

NEWS RELEASE

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New Jersey Opera Announces Additional Support from State Arts Council

PRINCETON, NJ – **New Jersey Opera** (NJOpera) is honored to announce that they have just been granted an additional \$12,500 from the **New Jersey State Council on the Arts** (NJSCA) for FY07. These funds are in addition to the \$32,500 that NJSCA had already awarded New Jersey Opera for FY07 General Operating Support in August 2006. NJSCA made this funding decision at their recent May Council meeting, when NJSCA awarded a total of \$57,860 to 7 organizations who had received the highest panel evaluations in the FY07 granting cycle but who had also received "only limited funding due to cuts to the Council's FY07 appropriation."

"We are thrilled with this additional show of support from the State," said Lisa Altman, Executive Director of New Jersey Opera. "It's a real bellwether to the philanthropic community."

New Jersey Opera is currently in rehearsals for their fourth summer season, set to take the stage at McCarter's Berlind Theatre in Princeton in July 2007. In addition to numerous masterclasses, concerts, family activities and a kid's camp, New Jersey Opera is presenting 3 full-staged operas: Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*, Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Further information on the 2007 Summer Season may be obtained at www.NJOT.org or at 609-799-700. Tickets may be purchased at 609-258-2787 or at www.McCarter.org.

About New Jersey Opera

New Jersey Opera (NJOpera) is earning national recognition as a leader among regional opera companies, providing high quality opera performances, exceptional educational offerings and related activities. NJOT seeks to stimulate, promote and satisfy interest in opera, build a strong and diverse audience base for the art form and foster the development of emerging artists. In 2006, during its first year of eligibility, **New Jersey Opera** received the prestigious Citation of Excellence from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA). The Citation is NJSCA's highest honor and recognizes arts organizations that "exhibit the highest standards of excellence in artistry, operations, governance, public benefit and fulfillment of areas of Council priority."

This season is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

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