

# PORTLAND OPERA

## 2022-2023 SEASON AT A GLANCE

Questions? Contact: [giving@portlandopera.org](mailto:giving@portlandopera.org) or 503.417.0581

### 22-23 OPERA SEASON

**Carmen** • Composed by Georges Bizet • Libretto by Henri Meilhac & Ludovic Halévy  
November 5, 11, and 13, 2022 • Keller Auditorium

“Edgier, grittier, updated *Carmen* grips audience ... the performance on November 11 resonated well with the nearly full house, making it a night to remember.” - *James Bash, Northwest Reverb*

**Thumbprint** • Composed by Kamala Sankaram • Libretto by Susan Yankowitz •  
March 18, 22, 24, and 26, 2023 • Newmark Theatre

“Portland Opera’s opening night of *Thumbprint* is still reverberating between my earlobes. The production that I experienced on March 18 at the Newmark Theatre presented the rarest of operas because a terrible event does not end up in a full-blown tragedy; instead, it leads to a life-enhancing outcome that continues to lift people’s lives today.” - *James Bash, Northwest Reverb*.

**Rusalka** • Composed by Antonín Dvořák • Libretto by Jaroslav Kvapil •  
April 22, 28, and 30, 2023 • Keller Auditorium

"After years of popular demand, *Rusalka* has finally arrived in Portland, and all involved earn an enthusiastic “Bravi tutti!” – *Eric Ash, Willamette Week*

**Absence: Terence Blanchard** • featuring The E-Collective and Turtle Island Quartet with the Portland Opera Orchestra • May 26, 2023 • Keller Auditorium

“For one electrifying night, Terence Blanchard was center stage at Portland Opera... Blanchard himself was quoted as saying that “sometimes my music is about the reality of where we are.” That reality uses the recent past to emphasize the ongoing errors of those who haven’t learned their history.” – *Eric Ash, Willamette Week*

*Portland Opera Resident Artist Recitals, community appearances, pop-up concerts, and educational activities were held throughout the season regionally and with community partners.*

# 311

Artists and arts professionals employed during the 22-23 season, including singers, designers, stagehands, orchestra members, and more.

# 5,000

Number of miles travelled during the world premiere tour of *Beatrice*, our first-ever Portland Opera to Go commission, about the life of civil rights pioneer Beatrice Morrow Cannady.

# 17

Community and artistic partnerships and collaborations from Resonance Ensemble to Opera in the Park

# 30+

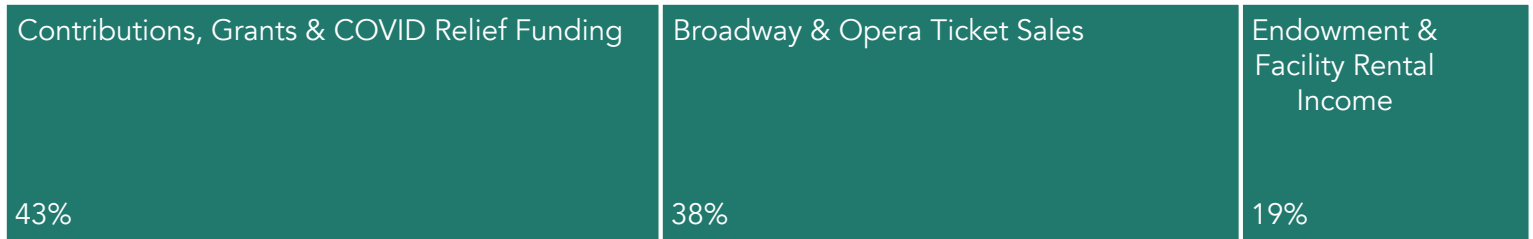
Number of mermaids from the Portlandia Mermaid Parade who attended the opening of *Rusalka*

Our mission: We gather and inspire audiences, artists, and collaborators to create shared opera experiences that enliven and connect us all, enhancing the cultural landscape of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

