



Press Release: December 12, 2005

This clown is MAD! W-KXL's 'The Opera Hour' in December to feature I Pagliacci

Temple, NH - Granite State Opera Artistic Director Philip Lauriat will host "The Opera Hour" on WKXL- 1450 AM starting Monday, December 19 at 2 p.m. This month the show focuses on a tragedy of the highest order, Leoncavello's I Pagliacci. Featuring some of the most recorded and Hollywood-friendly opera music in history (think The Godfather, Goodfellas, The Untouchables, that Volkswagen commercial where the guy gets bombarded with water balloons) this short opera is barely longer than "The Opera Hour" running just an hour and ten minutes. The amount of drama, pathos and rapturous music Mr. Leoncavello packed into this short time will make for enticing, entertaining and educational radio.

"The Opera Hour" is sponsored jointly by Granite State Opera and WKXL 1450 AM and is designed as a new program dedicated to education and appreciation of opera. The show airs every third Monday of each month at 2 p.m., and is replayed on Sunday evenings. Interested listeners can hear the program, as well as thoughtful community and arts oriented radio by tuning into WKXL 1450 A.M. in the Capitol Region, and beyond the Capitol Region by pointing their web browsers to www.WKXL1450.com.

Granite State Opera is devoted to creating opera of the highest artistic quality for the benefit, enrichment and education of its audience in New Hampshire. It is supported in part by the NH State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, The NH Charitable Foundation, The Arthur and Dolores Daniels Foundation, The Hoffman Family Foundation, The Penates Foundation, and by its generous sponsors including Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, AutoFair, BAE SYSTEMS, Center of New Hampshire Radisson, Devine, Millimet and Branch, PA, Laconia Savings Bank, MARKEM Corporation, TFMoran, and Vital & Ryze Advertising Inc.

Tickets for Granite State Opera productions are available at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, NH, by calling 603-225-1111 and at The Music Hall in Portsmouth, NH by calling 603-436-2400. Tickets are also available online at www.ccanh.com and www.themusichall.org. Ticket prices range from \$18 to \$58, with special pricing for seniors and students. If you are interested in learning more about Granite State Opera, call 603-878-0539, or visit the Web site at www.GraniteStateOpera.org.