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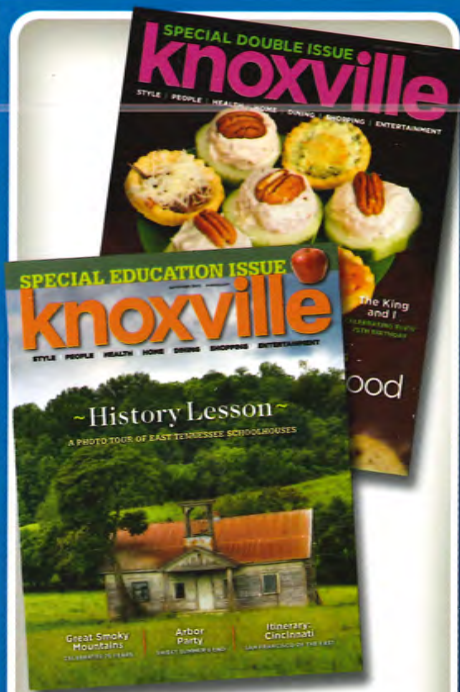


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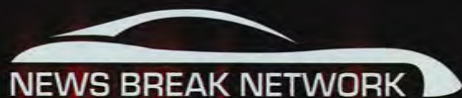
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Talise Trevigne as Manon  
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 (KO's 2010 Lucia)

## ***Madame Butterfly* by Giacomo Puccini**

October 1 and 3, 2010

The heartbreaking story of the innocent, betrayed Japanese girl in a new production conceived and designed by Carroll Freeman and Brian Salesky.

## ***Manon* by Jules Massenet\***

February 11 and 13, 2011

The grand opera tale of Manon Lescaut, the insatiable bewitching seductress. The ravishing score ranks among the greatest French masterpieces alongside *Faust* and *Carmen*.

## ***I Puritani (The Puritans)* by Vincenzo Bellini\*\***

April 8 and 10, 2011

Intriguing circumstances of the English Civil War wreak havoc for the radiant Puritan bride-to-be, Elvira. This blockbuster, in the tradition of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, features stupendous vocal fireworks made famous by legendary international sopranos Maria Callas and Joan Sutherland.

\*Knoxville Opera premiere \*\*Southeast U.S. premiere

Subscription renewal forms will be mailed in May.

For subscription and single ticket order forms call 865-524-0795 ext. 1 after May 15.

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## SYNOPSIS

Seville, Spain, 17th Century

### Act I; Scene 1: The street in front of Dr. Bartolo's house

Count Almaviva, accompanied by a group of musicians, and his servant Fiorello, serenades the beautiful Rosina beneath her window. Disguised as a commoner called Lindoro, he hopes to make Rosina fall in love with him. Figaro, a local barber and wheeler-dealer, appears both celebrating and complaining about everything everyone asks of him. Almaviva offers to pay him to make arrangements for him to meet Rosina. Figaro advises Almaviva to disguise himself as a drunken soldier, ordered to be billeted with her tutor Dr. Bartolo, who also has designs on Rosina, so as to gain entrance to her house. Figaro is richly rewarded for the plan.

### Act I; Scene 2: The music room in Dr. Bartolo's house, the same day

After expressing her philosophy on life, Rosina writes a note to her suitor Lindoro, offering him "encouragement." After her departure, Dr. Bartolo tells her music teacher, Don Basilio, that he is suspicious of Almaviva's intentions. Basilio advises Bartolo to create false rumors about Almaviva. When the two have gone, Figaro enters with Rosina, suggesting that she write a few encouraging words to Lindoro. To Figaro's shock she has already written the note. Caught off guard by Bartolo, Rosina manages to fool him, but he remains suspicious. As his maid Berta prepares to leave the house, she is met by Almaviva disguised as a drunk soldier. Almaviva quietly identifies himself to Rosina as Lindoro and passes her a letter. Bartolo is suspicious and demands to know the content of the paper in Rosina's hands, but she fools him by handing over her laundry list. Bartolo and the soldier start arguing and, when Basilio, Figaro and Berta appear, the noise attracts the attention of the Officer of the Watch and his men. Bartolo believes that Almaviva has been arrested, but Almaviva only has to mention his name to the officer to be released. Bartolo and Basilio are astounded.

