



NATIONAL TRUSTEE WEEK ITINERARY AND REGISTRATION New York, NY | March 4–8, 2025

OPERA America invites its Patron Circle (\$500+) members, trustees from opera companies across the country, and guests to come together in New York City for National Trustee Week 2025.

National Trustee Week includes:

- National Trustee Forum
- OPERA America Salutes awards dinner
- Outings and performances around New York City

NATIONAL TRUSTEE FORUM

Wednesday, March 5, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Thursday–Friday, March 6 and 7, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The 2025 National Trustee Forum will offer board members insight into trends and issues, successful strategies, and governance concepts to reinforce their service to their companies and communities. Sessions will include:

- **State of the Field:** A review of current industry trends and a comparative analysis of participating opera companies' fiscal health and productivity, drawing on the soon-to-be published Annual Field Report.
- **State of Boards:** How do senior staff at opera companies regard the effectiveness of their board members? This presentation will draw on the anonymous feedback of a recent survey to examine the staff's perceptions of how board members can be better advocates for their companies.
- **Rebuilding the Team:** Zoom allowed for unprecedented participation around a virtual board table during the pandemic, but in time, it has weakened the communal bonds that strengthen effective governance. How are boards rebuilding their cohesion and team spirit?
- **Activating New Audiences:** An exploration of the findings of OPERA America's recently published *Understanding Opera's New Audiences* national study with a discussion about how opera companies are starting to translate research into strategic action.
- **Making a Career as an Artist:** Hear from a leading mainstage soloist about the dynamics of forging a sustainable career in the opera industry today.
- **Changes for the Better:** The pandemic was a disruption of historic dimension, and sometimes disruption is a necessary precursor to healthy change. What changes have companies embraced that represent a step forward from pre-pandemic practices?
- **Preparing for Advocacy:** A primer on how boards can strengthen their federal, state, and local advocacy muscles so they are prepared to act in times of need.

Participants hear from experts, learn from one another, and forge lasting friendships with opera-devoted peers at other companies across the country.

The National Trustee Forum is open to board members of OPERA America's Professional Company Members.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 14, 2025

For assistance, please contact 646.699.5248 or CWalker@operaamerica.org.

1 of 6

OPERA AMERICA SALUTES

Friday, March 7, 6:45 p.m. – 10:15 p.m.
The University Club of New York | Business Attire

With celebrated guest host, Isabel Leonard, the *OPERA America Salutes* awards dinner brings together artists, producers, and advocates in a special tribute to some of the field's most accomplished figures. The unforgettable evening honors industry pioneers and supports the next generation of opera leaders.

Opera Hall of Fame *2024 Inductees*

Adele Addison, soprano and teacher
Justino Díaz, bass-baritone and teacher
Jake Heggie, composer and mentor
Carol F. Henry, founding trustee and philanthropist
Wayne Sanders, artist, pianist, and arts leader
Sarah Billingham Solomon, administrator and philanthropist
Teresa Stratas, soprano and actress

National Opera Trustee Recognition Awards *2024 Honorees*

Brian James Dawson, Tapestry Opera
Maria Lagios, Chicago Opera Theater
Claire Liu, Houston Grand Opera
William Miller, Opera Columbus
Leah Solat, Annapolis Opera
Jennifer Suh Whitfield, HERE Arts Center

Proceeds from the event will sustain OPERA America's professional development programs, including the Leadership Intensive, New General Director Roundtables, and Mentorship Programs.

Note: The University Club enforces a strict dress code: "Jackets and collared shirts are required for gentlemen and clothing of equivalent formality for ladies." Guests wearing jeans, sneakers, or athletic attire will not be permitted to access the Club. Ties are not required.

OUTINGS AND PERFORMANCES

Guests are invited to participate in a series of outings and performances throughout the week.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Dinner at Masseria Dei Vini (5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)

You are invited to join for a pre-show dinner at OPERA America staff favorite, Masseria dei Vini. The meal will feature homemade pastas, modern takes on traditional dishes, and delicious Italian wine.

***Fidelio* at The Metropolitan Opera (7:30 p.m. – 10:10 p.m.)**

Lise Davidsen stars as Leonore who risks everything to save her husband from the clutches of tyranny. She shares the stage with David Butt Philip, Tomasz Konieczny, René Pape, Ying Fang, Magnus Dietrich, and Stephen Milling. Susanna Mälkki conducts the Met's striking production, which finds modern-day parallels in Beethoven's stirring paean to freedom.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Welcome Reception at Sutton Tower (5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)

Toast coming together in New York at a reception in a penthouse atop one of New York's most incredible new waterfront towers. Take in 360-degree views of New York City and beyond at Sutton Tower, 430 East 58th St. Hosted by JVP Development and Gamma Real Estate.

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2 of 6

Tenor Ian Bostridge and Pianist Julius Drake at 92NY (7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)

Come see world-renowned tenor Ian Bostridge perform Schubert's brooding masterpiece *Winterreise*. Having written a book on the song cycle, Bostridge is one of its most revered interpreters. He will be accompanied by esteemed pianist, Julius Drake.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6 – AFTERNOON

For Non-Forum Attendees

Lunch at The Met (Museum) Dining Room (12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.)

Guests not participating the National Trustee Forum can come together for lunch at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in The Met Dining room. Enjoy elevated table service dining with a seasonal modern American menu and views of Central Park. *Note: requires ticket to museum to enter.*

For Non-Forum Attendees

Tour of the Metropolitan Museum's Musical Instrument Collection (2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

After lunch, guests not participating in the National Trustee Forum can enjoy a private guided tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collection of musical instruments. Highlighting connections between the musical traditions of different peoples, places, and time periods, this tour gives visitors an appreciation of the Museum's global holdings of instruments.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6 – EVENING

Dinner at The Lamb's Club (5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.)

