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Local Celebrities appear in *The Pirates of Penzance* at the Lyric Opera

KANSAS CITY, MO. (April 21, 2009) – Gilbert & Sullivan’s swashbuckling tale of duty gone wrong will feature local celebrities in their Lyric Opera debuts playing the Queen of England in each performance produced.

The performance schedule is as follows:

- The **Saturday, April 25, 2009** performance will feature five-time Emmy award-winning writer and reporter **Bev Chapman** from **KMBC-TV9** in the role.
- The **Monday, April 27, 2009** performance will feature the Producing Artistic Director of the **Unicorn Theatre, Cynthia Levin**, in the role.
- The **Wednesday, April 29, 2009** performance will feature **Crystal Wiebe**, the calendar editor at *The Pitch* in the role.
- The **Friday, May 1, 2009** performance will feature News and Arts Reporter, **Laura Spencer** from **KCUR FM** in the role.
- The **Sunday, May 3, 2009** performance will feature Lyric Opera of Kansas City Artistic Director **Ward Holmquist** as the Queen.

The Pirates of Penzance Performance Information

Music by Gilbert & Sullivan

Performed in English with English subtitles projected above the stage

Lyric Theatre, 11th and Central, Downtown Kansas City

5 performances: April 25, 27, 29 and May 1, 3, 2009

Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8 p.m.; Monday and Wednesday curtains are at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday is a 2:00 p.m. matinee.



Ticket availability varies by performance. Limited student rush tickets are \$10 one hour before curtain, with valid ID. To purchase tickets, visit www.kcopera.org, or call the ticket office at (816) 471-7344 or 1-800-KCOPERA (673-7252).

The Lyric Opera of Kansas City is a member of OPERA America, and this season is made possible with funding from the Missouri Arts Council and the KC Arts Fund.

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