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Opera Experience Southeast Starts Second Year with Popular Italian Love Story

Winthrop University

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Opera Experience Southeast Starts Second Year with Popular Italian Love Story

Quick Facts

- The opera company, in partnership with Winthrop University, will give two performances at 7 p.m. for the retirement community at Sun City.



John Kaneklides and Krista Wilhelmsen

ROCK HILL, S.C. – **Opera Experience Southeast** opens its second season with the Italian drama *La Bohème* on Jan. 11 and 12 at Sun City in Indian Land, S.C.

The opera company, in partnership with Winthrop University, will give two performances at 7 p.m. for the retirement community at Sun City. John Fowler, director and a Winthrop assistant professor of music, said the audience will enjoy seeing outstanding young American operatic talent in this love story. His co-director is Marie-Claire O'Reirdan.

First presented in 1896, "**La Bohème**" is one of the most frequently performed operas internationally. The company previously performed "**La Bohème**" in May 2012.

Fowler, who started his master's degree in voice performance at Winthrop in 1978 and finished it in 2004, spent more than 25 years singing opera all over the world. He sang 15 seasons with the

Metropolitan Opera and won an Emmy for "*La Bohème*" in 1997 for a live performance at **Lincoln Center**.

A limited number of tickets are available by e-mailing operaexperiencesoutheast@gmail.com or at the door. Tickets are \$20.

Follow the company on **Facebook** at: <http://www.facebook.com/OperaExperienceSoutheast>.

La Bohème cast list:

Rodolfo - **John Kaneklides** (current Winthrop graduate student)

Mimi - **Krista Wilhelmsen** (now in Artists Diploma Program at Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University)

Musetta - **Amy Lefler** (recent Winthrop graduate)

Marcello - **Josh Conyers** (graduate student, Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University)

Schaunard - **Jeremy Johnson** (graduate student at Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University)

Colline – **Georgios Papadimitriov**, currently pursuing a master's degree in music performance at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music in N.Y.

Alcindoro/Benoit - **Mark Tofano** (sings regularly with Opera Carolina)

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