



NOVEMBER 1, 2017

## PARTICIPATING IN OPERA ADVOCACY DAY 2017

Opera Advocacy Day is an opportunity for individuals who love or work in the field of opera to show their support for this multidisciplinary art form and urge lawmakers and community leaders to enact policies and legislation that support opera and the performing arts.

OPERA America hosted its inaugural Opera Advocacy Day on May 5, 2015. Opera advocates from across the country came together on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. and visited more than 40 congressional offices.

Opera Advocacy Day is now part of National Opera Week, and everyone can participate!



### HOW TO PARTICIPATE – INDIVIDUALS

- Learn about the issues that impact the art form.
- Call your local, state or federal lawmakers and urge them to support a specific issue.
- Respond to Action Alerts from OPERA America. Timely messages provide pre-written letters to members of congress.

**DID YOU KNOW?** OPERA America has a registered lobbyist on staff who works in Washington, D.C., representing the membership in front of Congress, the White House and federal agencies:

**Brandon Gryde**

Director of Government Affairs  
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### HOW TO PARTICIPATE – OPERA COMPANIES

- Identify a staff person or board member to be a [Government Affairs Liaison](#) for OPERA America.
- Share legislative updates from OPERA America with your staff and board and urge them to take action.
- Invite policymakers and community leaders to see your company's work in action by showcasing a community program or providing a backstage tour.
- Submit an Opera Advocacy Day op-ed to your local paper, educating the greater community about the role opera and the performing arts have in supporting healthy communities.

**TIP** While Opera Advocacy Day is a great way to magnify the voice of the opera field, opera advocacy should occur all year long, as opera companies and opera lovers continue to build and strengthen relationships with lawmakers and community leaders.

**Important Hashtags**

Keep up with everyone participating in Opera Advocacy Day by using these hashtags:

#OperaAdvocacy #OperaWeek #ArtsEd #ProtectGiving