



# FORT WORTH OPERA

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **FORT WORTH OPERA LAUNCHES FWO GO, PRESENTS VOICES FOR VOTES ON ELECTION DAY 2020, AND ANNOUNCES AN INSPIRING TWO-DAY FAMILY EVENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE TARRANT AREA FOOD BANK, FEATURING LIVE PERFORMANCES OF TEXAS-THEMED CHILDREN'S OPERA *STONE SOUP*, A MOBILE PANTRY, AND COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE**

*UPCOMING FWO GO EVENTS INCLUDE MINI-CONCERTS IN MULTIPLE NEIGHBORHOODS ACROSS TARRANT COUNTY ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, AND VOICES FOR VOTES, AN AFTERNOON OF PERFORMANCES PRESENTED AT POLLING LOCATIONS ON ELECTION DAY 2020, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3.*

**FORT WORTH, TX** —Fort Worth Opera (FWO) announced today the launch of **FWO GO**, an exciting artistic initiative featuring socially distanced, pop-up performances in neighborhoods across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. The company's first **FWO GO** shows will be held on **Saturday, October 24**, throughout Tarrant County, with surprise locations to be announced on FWO's social media channels and official website. Fort Worth Opera's talented **Lesley Resident Artists** will perform classic opera arias, musical theater selections, and beloved standards from the Great American Songbook on a flatbed trailer pulled by a Texas-sized pickup truck. The company recently unveiled its new digital platform **FWO Green Room** to connect with audiences and build dynamic relationships through technology, but **FWO GO** shows are the first step in presenting safe, live performances for the entire community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On **Tuesday, November 3**, FWO will appear at polling locations across Fort Worth and present **Voices for Votes**, a series of mini-concerts to inspire and entertain voters waiting in long lines to cast their ballot on **Election Day 2020**. That following weekend, FWO will partner with the **Tarrant Area Food Bank** for a mobile pantry, community food drive, and two performances of the new Texas-themed children's opera, **Stone Soup**, at Fort Worth's Farrington Field parking lot. This uplifting two-day family event combines the joy and excitement of a live musical performance with a much-needed lesson of unity, collaboration, and kindness for all.

Written by **FWO Artistic Director Joe Illick** and **Pulitzer Prize-winning librettist Mark Campbell**, *Stone Soup* presents an age-old tale and gives it a Texas twist, as a hungry, penniless, 13-year-old girl named Sally arrives at the steps of a local General Store in Blessing, Texas during the Great Depression, and teaches the townspeople the value of sharing and working together. On **Saturday, November 7, at 2 pm**, families can watch the live performance of *Stone Soup* and then receive food donations from FWO's huge cauldron, offering children an important opportunity to witness how their community has come together to support them, just like in the story. On **Sunday, November 8, at 2 pm**, families can watch this charming opera together and then place their food donations in the cauldron, as a kind gesture to help other families in need across North Texas.

### **Fort Worth Opera in Association with the Tarrant Area Food Bank *Stone Soup*, a Children's Opera in One Act**

Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 2:00 pm & Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 2:00 pm, Farrington Field Parking Lot.

#### **Watch the live performance of *Stone Soup*:**

Saturday, November 7: Food distribution day is reserved for families of the Tarrant Area Food Bank and community service organizations.

Sunday, November 8: Food drive day is open to the general public with a suggested food pantry donation of 4 kid-friendly, non-perishable food items and a suggested ticket price of "pay what you can."

Socially distanced performances will take place in the Farrington Field parking lot, located at 1400 Foch St., Fort Worth, TX 76107. For tickets and information, please visit <https://www.fwopera.org/stone-soup>

**ABOUT FORT WORTH OPERA:** Founded in 1946, Fort Worth Opera is the oldest continually-performing opera company in Texas, and one of the 14 oldest opera companies in the United States. The organization has received national acclaim from critics and audiences alike for its artistic excellence. Beginning in 2017, Fort Worth Opera launched the second phase of its landmark, 10-year Opera of the Americas initiative with *Noches de Ópera (Nights of Opera)*, a groundbreaking campaign that introduces powerful operas, each reflecting the diverse cultures of American audiences.

Fort Worth Opera is sponsored in part by awards from The Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County, The City of Fort Worth, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and OPERA America. Additional Fort Worth Opera sponsors include: the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; The Burnett Foundation; the Amon G. Carter Foundation; the Sid W. Richardson Foundation; Visit Fort Worth; Adeline & George McQueen Foundation, J.P. Morgan, Trustee; Smallwood Foundation, J.P. Morgan, Trustee; Hattie Mae Lesley Foundation, Bank of America, Trustee; Virginia Hobbs Charitable Trust, Simmons Bank, Trustee; Garvey Texas Foundation; Mary Potishman Lard Trust; Fifth Avenue Foundation; The Thomas M. Helen McKee and John P. Ryan Foundation; R4 Foundation; Red Oak Foundation; The Rea Charitable Trust, Wells Fargo Trustee; Wells Fargo Foundation; and Autobahn.

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