

OPERA NAPLES

Ramón Tebar, *Artistic & Music Director*

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OPERA NAPLES ANNOUNCES 2025 FESTIVAL UNDER THE STARS PRESS CONFERENCE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AT 10AM IN CAMBIER PARK

NAPLES, FL (February 3, 2025) – Opera Naples announces a press conference in advance of the 2025 Festival Under the Stars, planned for Wednesday, February 26 at 10am in Cambier Park, located at the entrance adjacent to 601 Park Street, Naples, FL 34102. Key people involved in the festival will be present at the press conference, including Opera Naples Executive Director Melanie Kalnins, Opera Naples Artistic and Music Director Ramón Tebar and Luciano Pavarotti Foundation President Nicoletta Pavarotti. Members of the media are encouraged to RSVP for the event at ralbaugh@operanaples.org or by calling 239-963-9050.

Commenting on the upcoming Festival Under the Stars, Nicoletta Pavarotti said: “After the phenomenal success of our inaugural Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Opera Naples International Voice Competition in January, I am delighted that we will open the festival with a “Pavarotti Voices” concert which features winners from the competition and celebrates the legacy of my late husband. I also warmly invite Naples audiences to attend a conversation I will be hosting on March 3 at the Wang Opera Center where I will talk about the many artistic adventures Luciano and I enjoyed together along with my vision for the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation as we move forward.”

Artistic and Music Director Ramón Tebar added: "We continue to be so grateful to Nicoletta and her Foundation for their incredible partnership. In addition to the activities which Nicoletta mentioned, we are also thrilled to be presenting three different operas with very contrasting themes as part of our festival: Puccini's *La bohème*, Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Mikado*. We will also have a special day for children with our free Family & Community Day and are delighted to be again partnering with Gulfshore Ballet in two performances of *Sleeping Beauty*."

2025 OPERA NAPLES FESTIVAL UNDER THE STARS

Cambier Park, February 27 to March 15

Opera Naples Artistic and Music Director Ramón Tebar leads the festival's musical activities, conducting the Naples Festival Orchestra. The festival is notable for being the only outdoor winter opera festival in the United States. Festivalgoers will enjoy three fully staged operas featuring internationally renowned artists, plus collaborative evenings with the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation, San Francisco Opera's Adler Program, Festival of the Arts BOCA and Gulfshore Ballet. Tickets: \$28-\$152. Student tickets start at \$20. VIP Tables start at \$390, including access to a VIP check in from 6-7pm.

Feb 27	The Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Pavarotti Voices Concert, 7pm
Feb 28	<i>The Magic Flute</i> by Mozart, 7pm
March 1	Family and Community Day, 10am-1pm
March 1	The Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Pavarotti Voices Concert Travels to Boca, 7:30pm (note location: Mizner Park, Boca Raton)
March 2	<i>The Magic Flute</i> by Mozart, 7pm
March 3	The Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Celebrates Luciano's 90th Anniversary: Reflections from Nicoletta Pavarotti, 7pm (note location: Wang Opera Center)
March 6	<i>La bohème</i> by Puccini, 7pm
March 7	<i>The Mikado</i> by Gilbert and Sullivan, 7pm
March 8	<i>La bohème</i> by Puccini, 7pm
March 9	<i>The Mikado</i> by Gilbert and Sullivan, 7:30pm
March 15	<i>Sleeping Beauty</i> by Tchaikovsky, performed by Gulfshore Ballet, 2pm and 6pm (note location: Wang Opera Center)

THE LUCIANO PAVAROTTI FOUNDATION PAVAROTTI VOICES CONCERT

Winners from the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Opera Naples International Voice Competition will take the stage on opening night of the 2025 Opera Naples Festival Under the Stars! This exceptional concert marks the beginning of a spectacular festival, showcasing the talents of some of the world's most gifted vocalists. Nicoletta Pavarotti, president of the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation, will graciously host the event.

***THE MAGIC FLUTE* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

The Magic Flute is a sublime blend of music, comedy and fantasy. Composed in 1791, this tale of love, betrayal and redemption continues to mesmerize audiences with its enchanting arias, charming characters and enigmatic themes. This production promises to transport you to a world of wonder and magic, with Mozart's timeless music and the stars shining bright above. Sung in German with English surtitles.

