Hello!

Welcome to Opera Columbus! We are so glad you decided to use *Opera in a Dropbox: Cinderella* in your classroom. While we wish could offer live and in-person productions this year, we hope this innovative, hybrid curriculum will help enliven your class, foster curiosity, and bring the joy of musical storytelling to your school.

The performance—and related materials—is designed to be easy, efficient, and effective. We know your time is precious, especially this school year. In order to help streamline this program, please read the information below to quickly learn how to utilize *Opera in a Dropbox*.

What is *Opera in a Dropbox: Cinderella*?
Opera in a Dropbox is a new program designed to accommodate the challenges presented to teachers and classrooms during the 2020/21 school year. This program has two components: 1) The downloadable, classroom materials and 2) an in-class, virtual presentation.

In the folder you've received, you will find everything you need to introduce opera to your students. Included are:

1) Original audio recordings of *Cinderella*, a new English adaptation of the beloved fairytale opera
2) Links to videos for each musical track
3) Reader's Theatre scripts for your students
4) Teacher's Guides and supplemental resources to help introduce and engage students in the musical, fairytale world of Cinderella

This program culminates in a virtual visit from an Opera Columbus—Capital University Resident Artist (OCCU). These OCCU Artists are professional opera singers who both serve on the faculty of Capital University and perform on the Opera Columbus mainstage. These artists have impressive teaching/performing credentials and offer your students a unique one-on-one experience with a *real* opera singer.

How can I best use *Opera in a Dropbox: Cinderella* in my class?
There are three ways you can use *Opera in a Dropbox* in your classroom.

But before presenting these options, answer the questions below! Your answers will help you decide which option is right for you:

1) What is the age group you plan to work with?
2) Are your students below, at, or above a 2nd grade reading level?
3) Do you want to devote multiple class periods to *Opera in a Dropbox* or just the scheduled, virtual experience?
4) Is your classroom meeting in-person, virtual, or hybrid?

With your answers in mind, here are the options for how to present *Opera in a Dropbox* to your students:

A) **Performance Project**—Your students can take part in the performance by acting out the Reader's Theatre dialogue, telling the story of *Cinderella* along with the musical/video tracks. With preparation, your students perform *for* the Opera Columbus-Capital University Resident Artist. Don't worry, we are not expecting professional level performances!

This option is ideal for classrooms planning on a week (or so) of preparation AND contains a majority of students with a 2nd grade (or higher) reading level. **Best for classrooms meeting in-person or hybrid.**

B) **Musical Storytime**— Have the Opera Columbus-Capital University Resident Artist guide your classroom through the story of *Cinderella*. Students will engage with the Artist and story by answering questions in real time about the story and music.

This option is ideal for classrooms that do not have ample class time to prepare for the virtual visit OR have students below a 2nd grade (or higher) reading level. **Best for classrooms meeting entirely online.**

C) **Artist Spotlight**— Want to make the most of your time with a professional artist in your classroom? Teach *Cinderella* to your students in advance, preparing questions for your Opera Columbus-Capital University Resident Artist. In return, your students will learn about opera (and the human voice) from a pro!

This option is ideal for classrooms that will prepare before the virtual visit AND have students who are well above the 2nd grade reading level. **Option is available for classrooms meeting in-person, hybrid, or entirely online.**

About *Cinderella*
Here is a link to the 25 min featurette about the story, composers, and music of *Cinderella*. You can use this video to prepare for your class or have your students watch all (or parts) of it in preparation for your virtual visit.

Cinderella Featurette: https://youtu.be/gUQO3wh2D1U

Now that you've made an informed decision about which option you wish to pursue, contact Opera Columbus to let us know your decision!

We are so excited you have chosen to present *Opera in a Dropbox* to your students, and we cannot wait to virtually visit your classroom!

Sincerely,
Opera Columbus