Join us for a chic pre-show dinner featuring chef Jack Logue's elevated American cuisine in a clubby, Art Deco environment. A classic New York pre-show experience.

***Gypsy* at The Majestic Theatre (7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.)**

The incomparable, 6-time Tony Award winner Audra McDonald stars in the celebrated musical by Arthur Laurents (book), Jule Styne (music), and Stephen Sondheim (lyrics). Co-starring Tony Award winner Danny Burstein, Joy Woods, and Jordan Tyson, this revelatory new production directed by 6-time Tony Award winner George C. Wolfe and choreographed by 4-time Tony Award winner Camille A. Brown promises to be an unforgettable Broadway experience.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

OPERA America Salutes Awards Dinner (6:15 p.m. – 10:15 p.m.)

See above for details.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Pre-Show Dinner at The Grand Tier Restaurant (6:15 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.)

Join us for an elegant pre-show dinner at the Metropolitan Opera's Grand Tier Restaurant, where you will dine under the famous Sputnik chandeliers and murals by Marc Chagall, while overlooking Lincoln Center Plaza. Finish the meal with dessert service during intermission. *Note: Performance ticket to Moby-Dick required for access to the restaurant.*

***Moby-Dick* at The Metropolitan Opera (8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.)**

A standout cast takes on Jake Heggie and Gene Scheer's operatic take on Herman Melville's epic tale. Tenor Brandon Jovanovich stars as Captain Ahab, Stephen Costello as Greenhorn, Peter Mattei as first mate Starbuck, and Ryan Speedo Green as Queequeg. Karen Kamensek conducts a stunning production by Leonard Foglia.

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TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Guests are responsible for arranging their own travel to/from and accommodations in New York City. OPERA America encourages guests to stay at the Kimpton Hotel Eventi (851 Sixth Avenue, between 29th and 30 Streets) or a nearby property. Consult the Kimpton website ([HotelEventi.com](https://www.kimpton.com/hotel-eventi) or 866.993.8396), other booking sites, and OPERA America member deals (operaamerica.org/PartnerBenefits) for the best deals.

For events where transportation is provided, busses will pick up from and drop off at the Kimpton Hotel Eventi. Details and timing will be distributed in advance of the weekend.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Activities and schedule may change. OPERA America will distribute a detailed itinerary with times and locations by email in late-February, approximately two weeks prior to the start of activities in New York.

Suggested dress for daytime events is business casual and for evening events is business attire.

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NATIONAL TRUSTEE WEEK

REGISTRATION FORM Register by Friday, February 14, 2025

ATTENDEE 1

Full Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____
Cell Phone* _____ Email _____
Opera Company Affiliation** _____
Dietary Restrictions _____
For Forum: Suggestions for Topics _____

ATTENDEE 2

Full Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____
Cell Phone* _____ Email _____
Opera Company Affiliation** _____
Dietary Restrictions _____
For Forum: Suggestions for Topics _____

**Please provide a cell phone number for each guest at which they can be reached while in New York.*

***Please provide your affiliation as you would like it displayed on meeting nametags for the National Trustee Forum.*

PAYMENT METHOD

<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK Payable to "OPERA America"	<input type="checkbox"/> CREDIT CARD Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____ ZIP Code _____ Signature _____
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Select your activities on the next page. Then return this form, along with your payment, to Clint Walker, director of development and membership, at:

MAIL OPERA America, Attn: National Trustee Weekend, 330 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10001

E-MAIL CWalker@operaamerica.org PHONE 646.699.5248

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PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Please indicate your selections and totals for each person listed above.

	EVENT	PRICE	ATTENDEE 1	ATTENDEE 2	TOTAL
National Trustee Forum	<i>For opera company trustees who are individual members of OPERA America.</i>	MEMBER \$395			
	<i>Non-member rates include a one-year membership including either a digital or print subscription to Opera America Magazine.</i>	NON-MEMBER \$470 <i>(digital magazine)</i> \$491 <i>(print magazine)</i>			\$
Evening Activities	Dinner at the Masseria dei Vini (Tuesday)	\$200			\$
	<i>Fidelio</i> at The Met (Tuesday)	\$200			\$
	Welcome Reception at Sutton Tower (Wednesday)	\$0			\$
	Bostridge and Drake at 92NY (Wednesday)	\$100			\$
	Dinner at The Lamb's Club (Thursday)	\$200			\$
	<i>Gypsy</i> at The Majestic Theatre (Thursday)	\$200			\$
	OPERA America Salutes* (Friday)	GENERAL TKT. \$350 SUPPORTER TKT. \$1,000			\$
	Dinner at The Grand Tier (Saturday)	\$225			\$
	<i>Moby-Dick</i> at The Met (Saturday)	\$200			\$
Daytime Activities (For Non-Forum Attendees)	Lunch at The Met Dining Room (Thursday)	\$150			\$
	Met Museum Tour (Thursday)	\$75			\$
TOTAL					\$

* More ticket levels available at operaamerica.org/OASalutes

Activities are subject to change and availability. OPERA America reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason, in which case there will be a full refund. In the event that the participant cancels, the following cancellation fees apply: Cancellations less than 15 days before departure will not be refunded. Performance ticket cancellations are subject to the policies of The Metropolitan Opera, 92NY, and Broadway Inbound.

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