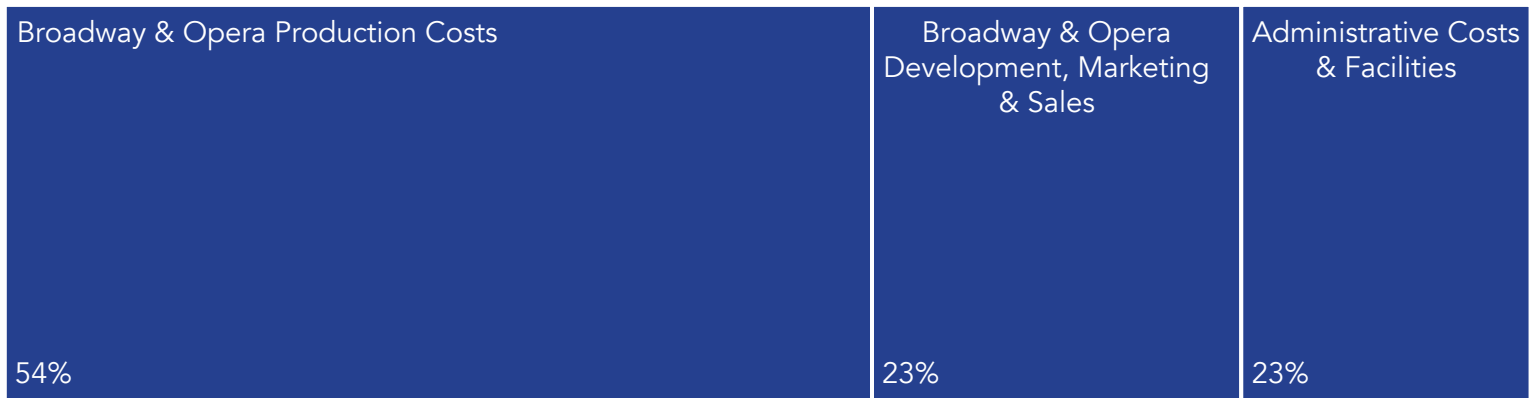
# 2022-2023 SEASON

## BY THE NUMBERS: Portland Opera Association, Inc.

### Primary Revenue Sources



### Primary Use of Expenses



For more information visit <https://www.portlandopera.org/about/financial-information/>

## KEY MOMENTS AND STORIES FROM 2022-2023

### PORTLAND OPERA TO GO (POGO): *BEATRICE: A World Premiere!*

As part of our commitment to develop new works, we commissioned our first opera for POGO: *Beatrice* a 50-minute youth opera inspired by the life and story of Beatrice Morrow Cannady, a prominent leader in Oregon's cultural community and civil rights movement of the early 1900s.

The response to *Beatrice* was great, including detailed press coverage and enthusiasm from educators and students alike.

This opera is the first installment of our multi-year commitment to commissioning new youth operas focused on stories of underrepresented and unsung Oregonians.

### THUMBPRINT

In March 2023, Portland Opera presented Thumbprint, an opera inspired by the true story of Mukhtar Mai—a trailblazing Pakistani activist.

The libretto, written by Susan Yankowitz, originates from a series of interviews with Mai, paired with a score by Kamala Sankaram that is a dynamic collision of Hindustani and European opera influences.

Both Sankaram and Yankowitz spent time in Portland, working with the cast and speaking with the public. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, we held a special discussion with the composer and librettist at Literary Arts. This production continued our multiyear commitment to share stories of journeys to justice.

### CULTIVATING AN ARTS ECOSYSTEM

As a committed arts partner, Portland Opera hosted numerous performances, rehearsals, and arts festivals from local arts and culture organizations throughout the year, including Boom Arts, Opera Theatre Oregon, Opera in the Park, and Push Fold's Union PDX Dance Festival. We've also worked to amplify the exciting projects we see within our arts community.

### ENSEMBLE LEADERS FELLOWSHIP

The 2022/23 season marked the second year of our new program to move the art form forward by providing career advancement opportunities for individuals who have been historically underrepresented in the world of opera, in both administrative and artistic roles. Jasmine Johnson, the company's first Ensemble Leaders Fellow, returned to the company for her second year in the program (she has since joined the Portland Opera staff as the company's new Corporate Relations Manager!)

Discover more stories of impact and community: read the current issue of [Toi Toi Toi Magazine](#).

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