

PLÁCIDO DOMINGO

July 1, 2017

Dear Friends,

For many years now, I have had the pleasure of living out my dream to not only sing on the great stages of the world but to proudly serve as an ambassador for the arts. There is nothing more rewarding than being able to celebrate the beauty of opera and the diversity of multicultural audiences by bringing the joy of music to communities and families across the globe.

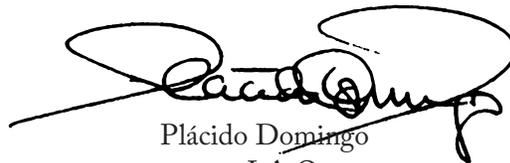
Fort Worth is dear to my heart. It was the place where as a young opera singer I often performed in my early career, and was embraced and encouraged by the kind people of the city. I care deeply for this community and I want nothing more than for the opera company to continue to thrive for years to come.

The reason I am writing you now is to let you know that I have accepted the Chairmanship of the new Fort Worth Opera National Artistic Council. I am deeply honored to serve on this prestigious advisory board, which will support the organization from a national level to pave the way forward to continued classical and contemporary operatic excellence. It will also strengthen entrepreneurial ventures for the creation of new works and ensure that operas of many cultural origins are planned in future seasons, to serve all Texans. Fort Worth Opera's ambitious, innovative thinking can be seen through the company's 4-year initiative, *Noches de Ópera*, its series of Spanish language operas, and recent performances of *Cruzar la Cara de la Luna*, which introduced this vibrant art form to a new generation of audiences.

In light of this news, I am saddened to share with you the knowledge that Fort Worth Opera is struggling with significant financial challenges, ones that could threaten the life of the company altogether. This cannot happen, and I am voicing my support to ensure that such a fate does not become a reality. Through all of this, I am inspired by the company's pioneering spirit and its hopeful vision. This is what motivates me to shape its future.

Join me now in support of Fort Worth Opera. Your generosity will ensure that opera lovers, families and children everywhere continue to experience great art in Fort Worth, and be inspired by thrilling stories, stirring performances, and powerful operas. The company needs your help today more than ever before. I encourage you to *give as generously as you possibly can*, so that together, we can secure the future and the legacy of the oldest opera company in Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Plácido Domingo', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

Plácido Domingo
LA Opera