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VANCOUVER OPERA HOSTS  
2013 CELEBRATE THE ARTS - CELEBRATE VOLUNTEERISM CONFERENCE  
8th annual conference promotes and recognizes  
contributions of Vancouver arts volunteers

**Vancouver, BC** ~ This February, Vancouver Opera will be hosting the 2013 Celebrate the Arts - Celebrate Volunteerism Conference at the Michael & Inna O'Brian Centre for Vancouver Opera.

The Celebrate the Arts – Celebrate Volunteerism Conference promotes volunteerism in the arts in Vancouver and recognizes the contributions of volunteers by providing opportunities for education, networking and renewal. This year's conference takes place on Saturday, February 9th and the theme is "Volunteerism in an Age of Diversity."

Speakers at the 2013 CACV Conference include **Donna Spencer**, Artistic Producer, Firehall Arts Centre; **Loretta Cella**, Founder and Executive Director, Passion Foundation; **Zaccheus Jackson**, Siksika (Blackfoot Nation), slam poet and Artist-in-Residence at New Westminster Secondary School; **Bryan Kirk**, Senior Docent, Vancouver Art Gallery and **Tara Maghsoudnia**, Docent, Vancouver Art Gallery; **Sheila Carnahan** and **Alison Emslie**, Volunteer Associates, Museum Of Anthropology; **Valri Wright**, Volunteer Coordinator, Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival; **Gwyneth Westwick**, President, Vancouver Opera Guild; **Ashley Holm**, Audience Service Manager, Ballet BC; **Audrey Zaharichuk**, Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival and Ballet BC volunteer; **Alden Habacon**, Director, Intercultural Understanding Strategy Development, University of British Columbia; **Michele Mateus**, Volunteer Coordinator, Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre; **Terra Dickinson**, Volunteer and Public Program Coordinator, SunYat-Sen Chinese Garden; **Paul Sontz**, Manager of

Cultural Tourism and Tickets Tonight, Tourism Vancouver; and **Michael Clague**, C.M., President, Community Arts Council of Vancouver.

This year's CACV conference will also feature performances by participants in Vancouver Opera's Yulanda M. Faris Young Artists Program: soprano **Rachel Fenlon**, mezzo-soprano **Sylvia Szadovszki**, tenor **Martin Sadd**, baritone **Aaron Durand** and pianist **Michael Onwood**.

The Honorary Chair of the 2013 CACV conference is **Martha Lou Henley C.M.**, recipient of the 2004 Vancouver Arts Award Recipient for Philanthropy and of the 2006 Minerva Foundation Award Recipient for Women in Philanthropy.

The CACV began in 2005 as a one-time celebration of the Vancouver Opera Guild's 25th anniversary as an incorporated society. It has since grown into an annual event for approximately 100 volunteers, mainly from Vancouver, with presentations from all levels and disciplines within the arts, including opera, theatre, visual arts, ballet and music.

The conference provides arts volunteers the opportunity to connect with like-minded volunteers, local arts organization and artists. With the generous donations from local businesses and organizations, CACV is able to keep costs low and provide an exceptional day for attendees. For more information, a conference schedule, or to register for the conference visit [www.artsvolunteer.com](http://www.artsvolunteer.com).

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VO's 2012-2013 Season is generously sponsored by Goldcorp