

BLOVERVIEW

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19 SEASON



ESTHER NELSON, STANFORD CALDERWOOD GENERAL & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | DAVID ANGUS, MUSIC DIRECTOR | JOHN CONKLIN, ARTISTIC ADVISOR



WELCOME

The groundbreaking 2018/19 Season has been one of the most significant in the history of BLO.

This Season, Boston Lyric Opera:

- Reached more than **14,000 audience members**
- Engaged over **8,000 people** through community events including more than **3,000 youth and families** through our education programs and student initiatives
- Distributed **1,146 free tickets for high school and college students** to our Final Dress Rehearsals as well as performances of *The Handmaid's Tale*
- Transformed two non-traditional spaces into **brehtaking operatic venues**: the Artists for Humanities EpiCenter in South Boston (*The Rape of Lucretia*) and the Harvard University Ray Lavietes Pavilion in Allston (*The Handmaid's Tale*)
- Produced the **critically-acclaimed World Premiere** of Tod Machover's *Schoenberg in Hollywood*
- Supported **5 budding artists** through the Jane and Steven Akin Emerging Artist initiative
- Offered more than **350 job opportunities** for singers, musicians, artists, technicians, administration, and staff



We are grateful for our community of neighbors, subscribers, donors, Board members, artists and technicians, and friends who come together and help the art form of opera to flourish in Boston and beyond. Thank you for your generous support and encouragement—we could not do this without you.

Esther Nelson | Stanford Calderwood General & Artistic Director



Cover: Soprano Caroline Worra with the female chorus of *The Handmaid's Tale*

Left, from top: Actor D. Farai Williams performs in BLO's collaboration with Castle of our Skins in the Boston Public Library Concert in the Courtyard series | Students at Boston Public School Joseph Lee present their original opera on bullying | Poul Ruders, composer, and Margaret Atwood, author of *The Handmaid's Tale*, gathered at the WBUR CitySpace in conversation with Maria Garcia about the iconic novel's transition to opera | Emerging Artists pianist Nathan Salazar and soprano Brianna J. Robinson at the Boston Athenæum

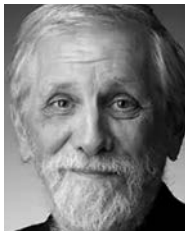
THE LEADERS OF BOSTON LYRIC OPERA



ESTHER NELSON
Stanford Calderwood
General & Artistic Director,
since 2008



DAVID ANGUS
Music Director,
since 2010



JOHN CONKLIN
Artistic Advisor,
since 2009



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Sherif A. Nada

As of June 30, 2019 | † Deceased

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John Conklin *Artistic Advisor*

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Patrick McGovern *Associate Technical Director*

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William "Billy" Douglass *Carpenter*

Thomas Farrell *Carpenter*

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Stanford Calderwood General & Artistic Director

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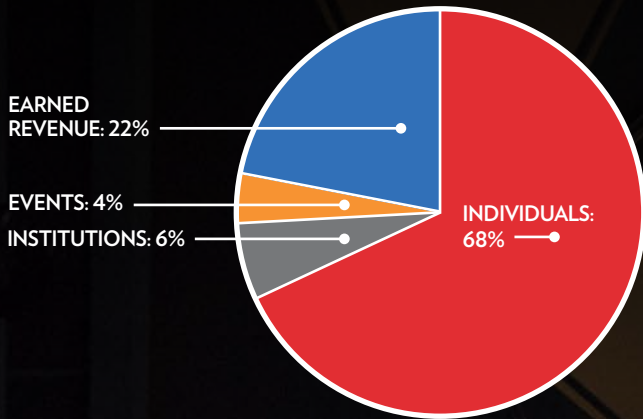
Lydia Jane Graeff *Resident Teaching Artist*

IRN Internet Services *Website*

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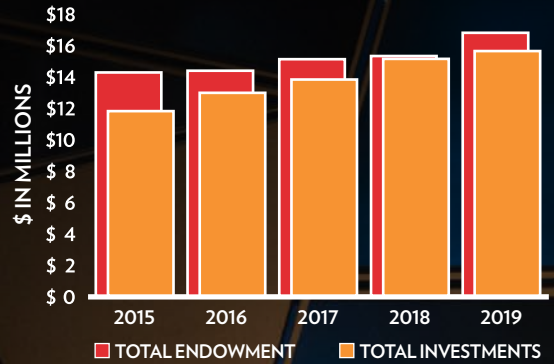
BLO FINANCIAL SUMMARY FISCAL YEARS 2015 – 2019

