

Livermore Valley Opera NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Jim Schmidt 925-443-5450

jims2ndlife@yahoo.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Francisco Opera Center Adler Fellows to Perform at Bankhead Winner of the Metropolitan Opera's National Council Auditions Among Performers

LIVERMORE, CALIF. – Livermore Valley Opera, in partnership with the San Francisco Opera Center, will present the San Francisco Opera Center Adler Fellows in the premiere of **“Rivalries” on Sunday, April 11, 2010 at 2 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.** The theater is located at 2400 First Street. Proceeds from this event will benefit LVO.

“‘Rivalries’ is two, one-act operas about the rivalries and struggles of love and competition,” explains Jim Schmidt, Managing Director of Livermore Valley Opera. “One opera is Hugo Weisgall’s ‘The Stronger’ about a bitter rivalry of love, and the second is Mozart’s ‘The Impresario’ which is all about competition for a lead role in an opera.”

The cast of six artists are members of this year’s Adler Fellows, a select group of the San Francisco Opera Merola Scholars. One of the artists, soprano **Leah Crocetto** is one of five Metropolitan Opera’s National Council Auditions \$15,000 winners. The auditions’ Grand Finals concert on the Met stage took place on Sunday, March 14, 2010. Fellow cast member mezzo-soprano **Maya Lahyani**, also performed at the Met as an auditions finalist. Additional Adler Fellow cast members are Ryan Belongie, Susannah Biller, Sara Gartland and Austin Kness.

“We are very excited about this wonderful opportunity to showcase these exceptionally gifted singers at the Bankhead,” adds Schmidt.

Tickets

\$25 to \$45. Students receive a \$10 discount
Reception following with appetizers and wine for \$25.

Performance & Box Office Location:

Bankhead Theater
2400 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Bankhead Ticket Office: 925-373-6800
www.livermoreperformingarts.org

More information

To learn more about Livermore Valley Opera, visit www.livermorevalleyopera.org. To learn more about the Adler Fellows program, visit www.sfopera.com.

About Adler Fellows

Adler Fellowships are performance-oriented residencies that are awarded annually to a select group of the San Francisco Opera Merola Scholars. Under the guidance of San Francisco Opera General Director David Gockley and Opera Center Director Sheri Greenawald, the Adler Fellowship Program offers intensive individual training and roles of increasing importance in San Francisco Opera's main-stage season. The Merola Opera Program selects outstanding singers and artist from 800 global applicants on the basis of education, accomplishments, and auditions. Adler fellows have a fine record of moving forward onto the celebrated opera house stages throughout the world. The San Francisco Opera Center manages the Adler and Merola programs named for the Opera's first two general directors, Kurt Herbert Adler and Gaetano Merola.

About LVO

Livermore Valley Opera was founded in 1992, and presents fully-staged operas at Livermore 's Bankhead Theater in the spring and fall. This new theater features excellent lines of sight and acoustics, helping the opera to attract talented singers and stage directors for their performances. LVO employs no staff, and is driven by a voluntary board of directors; the company relies on the help of 100+ community volunteers to bring each production to the stage.

Livermore Valley Opera is a community-based 501(c) 3 non-profit charitable arts organization. For more information, visit www.livermorevalleyopera.org.

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Heidi Massie
Communications Consultant