



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Opera Columbus partners with Musicologie to bring opera to infants and toddlers

(Columbus) – **Opera Columbus** and **Musicologie Junior** will team up next season to introduce music to infants and toddlers up to 5 years old. Opera Columbus will work with the experienced music educators at Musicologie to help teach the basics of opera and music to youngsters at the most fundamental learning level.

Musicologie Junior is an extension of the **Musicologie** program, which offers lessons and a broad range of musical instruction to children and adults. Musicologie Junior is the proprietary early childhood program for infants, toddlers, and their parents designed to help instill passion and excitement for music in very young children. At each 40-minute class, Musicologie Junior incorporates singing, melody, rhyme and movement to engage children and help them reinforce their natural musical instincts.

“We are really looking forward to working with Musicologie and helping acquaint newly-developing minds to the idea of opera,” said Destiny Coleman, Opera Columbus Director of Education and Artistic Administration. “Like the premise of Musicologie Junior’s program suggests, it is never too early to broaden children’s musical horizons, and we are excited to have the opportunity to partner with Musicologie and make opera part of the early learning experience.”

This partnership will be an extension of Opera Columbus’ “Opera Goes To School” education program, which reaches over 13,000 central Ohio students each spring. The program includes Children’s Opera, Concerts in the Classroom, Improv Opera, free curriculum materials, and other educational initiatives designed to introduce opera to schoolkids.

“Opera is such an important part of the musical tradition, and we are happy to have Opera Columbus on board with us to bring these fundamental musical concepts to our infants and toddlers,” said Kay Barker, Musicologie co-founder and teacher. “We hope we can help spark an interest in opera that will develop into a life-long passion.”

Musicologie and Opera Columbus will begin their partnership at the beginning of July this year. Musicologie Junior offers classes at all three of its locations in Westerville, Dublin and Grandview.

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About Opera Columbus

Under the vision of General and Artistic Director Peggy Kriha Dye, Opera Columbus is redefining the concept of regional opera with world-class, original productions that celebrate extraordinary young talent and artistic collaboration, engaging a new, diverse audience for this most magnificent of art forms. Opera Columbus' Opera Goes to School program reaches more than 13,000 students each year, and its community engagement programs serve the community each season with multiple productions infusing local artists. In addition, Opera Columbus' annual Cooper-Bing Competition draws top vocalists from around the world to Columbus to compete for a grand prize of \$10,000. Opera Columbus and Capital University have also announced a new One of a Kind partnership with the launch of the Opera Columbus Capital University Resident Artist Program. For more information, visit www.OperaColumbus.org, Facebook: www.facebook.com/OperaColumbus, or Twitter: @OperaColumbus

About Musicologie

Founded by musicians and veteran music teachers Kay and Joseph Barker, Musicologie is a boutique music experience specializing in private one-on-one lessons for any age and ability. In addition to the early childhood program Musicologie Junior, Musicologie provides performance opportunities, rock band classes, recording workshops and more at three studios in Grandview, Westerville and Dublin. Musicologie's unique model focuses on building community and making music creation a part of everyone's daily life. Learn more at <https://musicologielessons.com/>.