



City Councilmember Scott Sherman

District 7

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Councilmember Sherman and San Diego Opera Introduce New Educational Arts Program

“My Voice in the Arts” Will Promote Arts and Culture
for San Diego’s Youth

SAN DIEGO – Councilmember’s Scott Sherman and Chris Cate joined San Diego Opera General Director David Bennett to announce a new youth educational program that will provide free full-season subscriptions to San Diego Opera performances to San Diego youth in each Council District. Students will also be able to go backstage after performances to meet and learn from singers, performers, and backstage personnel.

This new program will expose students from all backgrounds who otherwise would not have the opportunity to experience the arts firsthand. The program will also help create and educate a new generation of opera enthusiasts. *My Voice in the Arts* was funded through the Council Office’s of Sherman, Cate, Gloria and Zapf.

To apply, students must complete an application and submit a written 250-500 word essay responding to the question: *“One example of how art has affected me is...”*

“To be a world class city, San Diego needs world class arts and entertainment. This new youth program will help inspire new interest in the opera for the next generation of San Diegans,” said Councilmember Sherman

“San Diego Opera is much more than an opera company,” said General Director David Bennett. “We are a community presence in schools around the county providing high-quality arts education to San Diego youth. The Company’s *Words and Music Program* provides weekly, year round instruction in composing, producing and performing student-created operas. San Diego Opera master artists and production technicians provide hundreds of hours of curriculum during each school year. Our Student Night at the opera provides free tickets and transportation to San Diego Opera performances to over 8,000 students and educators annually. With *My Voice in the Arts*, which is due in part to the generosity of the City Council, we’re incredibly pleased to be able to expand our offerings to the city we call home.”

Applications for *My Voice in the Arts* will begin being accepted today, November 12th through December 16th. Students and parents can find more information and apply at: <http://sdopera.org/education/my-voice-in-the-arts>

The following link includes b-roll from San Diego Opera performances: <http://www.sdopera.org/education/my-voice-in-the-arts>

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