



For Immediate Release
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Opera Columbus' Peggy Kriha Dye named General Director + CEO

(Columbus) – Opera Columbus announced that General + Artistic Director Peggy Kriha Dye has been given a new title, General Director + Chief Executive Officer, effective Jan 1, 2020. In addition, Peggy has been selected to serve on the Board of Trustees for Opera America.

“This title is a much more accurate indicator of the breadth of Peggy’s responsibilities, as well as the immense impact she has had on our company and the state of opera in central Ohio” said Bill Miller, President and Chair of the Opera Columbus Board of Trustees. “We are incredibly lucky to have someone of Peggy’s dynamic leadership aptitude and expertise at the helm of Opera Columbus.”

A graduate of Juilliard, Peggy is an accomplished soprano. She originated the role of Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, written and conducted by Andre Previn at the San Francisco Opera, and reprised the role with the Pittsburgh Symphony and Washington National Opera. Other significant roles include Musetta in *La Bohème* with the San Francisco Opera, Shanghai Opera House, and Festival Opera of Walnut Creek; Nannetta in *Falstaff* with the Utah Opera; Drusilla in *L’incoronazione di Poppea* with the Houston Grand Opera; Nedda in *I Pagliacci* with the Tulsa Opera; and the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro* with Toronto’s Opera Atelier.

Since 2011, Peggy has played a critical role in the rebuilding and branding of Opera Columbus, now producing three productions every season. She was selected by Opera America to participate in their 2013 Leadership Intensive program.

Peggy was featured as one of 2017’s Top 30 “Movers and Shapers” by *Musical America* (MA) -- a publication which serves as the oldest and longest-running periodical concentrating on classical music in America; she was cited as “breathing new life into Opera Columbus’ operations.” Peggy was noted for developing Opera Columbus’ collaboration with The Juilliard School, in which artists from the ADOS (Artist Diploma in Opera Studies) program are cast in productions with Opera Columbus. In addition, MA applauded her for the “Opera on The Edge” program, in which traditional operas were abbreviated to an hour, in English, and in non-traditional settings. One of the most recent Opera on the Edge shows, “Uncle John,” was an adaptation of Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*, presented at Shadowbox, The Refectory, The OSU Wexner Medical Center, and Le Méridien Columbus, The Joseph.

“It’s been an honor to take on the leadership role at Opera Columbus, and any changes that I’ve been able to execute have been largely because of the capabilities and enthusiasm of the administration and artists here at Opera Columbus,” said Peggy. “I’m humbled by the Board of Directors’ faith in me, and I look forward to facing the challenges as we continue to grow and expand the company into new artistic directions.”

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Peggy was also recently named to the Board of Trustees of Opera America, a New York-based service organization promoting the creation, presentation, and enjoyment of opera in the United States. Almost all professional opera companies and some semi-professional companies in the United States are members of the organization, including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Dallas Opera. Opera America includes international affiliated opera companies such as the Teatro Municipal de São Paulo. Opera America also hosts businesses, educational institutions, libraries, foundations, guilds, and opera artists such as singers and composers.

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About Opera Columbus

Under the vision of General Director + CEO Peggy Kriha Dye, Opera Columbus is redefining the concept of regional opera with world-class productions that celebrate extraordinary talent and artistic partnerships, engaging a new, diverse audience for this most magnificent of artforms. From groundbreaking collaborations to innovative and breathtaking productions, Opera Columbus is passionate about creating artistic moments for each and every patron. Opera Columbus' slogan, "Make It Yours," demonstrates the company's commitment to inclusivity, and invites everyone in the community to join with us. For more information, visit www.OperaColumbus.org, Facebook: www.facebook.com/OperaColumbus, Instagram: [Opera.Columbus](https://www.instagram.com/OperaColumbus) or Twitter: [@OperaColumbus](https://twitter.com/OperaColumbus).

Support for Opera Columbus' 2019-2020 season is provided by the Greater Columbus Arts Council, the Ohio Arts Council, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide, Cardinal Health, and Voice Center, Ohio State Wexner Medical Center.

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