### Act II: Later the same day in Dr. Bartolo's house

Almaviva again appears at Bartolo's house, this time disguised as a singing tutor, pretending to act as substitute for the supposedly ill Basilio. Initially, Bartolo is suspicious, but allows him to enter when Almaviva gives him Rosina's letter. He describes his plan to discredit "Lindoro," whom he believes to be one of Almaviva's servants, intent on pursuing women for his master. In order not to leave the tutor alone with Rosina, Bartolo has Figaro shave him during Rosina's lesson. When the perfectly healthy Basilio suddenly appears, he is bribed to feign sickness by Almaviva. Finally Bartolo detects the trick, drives everybody out of the room, and rushes to a notary to draw up the marriage contract between himself and Rosina. He also shows Rosina the letter she wrote to Lindoro and convinces her that he is merely a flunky of Almaviva. Upon the arrival of the Count and Figaro, Rosina shows Almaviva the letter and expresses her feelings of betrayal. Almaviva reveals his true identity and the two reconcile. While Almaviva and Rosina are enraptured by each other, Figaro urges them to leave. Their eventual attempt to leave the house is thwarted by the entrance of Basilio and the notary. Basilio is given the choice of witnessing the marriage or being shot! He quickly agrees to join Figaro as witness to the marriage contract between Almaviva and Rosina. Bartolo barges in, but is too late and the wedded couple celebrate their love and joy.



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**Maestro Brian Salesky** joined Knoxville Opera as its fourth Executive Director and Conductor in May 2005. His administration has been marked by a period of artistic growth, presenting exciting young artists and veterans, and financial stability. Mr. Salesky has enjoyed a highly versatile, international career as a conductor of symphonic and chamber orchestras, opera and operetta, ballet and modern dance, Broadway musicals and popular music. During his four decades of service in the performing arts, Mr. Salesky has also engaged in a wide variety of work as a producer/manager of concerts, opera, television, radio and videos, and has distinguished himself as an accompanist, music arranger, fund-

raiser, educator, lecturer, author and consultant.

Mr. Salesky first won critical plaudits during his six-year tenure as a resident conductor and administrator with the New York City Opera. With the company in New York City and on tour in Los Angeles, Washington, and Mexico, his twenty-five-opera repertoire included the "Live From Lincoln Center" telecast of *La Cenerentola*. Mr. Salesky also served as the artistic and administrative director of the N.Y.C. Opera National Company, conducting *Carmen* and *La Traviata* in 45 cities. The conductor has also appeared with the opera companies of Barcelona, Sydney, Chicago, Cincinnati, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Dayton, Central City, and Montana. Maestro Salesky has performed with the leading symphony orchestras of Chicago, Madrid, Winnipeg, Peru, Denver, San Diego, Syracuse, the Kennedy Center, Chicago's Grant Park, Napa, South Bend, Greensboro, Utica, and Greeley, and the chamber of orchestras of Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Indianapolis and Woodstock. In his native New York City, Mr. Salesky has served as Music Director for the Congress of Strings, Musique à la Mode Chamber Orchestra, the Jamaica Symphony Orchestra, the Broadway revival of *Man of La Mancha* (with Raúl Juliá) and as Resident Conductor for George Abbott's Tony Award production of *On Your Toes*. During his career he has conducted for legendary artists Renata Scottò, Catherine Malfitano, and Alfredo Kraus and has accompanied hundreds of singers including Joan Sutherland, Richard Tucker, Sherrill Milnes, and Robert Merrill.

Away from the podium, the Indiana University *Phi Beta Kappa* graduate's eclectic range of activities have included education positions with Indiana University, Hunter College and the Israel Vocal Arts Institute, and Artistic Adviser positions with the symphony orchestras of Denver and Utica, Walt Disney Studios, the American Guild of Musical Artists, and the New York City Performing Arts Education Advisory Commission. From 1996 to 2001 he served as Co-founder, Executive Producer and fund-raiser for the Raúl Juliá Ending Hunger Fund's four-million-dollar campaign.

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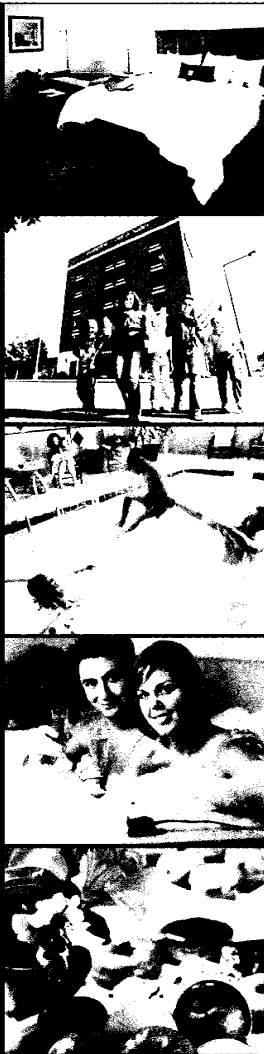
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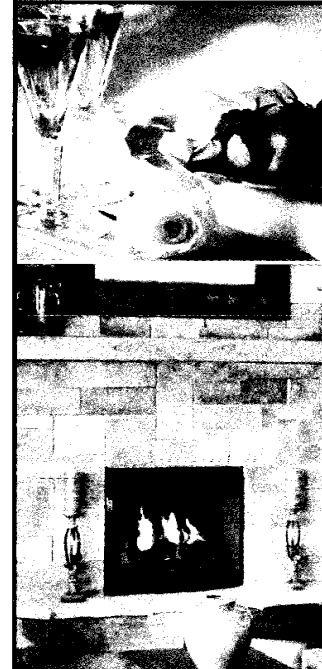
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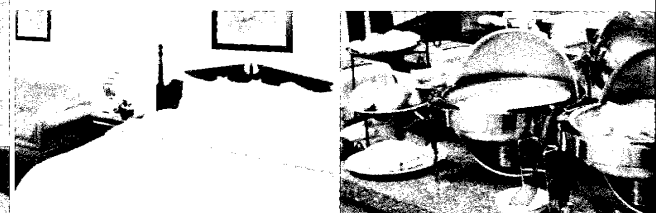


