



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19 MAY 2014

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AN OPERATIC TRILOGY FOR FAMILIES

What: Three Short Original Operas
Where: Gaddes Hall at the Santa Fe Opera, 301 Opera Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87506
When: May 31, June 1, 7 and 8
Tickets: \$10 General Admission. Call 505.986.5900 to purchase tickets

The Santa Fe Opera will present three original short works conceived and composed to introduce young people to the music and language that make up the intriguing world of opera. They are entitled *Written in the Stars*, *Avastar*, and *True North*. A short synopsis for each can be found below. The performances will take place on May 31, June 1, 7, and 8 in Gaddes Hall on the Opera's lower grounds.

Written in the Stars

Webster (as in words) and Melody (as in music), a writer and a composer, argue about which is more important: words or music? Even as their attraction for each other grows, neither will bend in his or her belief. After many attempts to persuade one another, they inevitably fall in love and agree that both words and music are equal partners.

Avastar

Sara/Estrella is a classically trained singer who believes in and loves opera. Josh/Supernova studied classical singing but abandoned it for pop music. They meet each day at the bus stop and become friends without either one knowing the other has entered the same virtual singing competition. When they become finalists they discover that they are competing against one another. Who wins? That is the unanswered question.

True North

Webster and Melody, who are now married, are on their way New York to attend a workshop of their new opera. Sara and Josh are returning to their home in New York from a recording session in Los Angeles. The two couples meet by accident in an airport lounge when their plane is delayed. While they wait, they catch up on each other's lives. The story reveals a well-deserved happy ending.

The operas will be fully staged and costumed. The director is Kathleen Clawson and the music director/ pianist is Kirt Pavitt. The singers are current and former apprentices: sopranos Sara Heaton and Abigail Mitchell, tenor Joshua Dennis, and baritone Shea Owens.

All three pieces will be performed on a rotating basis and it is possible to see them all:

Saturday, May 31, *Written in the Stars*, 6:00 PM; *True North*, 7:00 PM

Sunday, June 1, *Avastar*, 2:00 PM; *True North*, 3:00 PM

Saturday, June 7, *Written in the Stars*, 6:00 PM; *True North*, 7:00 PM

Sunday, June 8, *Avastar*, 2:00 PM; *True North*, 3:00 PM

The productions are underwritten by a grant from the Melville Hawkins Family Foundation. Additional artistic costs have been underwritten by Rosemont Realty LLC, Garcia Hyundai Santa Fe, and Garcia Nissan Santa Fe. Support for The Santa Fe Opera comes from the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodgers' Tax; New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs; and the National Endowment for the Arts: Art Works.