FY19 OPERATING REVENUES

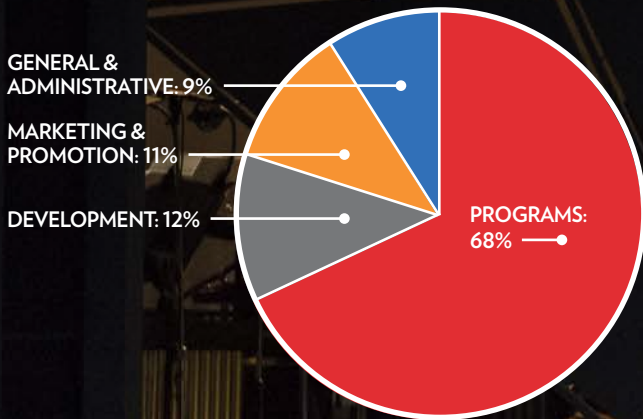


BLO ENDOWMENT

7.3% ANNUAL GROWTH RATE



FY19 OPERATING EXPENSES



Sara Womble, Omar Ebrahim, & Jesse Darden
in BLO's World Premiere *Schoenberg In Hollywood*

OPERATING RESULTS | \$ THOUSANDS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Operating Revenue	\$8,055.9	\$8,443.1	\$8,953.6	\$8,251.5	\$8,912.0
Operating Expenses	\$7,994.0	\$8,396.4	\$8,891.1	\$8,222.7	\$8,838.7
% Expenses Spent on Programs	66%	64%	66%	67%	68%
Surplus	\$61.9	\$46.7	\$62.5	\$28.9	\$73.3

BALANCE SHEET | \$ MILLIONS

TOTAL ASSETS	\$20.3	\$19.5	\$18.8	\$20.6	\$22.3
NET ASSETS	\$19.2	\$17.6	\$17.3	\$19.5	\$20.3

Fiscal years ended June 30; source: audited financial statements.

EARNED REVENUE | DETAILS

2018/19 SEASON	TICKETS SOLD	AVERAGE HOUSE CAPACITY OF RUN	NEW PATRONS
<i>The Barber of Seville</i>	4,553	93%	850
<i>Schoenberg in Hollywood</i>	1,865	85%	206
<i>The Rape of Lucretia</i>	1,981	80%	255
<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	4,199	82%	1,348
GRAND TOTALS	12,598	86%	2,659

Average house capacity includes complimentary tickets.



THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

OCT 12 - 21 | EMERSON CUTLER
MAJESTIC THEATRE

Music by Gioacchino Rossini | Libretto by Cesare Sterbini

David Angus *Conductor*
Rosetta Cucchi *Stage Director*
Julia Noulin-Mérat *Set Designer*
Gianluca Falaschi* *Costume Designer*
D.M. Wood *Lighting Designer*
Jason Allen *Wig & Makeup Designer*
Kelley Rourke *Surtitle Designer*
Brett Hodgdon‡ *Rehearsal Coach/Accompanist*
Melanie Bacaling† *Assistant Stage Director*
Erin Joy Swank* *Stage Manager*

Annie Rabbat *Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra | Concertmaster*
Brett Hodgdon‡ *Boston Lyric Opera Chorus | Chorus Master*

CAST in order of vocal appearance

Vincent Turregano‡ *Fiorello*
Jesus Garcia *Count Almaviva*
Matthew Worth *Figaro*
Daniela Mack* *Rosina*
Steven Condy *Dr. Bartolo*
Michelle Trainor‡ *Berta*
David Crawford *Don Basilio*
Jesse Darden‡** *An Officer*

SCHOENBERG IN HOLLYWOOD

NOV 14 - 18 | EMERSON PARAMOUNT CENTER
ROBERT J. ORCHARD STAGE

Commissioned by Boston Lyric Opera

An Opera by Tod Machover
Music by Tod Machover | *Libretto by* Simon Robson
Based on a scenario by Braham Murray

David Angus *Conductor*
Karole Armitage* *Stage Director*
Braham Murray (1943-2018) *Original Production Concept*
Simon Higlett* *Set Designer*
Nancy Leary *Costume Designer*
Pablo Santiago *Lighting Designer*
Peter Torpey* *Media & Projection Designer*
Ben Bloomberg* *Sound Designer*
Jason Allen *Wig & Makeup Designer*
Satrina Massey *Surtitle Designer*
Brett Hodgdon‡, Nathan Salazar†* *Rehearsal Coaches/Accompanists*
Kirsten Z. Cairns *Assistant Stage Director*
Mike Janney* *Stage Manager*