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**JAVIER ABREU** (*Count Almaviva*)  
*Sponsored thanks to the generosity of Mary and Joe Sullivan III.*

**Birthplace:** San Juan, Puerto Rico  
**Foreign Opera Companies:** Stuttgart Staatsoper (Germany), Gran Teatro del Liceu (Barcelona, Spain), Teatre Basel (Switzerland), Teatro Municipal de Santiago (Chile), Teatro Campoamor de Oviedo (Spain), New Israeli Opera  
**U.S. Opera Companies:** New York City, Minnesota, Florida Grand, Omaha, Fort Worth, Wolf Trap (VA), Opera New Jersey, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Cedar Rapids, Tacoma, Austin Lyric, Juilliard School  
**U.S. Symphony Orchestras & Festivals:** Pittsburgh, National (DC), Naples, Brazos Valley; Greenwich Music Festival, Bard Summerscape



**KEVIN BURDETTE** (*Doctor Bartolo*)  
*Sponsored thanks to the generosity of Ronald and Lynda Nutt.*

**Birthplace:** Knoxville, Tennessee  
**Foreign Opera Companies:** Teatro Colon (Buenos Aires), L'Opéra de Montréal, Opéra de Québec  
**U.S. Opera Companies:** Metropolitan Opera, Seattle, New York City Opera, Wolf Trap (VA), Boston Lyric, Glimmerglass (NY), Knoxville, Grand Rapids, Toledo, Boston Baroque, Chicago Opera Theater, Lyric Opera of San Antonio, Gotham Chamber Opera, San Francisco Opera Center, Juilliard School, University of Tennessee  
**U.S. Symphony Orchestras & Festivals:** Chicago, Los Angeles Philharmonic, National Symphony (DC), New Jersey, American Symphony, Utah, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Eos Orchestra, Virginia, Annapolis, Berkeley, Knoxville Civic Orchestra; Vienna Festival, Spoleto Festival USA



**CRAIG IRVIN** (*Don Basilio*)  
*Sponsored thanks to the generosity of Dr. Monroe and Sandra Trout.*

**Birthplace:** Des Moines, Iowa  
**U.S. Opera Companies:** Lyric Opera of Chicago, Knoxville, Pensacola, Des Moines, Opera North, Orlando, University of Tennessee



**RYLAND POPE** (*Fiorello*)  
**Birthplace:** Harlan, Kentucky  
**U.S. Opera Company:** Highlands Light Opera (KY)



**DIXIE ROBERTS** (*Berta*)  
**Birthplace:** Waterloo, Iowa  
**U.S. Opera Companies:** Light Opera Oklahoma, Union Avenue Opera, Opera in the Ozarks, Wichita State University  
**U.S. Symphony Orchestras:** Knoxville, Wichita State University



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*Don Townsend, Chorusmaster*

- Matthew Coakley
- Tom Eberts
- Martin Hennessee
- Harry House
- Jerry Hurst
- Rick Jones
- Scott Martineck
- Terrance McCracken
- Jason Patrick
- Ernie Roberts
- Burt Rosevear
- Winston Sullivan
- Seth Tinsley
- Jim Watkin
- Eric White
- Jim Williams

### You're Invited!\*

#### Benefactors' Reception

Saturday evening, May 22, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
at the home of Maestro Brian and Diana Salesky  
Enjoy their music and art collections and a dessert buffet.  
For seasonal Members (contributors) at \$1,000 and above to Knoxville Opera.

#### The Maestro Wrap

Monday evening, May 17, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
A behind-the-scenes discussion with Maestro Salesky  
and Knoxville Opera artists about the past and future seasons.  
For seasonal Members who contribute any amount to Knoxville Opera.  
At the Knoxville Opera Studio Building, 612 East Depot Avenue

\*For reservations, please call 524-0795 ext. 1 between May 1 and 14.