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Minnesota Opera's Iron Range Residency

Minnesota Opera returns to collaborate
with the community of Chisholm, MN, May 2 - 6

WHAT: Minnesota Opera Residency and "Opera's Greatest Hits" Concert

WHERE: Chisholm High School Auditorium, Chisholm, MN

WHEN: May 2-6, 2011

Concert on Friday, May 6, 2011, 7pm

TICKETS: Free for students; \$5 for adults; available at the door

Minneapolis – Minnesota Opera is returning to the Iron Range for a residency with the Chisholm Public Schools, Virginia High School and local arts organizations that will culminate in a public concert of "Opera's Greatest Hits." From May 2–6, Teaching Artist **ANGIE KEETON** and Resident Artist **JEREMY REGER** will be working with students and local arts groups to give them a close-up experience with the operatic art form and prepare for the concert. The residency reprises last year's hugely successful collaboration concert of *Carmen*, which attracted an audience of over 700 students and adults in the beautifully restored Chisholm High School Auditorium.

The performance is part of Minnesota Opera's Spotlight Partnership program, established to help focus artistic and financial resources on communities where arts opportunities are scarce. "For us, this partnership is about highlighting artistic assets in small communities," said Keeton. "We hope that our added expertise can help the musicians and audience members become more involved with local arts organizations in their own community." Keeton will be joined in concert by Minnesota Opera artists, including baritone **RODOLFO NIETO**, mezzo-soprano **VICTORIA VARGAS** and tenor **BRIAN KUHL**. The East Range Chorale will again join these professional vocalists, with a children's choir of Chisholm Public School students in a program featuring popular operatic arias and choruses by Mozart, Rossini, Verdi and Puccini. Narration will also accompany these pieces, which will be performed in their original languages. However, just as at Minnesota Opera performances, English translations will be projected above the stage.

This Spotlight Partnership is generously supported by the Twin Cities Opera Guild, Enterprise Holdings Foundation and the Beim Foundation.

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