Annie Rabbat *Chamber Ensemble from the Boston Lyric Opera
Orchestra | Concertmaster*

CAST in order of vocal appearance

Jesse Darden‡* *A Boy*
Sara Womble‡ *A Girl*
Omar Ebrahim* *Schoenberg*

*BLO Debut | †BLO Jane and Steven Akin Emerging Artist | ‡BLO Jane and Steven Akin Emerging Artist Alumnus

From Left: Daniela Mack & Jesus Garcia in BLO's new production of *The Barber Of Seville* | Jesse Darden, Omar Ebrahim, & Sara Womble, in BLO's World Premiere *Schoenberg In Hollywood* | Duncan Rock & Kelley O'Connor in BLO's production of *The Rape Of Lucretia* | Michelle Trainor & Jennifer Johnson Cano in BLO's production of *The Handmaid's Tale*.

The Rape of Lucretia performed by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., publisher and copyright owner. *The Handmaid's Tale* performed by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. publisher and copyright owner.



THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA

MAR 11 – 17 | ARTISTS FOR HUMANITY EPICENTER

Music by Benjamin Britten | Libretto by Ronald Duncan
After the play by André Obey

David Angus *Conductor*
Sarna Lapine* *Stage Director*
Mikiko Suzuki MacAdams* *Set Designer*
Robert Perdziola* *Costume Designer*
Joey Moro* *Lighting & Projection Designer*
John Conklin *Dramaturg*
Yury Yanowsky *Intimacy/Movement Director*
Jason Allen *Wig & Makeup Designer*
Satrina Massey *Surttitle Designer*
Brendon Shapiro† *Rehearsal Coach/Accompanist*
Kirsten Z. Cairns *Assistant Stage Director*
Melanie Bacaling† *Assistant Stage Director & Company Intimacy Advocate*
Whitney Mcanally* *Stage Manager*

Annie Rabbat *Chamber Ensemble from the Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra | Concertmaster*

CAST in order of vocal appearance

Jesse Darden‡* *Male Chorus*
Antonia Tamer‡ *Female Chorus*
Brandon Cedel *Collatinus*
David McFerrin‡ *Junius*
Duncan Rock *Tarquinius*
Kelley O'Connor *Lucretia*
Margaret Lattimore *Bianca*
Sara Womble‡ *Lucia*

THE HANDMAID'S TALE

MAY 5 – 12 | RAY LAVIETES PAVILION,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS COMPLEX

First performances of a new edition by composer Poul Ruders,
commissioned by Boston Lyric Opera

Music by Poul Ruders | Libretto by Paul Bentley
Based on the novel by Margaret Atwood

David Angus *Conductor*
Anne Bogart* *Stage Director*
Shura Baryshnikov* *Movement Director*
James Schuette *Set & Costume Designer*
Brian Scott* *Lighting Designer*
J Jumbelic *Sound Designer*
Adam J. Thompson* *Video Designer*
Tom Watson *Wig & Makeup Designer*
Satrina Massey *Surtitles*
Nathan Salazar† *Rehearsal Coach/Accompanist*
Mikhaela Mahony* *Assistant Stage Director*
Cynthia Hennon Marino *Stage Manager*

Annie Rabbat *Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra | Concertmaster*
Brett Hodgdon‡ *Boston Lyric Opera Chorus | Chorus Master*

CAST in order of vocal appearance

Jennifer Johnson Cano <i>Offred</i>	David Cushing‡ <i>The Commander</i>
Caroline Worra <i>Aunt Lydia</i>	Vera Savage‡ <i>New Ofglen</i>
Kathryn Skemp Moran <i>Janine/Ofwarren</i>	Offred & Luke's Daughter
Chelsea Basler‡ <i>Moira</i>	Samanta Williston* (May 5 & 10)
Maria Zifchak* <i>Serena Joy</i>	Beatrice Eddy* (May 8 & 12)
James Ricardo Milord* <i>TV Presenter</i>	Handmaids, Aunts, Guards, Etc.
Felicia Gavilanes‡ <i>The Double</i> <i>(Offred in the Time Before)</i>	Chelsea Baccay, Jessica Johnson
Jesse Darden‡* <i>Luke</i>	Brock†, Jorgeandrés Camargo, Fred
Lynn Torgove <i>Rita</i>	Furnari, Heather Gallagher‡, Kirsten
Michelle Trainor‡ <i>Ofglen</i>	Hart, Taylor Horner, Jaime Korkos,
Dana Beth Miller <i>Offred's Mother</i>	Chris Maher, Michael Miller, Brianna
Matthew DiBattista <i>The Doctor</i>	J. Robinson†, Vanessa Schukis,
Omar Najmi‡ <i>Nick</i>	Emma Sorenson‡

