter, Celeste
Burke, Susan	Idehen, Sarra	Pedersen, Aleena	Toftum, Jesse
Calder, Judy	Jaeger, Heidi	Persinger, Regena & family	Tollestrup, Sammie
Campbell, Anna-Marie	Jameson, Emily	Powers, Alyssa	Trapp, Gregory
Cao, Glen	Jefferies, Beatrix	Powers, Candace	Trickett, Keith
Castleton, Matthew	Jensen, Joshua	Pugmire, Jessie	Vance, Lisa
Clavell, Erin	Jensen, Sonja	Richardson, Kelly	Vansted, Sean M
Clayton, Manuel	Johnston, Copeland	Rhodes, Kali	Walker, Kalie
Clements, Allison	Kimball, Janessa	Robinette, Sue	Wallingford, Doug
Coulter, John	Lavea, Teuila Gerber	Rogers, Janet	Watts, Gregory
Crabb, Jennifer	Larsen, Bryan	Rudolph, Marilyn & Walter	Wheatly, Stan
Dalbrow, Kahli	LeDuc, Nelson	Russel, Carol	Young, Christy
Din, Jeffrey			Zainer, Pamela

## Thank you to our 2025 season artists!

Abbott, Jacquelyn	Hart, Camille	Lundie, Felicia	Robinette, Bryce
Alexandra, Chelsea	Hart, David	Manziona, Genevieve	Robinette, Eric
Banfield, Holly	Haslam, Emerson	Manziona, Lauren	Roelofs, Anna
Bryant, Paula	Haslam, Jensen	McCurdy, Alyssa	Sauer, David
Burgess, Julie Webb	Haycock, Kate	McGee, Tiaree	Seamons, Sarah
Caldwell, Monte	Helm, Rebekah	Meneghin, Luiz	Schaub, Carly
Castleton, Matthew	Henderson, Jaron	Mier, Alon	Scheelke, Peter
Clayton, Chris	Hendriksen, Jake	Mijarez, Emily	Scott, Adria
Crandall, Kenn	Hess, Leah	Mohlman, Michelle	Scott, Nicki
Cunningham, Lori-ann	Höglund, Hayden	Nair, Smera	Scott, Ryker
Davis, Anna	Holloway, St. John	Nagar, Aarya	Scribner, Josh
DeLorean, George	Hunt, Kaeleb	Neipp, Sarah	Siddoway, Deborah
Dingman, Jack	Israelson, Addison	Nesticó, Paula Sofia	Stocks, Erin
Doman, Kora	Israelson, Kristie	Norton, David	Stockslager, Chris
Dunster, Emma	Johnson, Deborah	Owens, Lynnette	Swanson, Emma
Fagan, Jaquelynn	Kenison, Jacob	Parsons, Mary	Toftum, Jesse
Fotheringham, Megan	Knaras, Amber	Peck, Brody	Thomas, Court
Hall, Trent	Leavitt, Sydney	Peck, Daryn	Tuutau, Daniel
Hansen, Ashton	LeBaron, Angela	Penrod Miriam	Wailes, Lee
Hansen, Rod	LeBaron, Jordon	Perez, Daniel	Williams, Cassie
Harrelson, Alex	LeDuc, Nelson	Pugmire, Jessie	Wightman, Lauren
Harris, Cynthia	Linchenko, Natalia	Rasmussen, Mike	van Wyk, Jocelyn