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News

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Opera Cleveland Announces 2008 Board of Directors

Jan. 18, 2008--At the end of 2007, Opera Cleveland appointed its 2008-09 Board of Directors, with Dr. Pauline F. Ramig elected as President.

The newly established Executive Committee includes Dr. Ramig, Vija Beechler as Vice-President and Gary V. Bombei as Secretary/Treasurer. Members include: Bonnie M. Baker, Margaret Anne Cannon, Barbara Leirvik, Sheldon S. MacLeod, Nicholas Peay, Dr. Sanford Reichert, Bradford Roller, Peter L. Rubin, and Gary Small.

Members of the Board of Directors include: Thomas Allen, Steven R. Benza, Susan C. Bianco, Kristen M. Bihary, William P. Blair, III, Glenn Brown, Rand M. Curtiss, Nikki DiFilippo, Ritu Jain Furlan, Elaine Gilbert, Frances Floriano Goins, Samuel Hartwell, Cavour H. Hauser, Richard M. Knoth, Marilyn MacLeod, Robert P. Madison, Dr. Stephen A. Mahoney, Valarie McCall, John G. McDonald, Antoinette S. Miller, John P. Minnillo, Dr. Melodie Morgan-Minott, N. Michael Obi, Dr. Suzanne Palmer, Barbara Sue Peay, Janette D. Petro, Alga M. Schloss, David L. Simon, and George S. Vassos.

Dr. Ramig succeeds Peter L. Rubin, who served as President of the Board of Cleveland Opera from 2005 through its merger with Lyric Opera Cleveland and the formation and first season of Opera Cleveland.

"I've been honored to be president during the momentous time of change for the company, and I look forward to seeing Opera Cleveland continue to flourish," said Mr. Rubin. "I am confident Pauline will guide the company to success."

As owner and founder of Ramig Financial Planning, Dr. Ramig earned her credentials as a Certified Financial Planner in December 1992. She entered the field after over ten years of experience at British Petroleum as a coordinator of planning for refining and marketing and as a price risk manager for the

company's crude oil production. Prior to BP, she was a faculty member in the Mathematics and Statistics Department at Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Ramig holds B.S. and M.A. degrees in Mathematics from the University of Nebraska and the University of Louisville, respectively, and a Ph.D in Probability and Statistics from CWRU.

Much of Dr. Ramig's time over the last decade has been devoted to community service. Most recently, she served as Secretary for Opera Cleveland's Board of Trustees and prior to that, she served as Vice-President of Development. She became a trustee for Cleveland Opera in 2003 and helped guide the merger of the organization with Lyric Opera Cleveland in 2006.

Dr. Ramig has also been a member of the Board of Trustees for The Center for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, serving as Chair of the Development Committee and three years as Board President. She also served on the Board of the Women's Community Foundation to help spearhead a strategic planning endeavor.

"As Opera Cleveland heads into its second season, I look forward to leading the company in the new direction we've established," said Dr. Ramig. "I hope to continue to build its reputation for first-rate opera in Cleveland."

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