

Education Initiative

Storytelling through Opera with
The Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Virginia



In February and March of 2023, Charlottesville Opera began a new education initiative aimed at storytelling through opera. The initiative took place in conjunction with The Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Virginia, specifically the Journey and Cherry Avenue locations.

Students took part in a 6 week series of sessions during which they

1. learned about opera,
2. wrote their own stories,
3. created costumes,
4. built sets,
5. worked with singers to discover characters' emotions, and
6. presented the opera to the rest of their club members.

MADE POSSIBLE BY:

The Rea Charitable Trust

AN ANONYMOUS DONOR

Operation

Opera

Week One

Intro To Opera

Week Two

Storytelling

Week Three

**Creating
Characters with
Costumes**

Week Four

**Finding Your Place
through Set
Design**

Week Five

**Putting it all
Together**

Week Six

Performance!



Charlottesville Opera
Housing Hosts

Artists & Educators

It takes an artist with an educator's heart to win students to opera.



Classically trained singers from around the Central Virginia region auditioned to be a part of the Education Initiative.



KRISTEN BELL
Soprano



BRIAN HOBBS
Baritone



EMILY ROSENBERGER
Soprano



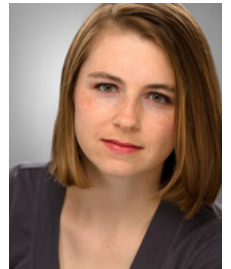
BIXIAO WANG
Soprano



AMANDA WYAND
Mezzo-Soprano

SHELBY SENDER

Pianist,
Education Initiative
Music Director



BRIDGID EVERSOLE

Soprano,
Voice Teacher,
Opera Educator



RACHEL HERRICK

Costume Designer,
Adjunct Faculty JMU,
Costume Coordinator



SIGRID EILERTSON

Artist,
Art Therapist,
Art Specialist for BGCCVA



ARABELLA WINFREE

Scenic Artist,
Elementary Educator,
Theater Specialist

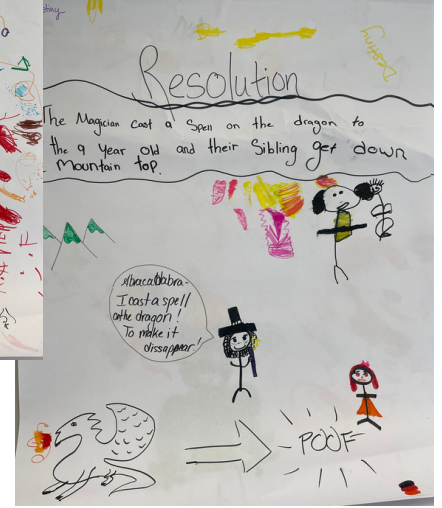
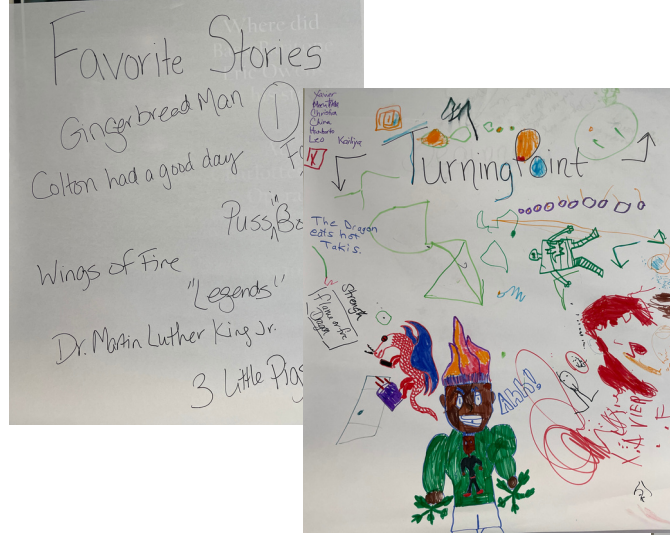


Educators experienced in opera, art, music, and theater led the sessions.

1. MEET AN OPERA SINGER



2. BRAINSTORM YOUR STORY



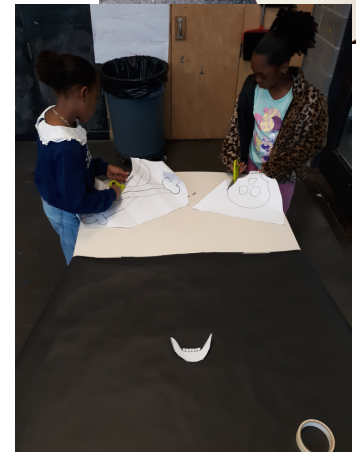
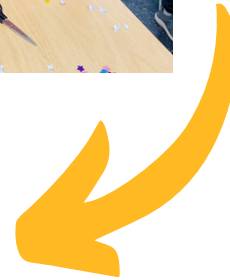
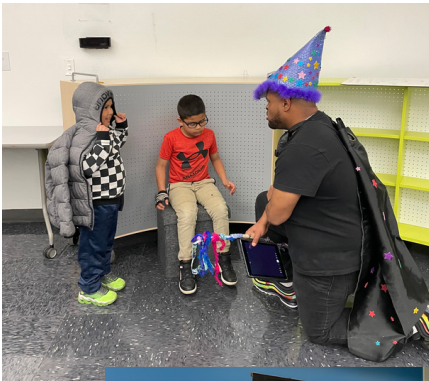
3. CREATE CHARACTERS WITH COSTUMES



4. FIND YOUR PLACE - SETS AND PROPS



5. PUT IT ALL TOGETHER!



6. PERFORM IT!

CHARLOTTESVILLE OPERA

