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Single Tickets Now Available for Kentucky Opera's 23/24 Season

The season opens in September with *Hansel and Gretel*, a darkly delightful fairy-tale opera featuring a standout cast and Youth Chorus

Registration is open for Youth Opera Project.

Programming centered around *Hansel and Gretel* explores food insecurity, a theme from the opera.

Louisville, KY — Kentucky Opera announced today that single tickets are now available for its entire 23/24 Season, which opens on September 29 with Engelbert Humperdinck's whimsical [Hansel and Gretel](#).

For the first time in 13 years, Kentucky Opera brings this larger-than-life fairy-tale to Louisville in a production sure to enchant audiences and provoke thoughtful conversation about timeless issues, like poverty and food scarcity, good and evil.

Brenna Corner, who delighted audiences with last season's Cinderella (*La Cenerentola*), returns to direct her colorful and evocative production of this opera. Featured are **mezzo-soprano Naomi O'Connell** as Hansel, **soprano Ashley Emerson** as Gretel, **mezzo-soprano Stephanie Sanchez** (Welch Family Endowed Artist) as the Witch, **soprano Angelique Clay** as Gertrude the mother, and **soprano Marquita Richardson** as Sandman/Dew Fairy. **Baritone Chad Sloan** is Peter, the father. **Kelly Kuo**, noted nationally for his commitment to bold and creative initiatives, conducts.

Hansel and Gretel runs September 29 and October 1 & 3. Families and groups are encouraged to come out for a special Family Day Matinée – with special activities during intermission and group and family ticket discounts – on October 3 during Fall Break for many area schools.

YOUTH OPERA PROJECT AUDITIONS

Hansel and Gretel also features Kentucky Opera's Youth Opera Project, a season-long program dedicated to fostering discovery, opportunity, and friendships in the performing arts for youth ages 8-18.

This year, the Youth Opera Project will perform own youth opera: *The Hobbit*. Registration is now open for the Youth Opera Project, which meets weekly on Mondays after school with some additional rehearsals closer to performances. The next audition date for youth wishing to sing solo roles in *The Hobbit* will be held on August 26 at the Kentucky Opera Center for Cultural Health, 708 Magazine Street. Children and youth ages 8-18 are invited to audition with one song of their choice. No experience necessary, but students must [register in advance](#).

HANSEL AND GRETEL COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

With every production, Kentucky Opera's [Awakenings](#) series invites the public to learn from experts in fields related to an opera's theme. The first Awakenings conversation of the season focuses on poverty and food insecurity. It is September 19, 7 pm, at the Kentucky Opera Center for Cultural Health; Free admission. Speakers to be announced soon.

On September 9, 2023, 7 pm-9 pm, Kentucky Opera also hosts an immersive fundraising event with pop-up performances, food stations, a chocolate river, gingerbread house, and so much more. Join Hansel and Gretel in their fanciful, [Fairytale Woodland](#), and support the mission of Kentucky Opera. Tickets are \$125 per person or \$100 per person for a group of 10 or more.

PURCHASE TICKETS FOR ENTIRE KENTUCKY 23-24 SEASON

Single tickets are now available for Hansel and Gretel and the full 23/24 season:

[Hansel and Gretel](#). Music by Engelbert Humperdinck. Libretto by Adelheid Wette. September 29, October 1, and October 3* at The Brown Theatre, 315 West Broadway. (*Family Day)

[Amplify la música hispana](#). A recital of music from the Spanish diaspora. October 15, 2023 at 4pm.

[All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914](#). Written by Peter Rothstein. Vocal arrangements by Erick Lichte & Timothy C. Takach. December 15, 17, 19, 22, 23 at the Kentucky Opera Center for Cultural Health, 708 Magazine Street.

[The Pirates of Penzance](#). Music by Arthur Sullivan. Libretto by W.S. Gilbert. February 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 2024 at The Brown Theatre, 315 West Broadway.

[As One](#). Music by Laura Kaminsky. Libretto by Mark Campbell & Kimberly Reed. Film by Kimberly Reed. April 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 2024 at the Kentucky Opera Center for Cultural Health, 708 Magazine Street.

[The Hobbit](#). Opera by Dean Burry, based on *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. June 7 and 8, 2024 at the Kentucky Opera Center for Cultural Health, 708 Magazine Street.

Tickets are available [online](#) or at the Kentucky Opera Box Office, 708 Magazine Street. Box Office hours are Tuesday-Thursday 10 am-4 pm.

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About Kentucky Opera

Kentucky Opera, under the current leadership of Barbara Lynne Jamison, sparks discovery, joy, and connection among the varied and diverse communities of our region through the shared experiences of opera — on and off stage. The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, supports Kentucky Opera with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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