opera Naples Presents



March 19, 2013 The Port Royal Club ~ Naples, Florida



## BRINGING OPERA TO OUR CHILDREN

We are proud to have introduced opera to thousands of young children over the years and have been thrilled to watch the talent of more than a few of them blossom into wholehearted pursuit of careers in music. It is enormously rewarding for us to not only give the gift of music to appreciative audiences, but to discover and develop gifted young children.

Our programs reach across all demographic and socioeconomic lines, and even help enrich the lives of some less fortunate than ourselves. We are proud to have children participating in our programs who are differently-abled, including a sight-impaired eight-year old girl and an autistic teenager who has participated in our summer program for five consecutive years. On the following pages is a report of last year's activities and a few examples of what our wonderful young people are achieving.



## OPERA NAPLES OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Over the last seven years, our education programs have reached literally thousands of young people across Collier and Lee Counties. Last year alone, we visited a dozen schools in the region, performing for more than three thousand students. We also performed for 35 at-risk children who are part of the Super Kids Club, whose mission is to "address the needs of at-risk elementary children in Bonita Springs and East Naples."

Last year's program (2011-2012) included:

- In-school performances of a touring production of Hansel and Gretel, featuring 11 year-old singers in the title roles.
- **Public performances** of Hansel and Gretel, presented at Community School of Naples.
- Scenes for Teens, an opportunity for young people to receive important public performance opportunities.
- Participation in the Bayshore/CAPA
   Erich Kunzel Concert Series with a program that again featured our young performers, as well as our resident professional artists.
- A summer youth program, which engaged 20 young performers in a staged production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience*, performed for more than 200 people at the G&L Theatre at Community School of Naples.

