

OPERA BOSTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OPERA BOSTON CLOSES ITS DOORS

(BOSTON - Dec. 23, 2011) Opera Boston Board Chair Winifred P. Gray and Board President Gregory E. Bulger announced that the Company, facing an insurmountable budget deficit, is closing its doors on Jan. 1, 2012. They cited lackluster fundraising in a tough economic climate as the chief reason for the closure. "The board realizes that this development will come as a shock to the Boston arts community, and it is not a decision we made lightly. The Company has had many artistic triumphs in its recent history, and has many fans. However, as the end of the year approaches, we find ourselves in a financially untenable situation, and the responsible thing is to work with our creditors and close up shop." The staff was notified on Thursday, Dec. 22.

Opera Boston's final performance will be a First Night presentation of Mozart's *Bastien und Bastienne* featuring some of the company's younger singers, on December 31, 2011.