BLO 2018/19 ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN

Annie Rabbat
Concertmaster
Stacey Alden
Sarah Atwood
Heather Braun Bakken
Heidi Braun-Hill
Susan Carrai
Cynthia Cummings
Robert Curtis
Colin Davis
Rose Drucker
Maynard Goldman
Tera Gorsett Keck
Rohan Gregory
Jodi Hagen
Zenas Hsu
Sandra Kott
Yumi Okada
Nivedita Sarnath
Pattison Story
Roksana Sudol
Ryo Usami
Asuka Usui
Christine Vitale
Lena Wong

VIOLA

Kenneth Stalberg
Principal
Abigail Cross
Joan Ellersick
David Feltner
Noriko Futagami
Donna Jerome
Don Krishnaswami

CELLO

Loewi Lin *Principal*
Eleanor Blake
Kevin Crudder
Melanie Dyball
Steven Laven
Vellada Miragias
Sam Ou
Jan Pfeiffer-Rios
Michael Unterman
Aron Zolkowicz

BASS

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Barry Boettger
Anthony D'Amico
Kevin Green
Nathan Varga
FLUTE
Linda Toote *Principal*
Iva Milch
Allison Parramore

OBOE

Nancy Dimock *Principal*
Mary Cicconetti
Catherine Weinfield-Zell

CLARINET

Jan Halloran *Principal*
Gary Gorczyca
Karen Heninger
David Martins

BASSOON

Ronald Haroutunian
Principal
Jensen Ling
Hazel Malcolmson
Margaret Phillips

FRENCH HORN

Kevin Owen *Principal*
Whitacre Hill
Dirk Hillyer
Clark Matthews
Iris Rosenstein

TRUMPET

Bruce Hall *Principal*
Terry Everson
Jesse Levine
Greg Whitaker

TROMBONE

Robert Couture *Principal*
Alexei Doohovskoy
John Faieta
Donald Robinson

TUBA

Donald Rankin *Principal*
Takatsugu Hagiwara

HARP

Ina Zdorovetchi *Principal*

KEYBOARDS

David Angus
Brett Hodgdon
Nathan Salazar

TIMPANI

Robert Schulz

PERCUSSION

Richard Flanagan
Principal
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ORCHESTRA

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Brianna J. Robinson *soprano*
Jessica Johnson Brock *mezzo-soprano*
Nathan Salazar *pianist*
Brendon Shapiro *pianist*
Melanie Bacaling *stage director*

BLO 2018/19 CHORUS & SUPERNUMERARIES

CHORUS MASTER

Brett Hodgdon

SOPRANO

Chelsea Baccay
Alisa Cassola
Sirgourney Cook
Molly Crookedacre
Kelley Hollis
Jessica Jacobs
Tamra Grace Jones
Marie McCarville
Brianna J. Robinson
Rachele Schmiede
Abigail Smith
Emma Sorenson
Julia Wolcott
Isabelle Zeledon

ALTO

Jessica Johnson Brock
Heather Gallagher
Kirsten Hart
Helen Hassinger
Jessine Johnson
Elizabeth Kinder
Jaime Korkos
JoAnna Pope
Arielle Rogers
Vanessa Schukis

TENOR

Ethan Bremner
Christon Carney
Frank Levar
Chris Maher
Thomas Oesterling
Fred VanNess
Patrick T. Waters

BASS

Jorgeandrés Camargo
Junhan Choi
Jonathan Cole
Kamil Ekinci
Fred Furnari
Taylor Horner
Blake Jennings
Isaac Kim
Michael Miller
Andy Papas
Devon Russo
Ron Williams

SUPERNUMERARIES

Matthew Barrett-Miller
Caroline Bergwall
John Bucy
José Cabrera
Becca Freeman
Liana Genoud
Michael Kelly
Meaghan Robichaud

PRODUCTION CREW

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

Melanie Bacaling
Bruno Baker
Kate Johnson
Julie Marie Langevin
Max Rosenberg

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

Carmen Alfaro
Bruno Baker
Kristina Furey
Samantha Layco
Bethany Weed

UNIONS

The Artists and Stage Managers employed on these productions are members of the American Guild of Musical Artists. All musicians are members of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada.