Ramón Tebar, conductor
Naples Festival Orchestra
Megan Barrera, stage director
Victor Cardamone, *Tamino*
Olivia Smith, *Pamina*
Samuel Kidd, *Papageno*
Maria Aleida Rodriguez, *Queen of the Night*
TBD, *Sarastro*
Arianna Rodriguez, *Papagena*

***LA BOHEME* by Giacomo Puccini**

Giacomo Puccini's iconic opera, *La bohème*, is a poignant and passionate portrayal of young love and artistic passion set against the vibrant backdrop of 19th-century Paris. This beloved masterpiece, composed in 1896, follows the tragic tale of Rodolfo and Mimi's doomed love affair, brought to life by Puccini's lush music and memorable characters. Sung in Italian with English surtitles.

Ramón Tebar, conductor
Naples Festival Orchestra
Megan Barrera, stage director
Caroline Corrales, *Mimi*
William Davenport, *Rodolfo*
Matthew Cossack, *Marcello*
Arianna Rodriguez, *Musetta*
Samuel Kidd, *Schaunard*
Jongwon Han, *Colline*
Scott Hetz Clark, *Beniot/Alcindoro*
Nathan Schafer, *Parpignol*

***THE MIKADO* by Gilbert & Sullivan**

The Mikado is a witty and whimsical tale of love, politics and absurdity set in ancient Japan. This lighthearted masterpiece, composed in 1885, follows the misadventures of Ko-Ko, a hapless executioner, and Yum-Yum, a beautiful maiden, as they navigate a web of silly laws and absurd regulations. Sung in English.

Ramón Tebar, conductor
Louis Dall'Ava, stage director
Nathan Schafer, *Nanki-Poo*
Matthew Cossack, *Ko-Ko*
Scott Hetz Clark, *Pooh-Bah*
Jeffrey Goldberg, *Pish-Tush*
Louis Dall'Ava, *The Mikado*
Hannah Cho, *Yum-Yum*
Cornelia Lotito, *Katisha*
D'Ariel Barnard, *Pitti-Sing*

***SLEEPING BEAUTY* by Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Join Gulfshore Ballet as they present *Sleeping Beauty*, renowned as a masterpiece of music, dance and storytelling. Composed by Tchaikovsky in 1889, it is a testament to his genius and a showcase for a dancer's technical skill. The ballet follows the fairy tale romance of Princess Aurora and her Prince Phillip, with a score that took Tchaikovsky just 40 days to complete.

THE LUCIANO PAVAROTTI FOUNDATION CELEBRATES LUCIANO'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY: REFLECTIONS FROM NICOLETTA PAVAROTTI

As the world celebrates the 90th anniversary of Luciano Pavarotti's birth in 2025, President of the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Nicoletta Pavarotti shares details from her life with the famed tenor. Hear about her adventures with her late husband, including her legendary management of the Pavarotti & Friends benefit concerts, as well as her most recent professional accomplishments and pursuits.

FREE Family & Community Day!

This event features activities and special performances for the whole family. Children's themed opera performance of *The Ugly Duckling* by Opera Naples Resident Artists, plus fun activities and games, bounce house, face painting and balloon artistry. Admission is free; no tickets required.

Ticket availability varies by event. For tickets, please visit OperaNaples.org. **Millennium Club and members may purchase tickets with Concierge Ticketing by calling Rita Albaugh at 239-963-9050 or emailing ralbaugh@operanaples.org.**

Opera Naples is grateful for leadership sponsorship support from Ice Miller LLP, Starkweather & Shepley, John and Nicky Pepe, PNC Private Bank, Sally and Tom Gleason and the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation. Additional sponsorship and partnership support provided by Gulfshore Life, The Naples Press, Naples Daily News, Gulfshore Ballet, Naples Trust, International Women's Forum, Naples Global Advisors, The Aielli Group, Turk & Turk, Winfield Coffee, City of Naples, as well as grant funding support from the Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau, Florida's Paradise Coast, Collier Community Foundation and the Florida Theatrical Association.

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Opera Naples is an artistic powerhouse, dedicated to presenting high-quality opera productions and concerts featuring prominent international, national and regional performers and directors. Opera Naples has presented well-known grand operas such as *La bohème*, *Carmen*, *Faust*, *La Traviata*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Rigoletto*, *Tosca* and more. An advocate of community service and education outreach, Opera Naples has introduced opera to more than 64,000 children since its inception through various programs, including in-school programs and performances in Lee and Collier counties, the Resident Artists Program and Summer Youth Program. The company is also committed to nurturing promising young talent through the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation Opera Naples Academy led by a faculty of prominent opera luminaries who offer an immersive program of vocal instruction, lectures and masterclasses. In collaboration with the Luciano Pavarotti Foundation, Opera Naples also hosts an International Voice Competition, in partnership with Florida Gulf Coast University. The company has earned local, regional and state government support. For more information, visit OperaNaples.org.