

CEDAR RAPIDS OPERA

Enjoy two familiar stories brought to life in a new way through the magic and fun of opera music

Cedar Rapids Opera and TellersBridge are coming together to present a new event

Who We Are and Why We Tour with the Opera

Join the **Cedar Rapids Opera** and **TellersBridge** for a lively introduction to children's literature and opera at the **Cedar Rapids Public Library's Whipple Auditorium** on Saturday, September 26th at **10 am**.

This **free** storytelling and live music event is perfect for **K-6 students and families** and combines the magic of storytelling with the excitement of live singing and piano.

TellersBridge's Gary Whitehill will read **two familiar stories**, while CRO singers bring **key moments** to life with songs from **children's operas** by John Davies. The performance offers young audiences an accessible and entertaining way to experience how music, storytelling, character, and imagination can come together on stage.



The program will feature **Jack and the Beanstalk**, with music by Sir Arthur Sullivan and words by John Davies, and **Goldie B. Locks & the Three Singing Bears**, adapted by John Davies with music drawn from works by Offenbach and Mozart.

Audiences will meet Jack, his mother, and the Giant in a musical retelling filled with humor and memorable characters, followed by the adventures of Goldie and the three singing bears.

Songs include Jack's introduction, Mother's song, the Giant's famous "Fee Foe Fie Fum," and selections such as "Hello, Good Day," "Oh, Catching Bugs," "The Soup Smells Yummy," and "Every Day in Every Way." The music is performed by Isabella Koch, Avery Anderson, Calvin Boman, and Ian Wolverton-Weiss, accompanied by pianist Daniel Kleinknecht.

CRO has performed both operas previously, making this first collaboration with TellersBridge an opportunity to revisit these delightful works in a format created especially for young listeners.

Saturday, September 26, 2026
CR Public Library | Whipple Auditorium
10 am | Free to the public

This special collaborative event was made possible by:



TellersBridge
tellersbridge.org

CEDAR RAPIDS PUBLIC Library



From left to right: Avery Anderson, Isabella Haren (Koch), Calvin Boman, Gary Whitehill, and Daniel Kleinknecht

For more information contact:
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