



May 13, 2026

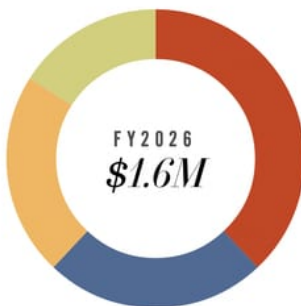
Dear [Friend],

This year, Knoxville Opera reached more than **50,000 people**.

We filled the Tennessee Theatre with *Carmen* and *The Barber of Seville*, and brought *Gianni Schicchi* to the Bijou. We filled the streets of downtown Knoxville with the Rossini Festival. We brought opera into elementary schools across East Tennessee, celebrated our Gospel Choir, raised young voices through our Children's Choir, and stood proudly with our Military Choir.

None of it happens without donors like you.

Here is the quiet truth about opera, everywhere: ticket sales account for only **22%** of Knoxville Opera's total revenue — the majority comes from people who believe this art form belongs in this city. **38%** of our entire budget comes from **individual donors like you**.



WHERE OUR FUNDING COMES FROM

Tickets alone can't carry a season — you can.

Individual donors · <i>gifts like yours</i>	38%
Foundations & gov't grants	24%
Ticket sales & subscriptions	22%
Other earned revenue	16%

Your gift underwrites the orchestra, the chorus, the costume shop, and every fifth-grader who hears live opera for the first time. We need to raise **\$50,000** from individual donors before our fiscal year closes on **June 30**. Will you help us cross the finish line?

From all of us at Knoxville Opera — thank you for keeping the curtain rising.

JASON HARDY
CEO & GENERAL DIRECTOR

P.S. Prefer to give online? Scan the code or visit [KNOXVILLEOPERA.ORG/GIVE](https://knoxvilleopera.org/give) to give securely in under a minute.



SCAN TO GIVE

For your security, please detach and return this slip inside the enclosed reply envelope.

MARY ALFORD
136 CANEY BRANCH RD
ROCKFORD, TN 37853

YES, I'll keep the curtain rising.

ANYTHING WRONG ABOVE? Please write any corrections here:

FORMAL NAME (for mailings)

RECOGNITION NAME (as you'd like to appear in our program)

MAILING ADDRESS (if changed)

EMAIL PHONE

MY GIFT

☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$5,000

☐ Other \$

PAYMENT

☐ Check enclosed, payable to Knoxville Opera

☐ Please charge my card:

☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISC

CARD NUMBER EXP. CVV

SIGNATURE

☐ Make it **MONTHLY** · ☐ employer matches gifts

FY26 IN REVIEW

YOUR YEAR ON THE KNOXVILLE OPERA STAGE.

50K+

PEOPLE REACHED

Across mainstage, festival & community programs

3

MAINSTAGE OPERAS

Carmen · Barber of Seville · Gianni Schicchi

10,000+

STUDENTS SERVED

In all of East Tennessee



Carmen

BIZET · TENNESSEE THEATRE · OCT 2025



The Barber of Seville

ROSSINI · TENNESSEE THEATRE · FEB 2026



Gianni Schicchi

PUCCINI · BIJOU THEATRE · MAY 2026

DONOR BENEFITS · 2025-26

COMMUNITY CIRCLE

- \$50/\$100 Supporter
- \$250 Patron
- \$500 Grand Patron

FRIEND CIRCLE

- \$1,000 Bronze
- \$2,500 Silver
- \$5,000 Gold

FAMILY CIRCLE

- \$10,000 Platinum
- \$25,000 Diamond
- \$50,000 Virtuoso

Find the circle that fits you.

OUR MISSION

To create vocal and theatrical experiences that entertain, provoke, and console.

◀ ▶ this side is the back of the tear-off reply slip ▶ ◀

GIVING VOICE TO STORIES THAT CONNECT US

A GIFT IN HONOR OR MEMORY

Many of our most meaningful gifts come in honor of a loved one, or in memory of someone who shaped our love of music.

- ☐ This gift is in honor of _____
- ☐ This gift is in memory of _____

Please notify _____ at _____ (address or email)

LEAVE A LEGACY

Some of the most enduring gifts to Knoxville Opera come through estate plans, charitable trusts, and beneficiary designations. If you've remembered us in your plans — or would like to explore how — please contact Jason Hardy at JHARDY@KNOXVILLEOPERA.ORG or (865) 524-0795.

Thank you for being part of Knoxville Opera's story.