

THE ATLANTA OPERA
STUDIO TOUR PRESENTS

Miss

HANSEL
&
GRETEL



PARTICIPATION GUIDE

Thank you for inviting The Atlanta Opera into your school to perform our Studio Tour production of *Hansel and Gretel* for your students! The following resources have been compiled to help you prepare your students to participate on stage with us during our visit.

To celebrate its 40th year on the road, the 2019-20 season features a new adaptation of Humperdinck's enchanting fairy tale, *Hansel and Gretel*, in which students are invited to take center stage alongside Atlanta Opera artists. Suitable for all ages, *Hansel and Gretel* brings students on an adventure through a magical world filled with mystical forest animals, a captivating Sandman, and lots of sweets! Adapted and directed by Brenna Corner, an alumna of the Opera's Studio Artist program, the 45-minute English version of Humperdinck's classic opera teaches valuable lessons about listening, kindness, and not judging a Witch by her wardrobe.

We value your feedback and take this into account in planning future educational programs. We look forward to hearing from you, your students, administration, and/or parents following the performance.

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Sincerely,

The Atlanta Opera Education Department
www.atlantaopera.org/education
education@atlantaopera.org
470-427-2264



HANSEL AND GRETEL

PARTICIPATION GUIDE

SUGGESTED APPROACH FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Introduce your students to opera in a fun and exciting way by participating in this immersive version of *Hansel and Gretel*! Students will perform multiple roles (with costumes provided by the Opera), including a chorus of gingerbread children, a cuckoo bird, and forest animal puppeteers.

1. **CASTING:** Select 10-20 students (20 maximum) to participate in *Hansel and Gretel*. Enthusiasm is the most important criterion! The students will have music to memorize in advance of the performance. **We recommend that all student performers be chosen from the 4th grade to 6th grade to ensure that props and costumes will be the appropriate size.** If there are two performances, all student parts must be single-cast, i.e. played by the same student at both performances. There will not be enough time to rehearse multiple casts of students prior to the performances.

ROLE	# OF STUDENTS
Voice of the Cuckoo	1-3 Students
Cuckoo Puppeteers*	1-2 Students
Forest Animal Puppeteers*	4-5 Students
Chorus of Gingerbread Children (Puppeteers and Voice of Cuckoo should also be included in the Chorus of Gingerbread Children)	10-20 Students

*non-singing role

BONUS: Teach the entire school the finale chorus and have everyone join in from their seats!

Please, for the safety and optimal experience of the students and cast, do not send more than 20 students to work with the artists.

2. **PRE-PERFORMANCE:** Using this guide, the sheet music, and provided mp3s, prepare the students to perform the roles in *Hansel and Gretel* from memory. Encourage students to perform with gusto – musical accuracy is admirable, but the primary goal is to experience the joy of performance! Do not worry about staging for student participants. Upon arrival at your school, our performers will teach the children their movements and will work to ensure that everyone has a comfortable and fun experience.
3. **SPREAD THE LOVE:** Please review the Educator Guide and share the synopsis and other appropriate activities with classroom teachers - it aids everyone's understanding and enjoyment to be prepared for the opera experience.
4. **DAY OF THE SHOW:** The Atlanta Opera artists will arrive at your school approximately 90 minutes before the scheduled performance time. The artists will meet with the student participants in the performance location 45 minutes before the performance. The students must be available and prepared for this. The pianist will rehearse with them musically, and the singers will go over their staging. **A teacher or administrator must be present at all times while the students are working with artists. It is preferred that the teacher who prepared them for the performance also joins the students during this time.** Encourage the students to work fast and listen carefully for their instructions. However, they should not feel pressured to be perfect – it is the fun and pride of performing that should stay with them! The Opera will bring costumes for each student and all the necessary props for participation. Students will add the costumes pieces over their own clothes. Students will not need to change clothes for the performance. If you would like to give your performers a more unified look, encourage them to wear similar outfits to school that day (jeans and matching shirts, uniforms, etc.). For the students' safety, please have them wear closed-toe shoes, such as tennis shoes or boots. Sandals and flip-flops can be a tripping hazard on stage.

SHEET MUSIC AND RECORDINGS BY ROLE

Role: Voice of the Cuckoo; 1-3 Students

Score Pages: pg 34-37

Sheet Music Link: bit.ly/HG_Cuckoo_SheetMusic

Cuckoo Track vocal line: bit.ly/HG_Cuckoo_VocalLine

Cuckoo Track with piano only: bit.ly/HG_Cuckoo_PianoOnly

***Notes: The voice of the Cuckoo is sung offstage (next to the pianist) and can be cued by the pianist or a school music teacher as needed. The students may hold their music for this role.**

Role: Cuckoo Puppeteers; 1-2 Students

***Notes: Non-singing. Students will operate the Cuckoo puppet.**

Role: Forest Animal Puppeteers; 4-5 Students

***Notes: Non-singing. Students will operate the Forest Animal puppets.**

Role: Chorus of Gingerbread Children; 15-20 Students

Score Pages Section 1: pg 89-91

Score Pages Section 2: pg 94-96

Sheet Music Link: http://bit.ly/HG_Gingerbread_SheetMusic

Gingerbread Children Track Section 1 melody vocal line: http://bit.ly/HG_Gingerbread_Melody1

Gingerbread Children Track Section 1 harmony vocal line: http://bit.ly/HG_Gingerbread_Harmony1

Gingerbread Children Track Section 2 melody vocal line: http://bit.ly/HG_Gingerbread_Melody2

Gingerbread Children Track Section 2 harmony vocal line: http://bit.ly/HG_Gingerbread_Harmony2

Gingerbread Children Track Section 1 and 2 w/ piano only: http://bit.ly/HG_Gingerbread_PianoOnly

***Notes: Puppeteers and Voice of Cuckoo should also be included in the Chorus of Chorus of Gingerbread Children.**

***Bonus: Teach the entire school the final chorus and have everyone join in from their seats! The final chorus is on pg 96, measures 61-69.**