The scenic, costume, and lighting designers are members of United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). Stagehands are represented by Local #11 of IATSE.

Boston Lyric Opera is a member of OPERA America, the national service organization for opera in the U.S. and Canada.



THE NATIONAL OPERA CENTER
AMERICA

Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra at a rehearsal for *The Handmaid's Tale*



LIZA VOLL PHOTOGRAPHY

DONOR ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are honored to recognize our donors who generously support the mission of Boston Lyric Opera to build curiosity, enthusiasm, and support for opera by creating musically and theatrically compelling productions, events, and educational resources for our community and beyond. We are deeply grateful for the following contributions made to BLO between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

- **FRIENDS OF BLO** | The largest community of supporters of Boston Lyric Opera. Members enjoy exclusive opportunities to explore opera and engage with others who share their passion through benefits such as invitations to Deconstructing Opera Salons, backstage tours, final dress rehearsals and more.
- **ORFEO SOCIETY** | Members gain behind-the-scenes access to BLO Artists and Creative Team members, while providing direct support to bring opera to our stages and communities.
- **THE GOLDOVSKY SOCIETY** | Membership is given in recognition of those who have made a provision in a will, living trust, deferred gift plan, or retirement plan that will benefit BLO.

For more information or to become a member, please call Sarah B. Blume at 617.702.8974.

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Mr. Edward J. Leary†
Mrs. Lynne & Sidney Levitsky
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David B. Manning*
Ms. M. Lynne Markus*s
Jillian C. McGrath*
Karen E. McShane, MD
Gregory E. Moore & Wynne W. Szeto*
Mr. & Mrs. John O'Brien
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Olney III

SCHOENBERG IN HOLLYWOOD PRODUCTION SPONSORS

We recognize and thank our production sponsors for their generous and visionary support of the World Premiere of *Schoenberg in Hollywood*:

The Amphion Foundation
Linda Cabot Black, with special support for
David Angus, conductor
Jane & Jeffrey Marshall, with special support for
Tod Machover, composer
M. Steinert & Sons
National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency
OPERA America
David & Marie Louise Scudder, with special support for
Simon Robson, librettist
Susan & Dennis Shapiro, with special support for
Karole Armitage, stage director
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Stata, with special support for
Braham Murray, original production concept

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to the individuals and organizations listed below who partnered with Tod Machover, the MIT Media Lab team, and Boston Lyric Opera during the creation of *Schoenberg in Hollywood*:

- Barco, for sponsoring the state-of-the-art projector system used in this World Premiere.
- Stephen Setterlun and his team at American Repertory Theater, for engineering and building the special scenic triangles.
- SAVI (Specialized Audio-Visual Inc.), for co-designing a custom-built sound system for the performances.
- Arnold Schönberg Center in Vienna, for its collaboration in conceiving the MIT Media Lab's *Schoenberg in Hollywood* exhibit, and for its generous loan shown for the first time in the United States.
- Bose Corporation, for contributing headphones used throughout the MIT Media Lab exhibit.

And special gratitude is extended to the following individuals and foundations who helped fund the MIT Media Lab's development of the film/video and creative technology components of *Schoenberg in Hollywood*: John and Cynthia Reed, Jane and Neil Pappalardo, Robert and Bethany Millard, Jim and Kim Pallotta, Sam Waksal, The Koerner Foundation, The Sherry and Alan Leventhal Family Foundation, Lore H. McGovern, Jim Champy, Susan Whitehead, Bob Ellis, Kenneth Wang, Lawrence and Atsuko Fish, and Hyun-A and Jacob Friis.

THE HANDMAID'S CIRCLE

BLO is grateful for the support of The Handmaid's Circle, a number of Boston's business and community leaders who committed to funding and promoting this extraordinary opera:

Alicia Cooney Allison K. Ryder & David B. Jones
RoAnn Costin Sandra A. Urie & Frank Herron
Abigail B. Mason Landis Becker Young & Brace Young
Anne B. Popkin

WE ALSO WISH TO THANK

Susan Esco Chandler, Sandra Moose, Anne M. Morgan, and Tanya & David Virmelli

William & Lia Poorvu
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Mr. Richard Trant*
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Peter Wender*
s

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