



## WAYS TO GIVE

You can help Opera on the James continue to provide high quality live opera and related programs in many different ways. We appreciate contributions of every size and variety, so please consider the options below by which you can preserve and extend the value of what we bring to Central Virginia, such as professional live opera, programs that engage and serve members of the community, and opportunities for young artists. Call Cecelia Schieve at the opera office (434-528-3397) to discuss the programs below.

**ANNUAL FUND:** Your support allows the Opera to enhance our world class performances, strengthen community education and engagement programs, provide an opportunity for young emerging opera singers to refine their skills, and bridge the gap between ticket sales and the cost of productions. Pledge any amount to be paid over the current operating year July 1-June 30. Create a payment plan that best suits your budget. We are happy to invoice you or set up a schedule to charge your credit card on your chosen dates.

**SMALL CHANGE CLUB:** So-called “small change” adds up. Donors can make a big difference with just a little amount given to Opera on the James on a monthly basis. If only 20% of our 2500-member audience made monthly gifts of just \$10-\$25, the effect could be tremendous without donors taking significant chunks out of their monthly budgets. Small change becomes a big influence when opera lovers keep us in their monthly payments. Talk with us about how easy this is to set up!

**YOUNG ARTIST SPONSOR:** The Tyler Young Artist Program brings four emerging professionals and a master coach to Lynchburg for four weeks twice a season. These artists perform in the main stage opera and give approximately twenty free performances in the community each season. Sponsors underwrite professional training, travel, and a small stipend for the emerging opera singer during their residency.

**LEGACY SOCIETY:** A legacy is an amount designated for future disposition to Opera on the James through a will. Also known as a bequest, such a donation can take one of many different forms (see below). A legacy costs you nothing in your lifetime but makes clear your support of Opera on the James for posterity. Another benefit of a bequest is that it is usually exempt from federal estate taxes or capital gains.

Here are some of the common forms a bequest can take:

**Specific Dollar or Stock Bequest:** “I bequeath \$20,000 [or all of my Intel stock] to the Opera on the James, a Virginia non-profit in Lynchburg VA.”

**Residuary Bequest:** “I bequeath the residue [or 10% or the residue] of my estate to Opera on the James, a non-profit in Lynchburg, VA.”

**Contingent Bequest:** “If my niece does not survive me or is unable to inherit this bequest, I direct that it be paid to Opera on the James, a non-profit in Lynchburg, VA.”

How would you like Opera on the James to use your gift:

An **unrestricted bequest** allows the Opera to use the assets in the most beneficial way.

A **restricted bequest** allows you to specify how the Opera is to use the funds.

**FOUNDER’S FUND:** As Opera on the James enters the second decade of producing operas, our goal is to sustain and enhance the financial position of the company by growing our investment portfolio to ensure that future generations will experience the thrill of live opera in Central Virginia. With your generous donation, help us build the future.

**EDUCATION AND PRODUCTION SPONSORS:** Sponsors help bring our season to life. Sponsorship of a specific production, event, or learning and engagement program is an outstanding way to express your passion for opera or heighten your business’s visibility. Sponsorships offer a range of benefits including behind-the-scenes access to artists, recognition, special invitations to exclusive events, and much more. Sponsors include individuals, corporations, foundations, and trusts. For more information on specific sponsorship opportunities, please contact Donna Whitehouse at the opera office (434-528-3397).

**ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTORS:** The Greater Lynchburg Community Trust is a non-profit agency that manages endowments for community organizations which have found that the investment practices of the GLCT produce very good results. Opera on the James has an account, thanks to the generous donation of an early supporter and subsequent donors. You can add to the corpus and know that it will be there in perpetuity, producing unrestricted capital for the Opera’s use.

**THANK YOU** for considering how you can help Opera on the James continue to produce professional opera and serve our community!