



For Immediate Release

May 7, 2010

Media Contact:

Rex Fuller, Opera Colorado
fuller@operacolorado.org, 303.778.0214

Lee Kappelman, Arts Consulting Group
lkappelman@artsconsulting.com, 202.478.5306

Opera Colorado appoints Lisa R. James as Director of Development

DENVER, CO--“After an exceptionally thorough search in conjunction with Arts Consulting Group, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Lisa James as Director of Development for Opera Colorado,” said General Director Greg Carpenter. “As we searched, we included board members, staff, and community leadership to find and hire an outstanding candidate. Lisa’s extensive skills in fundraising and in particular her experience as Director of Development for the San Francisco Opera will provide a major infusion of energy and creativity to our fundraising operations. I am thrilled that we added Lisa to our team.”

Ms. James brings extensive experience in non-profit and performing arts fundraising to her new position. From 1998 to 2003 she worked at San Francisco Opera, beginning as Director of Institutional Gifts and completing her service as Director of Development. During her tenure at SFO, Ms. James oversaw a staff of 22 and led the restructuring of the fundraising program at the opera as well as participated in crafting a strategic plan for the organization.

Before her time in San Francisco, Ms. James worked as a producer and a presenter for non-profit fine arts and performing arts organizations across the country. She has also directed the development efforts for environmental, medical research, and educational institutions. She has volunteered for or served as a board member for several non-profit institutions, including Breast

Cancer Action, Arts Festival of Atlanta, National Performance Network, and the Playwrights Foundation, among many others. Ms. James also served as a panelist and site evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts, the Western States Arts Foundation, and other national and regional funding organizations.

Says Ms. James, "I left Denver in 1981 and returned in 2007 to find a community transformed. Opera Colorado is recognized by the opera industry as one of the exciting regional companies to watch."

Ms. James received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Denver and her Master of Arts in Business from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is a graduate of William J. Palmer High School in Colorado Springs.

###