



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 Monday, Sept. 12, 2016

CONTACT:  
 Nicole Darling at 619-379-8377 or [ndarling@sandiego.gov](mailto:ndarling@sandiego.gov)

# **Beyond the Stage: Central Library Invites Residents to Learn about Opera**

**EVENTS AIM TO CONNECT FANS WITH CLASSIC MUSICAL ART FORM**

SAN DIEGO – With the aim of presenting traditional opera in a meaningful way to new audiences, the City of San Diego Public Library presents the 61<sup>st</sup> season of the Opera Insights Series, made possible through a partnership with the San Diego Opera. The upcoming Fall Opera Insights Series features three engaging and informative sessions that highlight productions in the current 2016-17 San Diego Opera season.

Composer, pianist and arts educator Dr. Nicolas Reveles, the San Diego Opera’s Director of Community Engagement, will lead the sessions, which are free and open to the public. All three events will be held in the Neil Morgan Auditorium at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, 330 Park Blvd.

## **Meet the Composer of “Soldier Songs” – Sunday, Sept. 18, at 6 p.m.**

“Soldier Songs” by composer David T. Little is a gripping drama with a libretto made up of reflections on war by veterans who were involved in five major foreign conflicts. In this lecture, David T. Little will discuss the story development and unique style of his music.

## **Explore Operatic Fairy Tales – Sunday, Oct. 16, 2:30 p.m.**

This will be a free-wheeling discussion of “Cinderella,” the fairy tale and the opera, with Joseph T. Thomas, professor of English and Comparative Literature at San Diego State University, where he serves as Director of the National Center for the Study of Children’s Literature.

## **Discuss Giuseppe Verdi: Young and Old – Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.**

UCSD-TV will broadcast live this fun and informative discussion of Giuseppe Verdi’s two operatic masterpieces, “La Traviata” and “Falstaff.” This is a great opportunity to distinguish between Verdi’s operas in mid-career and the operas of his old age, along with a refreshing look at the art of opera and some wonderful music.

**“This is the first season in over 30 years that we’re opening in the fall rather than in January, so there will be opera spread throughout a longer period of time during the year,” said Dr. Nicolas Reveles. “There’s really something for everyone this season - the traditional and the new - and I hope everyone comes to experience San Diego Opera.”**

The Opera Insights Series is open to the public but reservations are encouraged. To reserve seats, visit <http://www.sdopera.org/engage/community-conversations>. To learn more about the series, visit [www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library).

**About the San Diego Public Library**

San Diego Public Library, which is the largest library system in the region, serves a population of more than 1.3 million people. Its mission is to inspire lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other. Learn about other events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s online catalog at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

###