

# RIMROCK OPERA

# Aria News

P.O. BOX 11 BILLINGS, MT 59103-0011 (406) 671-2214 [www.rimrockopera.org](http://www.rimrockopera.org)

Spring 2008

## 2008-2009 Rimrock Opera Season

**Rimrock Opera  
Chorus for Kids  
Spring Concert**  
May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Skyview High

**ROCK Kids Camp**  
June 23-27<sup>th</sup>  
Venture Theatre

**Summer Pops**  
July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM  
July 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM  
Venture Theatre  
All seats- \$20

**Auction of Arias**  
Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM  
McCormick Café

**Opera 101  
"Magic of Mozart"**  
Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
7-9 PM  
Location: TBA

**Marriage of Figaro**  
Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM  
Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 PM  
Alberta Bair Theater

**OperaFest**  
March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM  
Yellowstone Country Club

**Carmen**  
March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM  
March 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM  
Alberta Bair Theater

## OPRAH'S BIG GIVE BILLINGS

Every Sunday Oprah Winfrey challenges 10 contestants to make dreams come true for total strangers. In the spirit of this inspiring new show, ABC has given KSVI (ABC6) \$10,000 to give big and give back to their community. ABC 6 will take this money and pay it forward in our own unique way.

Four non profit organizations have been chosen to execute an "Oprah's Big Give Billings" fundraising campaign: Rimrock Opera, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Eagle Mount, & Habitat for Humanity. Each non profit has received \$1,000 seed money. The non profit that raises the most money during the promotional period (until April 17<sup>th</sup>) will receive an additional check for \$5,000. This check will be presented on **Saturday, April 19, 12PM, Rimrock Mall.**



**Rimrock Opera has chosen the slogan: *help Oprah help Opera***  
The campaign is underway and the funds will complete our project described below.

**Please consider an immediate donation of any amount, cash, check or credit card towards this fantastic project. Money must be received by April 17<sup>th</sup> to count as part of Rimrock Opera's grand total. Help us win the grand prize!**

**Rimrock Opera's project: AMERICAN OPERA IDOL**



- ❖ After our success touring schools with "The Night Harry Stopped Smoking", Rimrock Opera will produce a new show based on the popular "American Idol" to educate middle school and high school students about the dangers of methamphetamine (meth) use.
- ❖ "American Opera Idol" will tour area schools with a host, pianist, contestants, and judges. Additional contestants and judge will be chosen from each school. Broadway and opera songs will be performed.
- ❖ Backstage scenes will include one contestant befriending another and asking for help with an addiction to meth. The audience will learn about meth and its addictive qualities through the script.
- ❖ All participating schools will receive a study guide in advance, also available online.
- ❖ Tour dates are planned for early 2009.

I am proud to support the **Oprah's BIG GIVE Billings** - Rimrock Opera with my donation of:

\$5,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Made out to 'Rimrock Opera'; please add 'Oprah' to the memo line Cash enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a Memorial Donation in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my Visa or MasterCard. (A \$2.00 processing fee will be added)

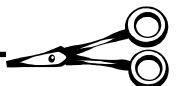
Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please acknowledge that this gift is from: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address for notice of new events (for Rimrock Opera use only.) \_\_\_\_\_



## Main Stage Season



Michel Singher - Conductor

Rimrock Opera has moved Friday night performances to Saturday night. We still offer a Sunday matinee performance as well.

RO has chosen Mozart's delightful comedy *The Marriage of Figaro* as its fall offering on September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The opera will be sung in English with English text projected above the stage. French-born conductor Michel Singher makes his RO debut in the pit. The cast includes Diedra Walker, Amy Logan, Jan Michael Kliewer, Robert Aaron Taylor, Aaron Pagniano, Nancy Downing, and Dennis Rupp.

The spring 2009 production is the return of Bizet's sizzling *Carmen* on March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The opera is sung in French with English dialogue and English text projected above the stage. American-born conductor Andy Anderson returns to RO to lead the production. Cast TBA at a later date.

Our season's chorus master and pianist are Dr. Chris Sheppard and Sandi Rabas.

## ROCK is Rolling for Spring Semester and Summer Camp

Rimrock Opera Chorus for Kids (ROCK) has grown to 75 members. Amy Logan is the Artistic Director for these dynamic groups.

ROCK's Spring Showcase is 7:00 PM Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at Skyview High School Auditorium, features three ROCK ensembles: Dolce, Bel Canto, Cantabile groups.

The Summer Kids' Camp dates are June 23<sup>rd</sup> thru June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Camp is held at Venture Theater for children of the following age groups:

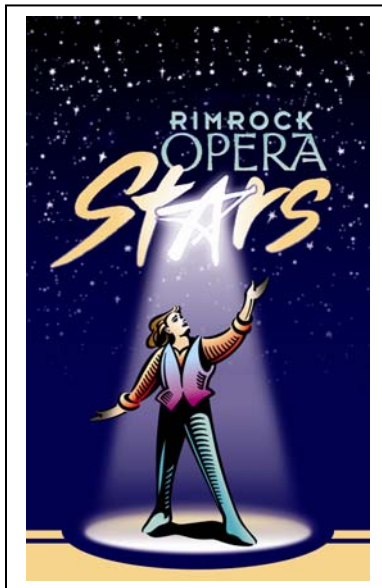
Minors: 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. Tuition: \$125.00

Majors: 4<sup>th</sup> grade through high school  
Tuition: \$175.00

For registration and information call 671-2214 or visit Rimrock Opera's website at:  
[www.rimrockopera.org](http://www.rimrockopera.org)



## Summer Pops Concert



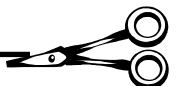
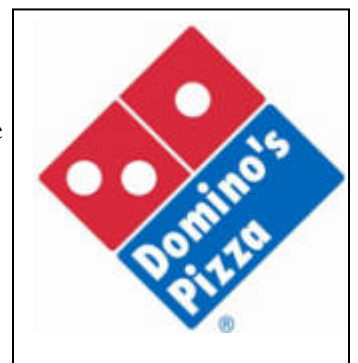
Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM &  
Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM

Venture Theatre  
2319 Montana Avenue, Billings

Tickets are \$20 in advance by  
calling 671-2214, or at the door;  
Students are half price with ID and  
children under 6 are free!

Enjoy native Montana artists singing your favorite Opera and Broadway solos and ensembles at the intimate setting of Venture Theatre. Selections will include hits from composers such as Lloyd Webber, Mozart, Bizet, Rodgers & Hart. Rimrock Opera's star pianist Sandi Rabas returns at the keyboard.

Sponsored by Sue Pagniano & Domino's



Rimrock Opera  
PO Box 11  
Billings, MT 59103-0011