

PRESS RELEASE

Backstage at the Opera

Members of the Arizona Opera Chorus are inviting the community to show their support of the Arizona Opera Company by attending a benefit concert sponsored by the Chorus members of the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA). The concert will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, 6:30 pm at the Arizona Opera Company Rehearsal Hall, 3501 North Mountain Avenue, in Tucson.

Choristers will host an evening of operatic favorites and a buffet Italian dinner with all proceeds to go to the Arizona Opera Company. The event, called "Backstage at the Opera," will be held in the actual rehearsal hall where the chorus and cast rehearse the music and stage the movements for each operatic production. This is the same facility where costumes are made and fitted and the sets and props for each show are constructed. Those attending the benefit concert will be able to have dinner and hear their operatic favorites in the surroundings "backstage" where all the pieces of an operatic production come together.

Performers at the concert will be the singers of the Arizona Opera Chorus. The community will be able to see and hear the choristers in completely different artistic roles, performing scenes from famous operas normally sung by principal singers.

Tickets are on sale now. For tickets call Diane Simons in Tucson at 520-742-3942, or Shirley Beeson in Phoenix at 480-820-9792. Advance tickets are available at \$40 and tickets can be bought at the door for \$45. Choristers are also selling tickets to the public.