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## **Virginia Opera to Postpone Production of *Aida* Due to COVID-19**

**Hampton Roads, Richmond, VA (March 13, 2020)**— Today, as we monitor the scope of the COVID-19 pandemic and rely on constantly updated information from local authorities and our partners and colleagues within the field, **Virginia Opera**, *The Official Opera Company of the Commonwealth of Virginia*, has reached the decision that the most responsible way to honor our commitment to the health and well-being of our extended community is to postpone our forthcoming performances of *Aida* in Norfolk and Richmond.

Taking on the responsibilities inherent in our role as a cultural leader in both our state and in our field, also means making difficult decisions in circumstances like these. We are currently exploring options for rescheduling our production of *Aida*, and we assure those patrons and ticket-holders who have committed to attending that we will be communicating new dates for its performance as soon as possible.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we deal with this unprecedented situation as it evolves.

Patrons who have purchased tickets can contact our Box Office at 866.673.7282 x1 between the hours of 10am-5pm Monday-Friday to discuss options. Subscription Sales will continue for our 2020-2021 Season which includes *Rigoletto*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Cold Mountain*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*.

### **About Virginia Opera**

Virginia Opera Association, Inc., was founded in 1974, is known and respected nationwide for the identification and presentation of the finest young artists, for the musical and dramatic integrity of its productions, and for the ingenuity and variety of its education and outreach programs. Mainstage performances in three markets across the Commonwealth reach nearly 50,000 attendees annually. In March of 1994, by unanimous vote of the Virginia General Assembly, Virginia Opera was named “The Official Opera Company of the Commonwealth of Virginia” in recognition of the organization’s contribution to the state as well as to the world of opera. For tickets and information visit [vaopera.org](http://vaopera.org) or call 866.673.7282.

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