



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Central Library Hosts Free Presentations on San Diego Opera's 2008 Season Series Offered on New Day and Time, with Featured Lecturer Dr. Ron Shaheen

SAN DIEGO –Free preview presentations on the five productions of the 2008 San Diego Opera season will be hosted at Central Library by the City of San Diego Public Library, in partnership with the San Diego Opera. The newly named *Opera Insights Series* (formerly *Opera Preview Lecture Series*) prepares opera goers with enjoyable, informative, and engaging presentations that integrate historical and cultural background, music analysis, plot synopsis, and CD and DVD selections. The lectures will be held in the third floor auditorium of Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. Dr. Ron Shaheen, staff lecturer for the San Diego Opera and an adjunct assistant professor with a specialization in vocal music at the University of San Diego, will deliver the presentations.

Please note: The presentations are being held on a new day and time—Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Previously they were regularly held on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.

The presentation schedule is as follows:

- *Tannhäuser*, by Richard Wagner
Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 5:30 p.m.
- *Mary, Queen of Scots* (Maria Stuarda), by Gaetano Donizetti
Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m.
- *Cavalleria Rusticana*, by Pietro Mascagni, and *Pagliacci*, by Ruggiero Leoncavallo
Wednesday, Mar. 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- *Aida*, by Giuseppe Verdi
Wednesday, Apr. 9 at 5:30 p.m.
- *The Pearl Fishers*, by Georges Bizet
Wednesday, Apr. 30 at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about the presentations, call the Central Library at 619-236-5800 or visit the Library's Web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org. For more information about the productions, visit the San Diego Opera's Web site at www.sdopera.com.

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