



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THURROCK

30 JULY 2014

Costume Inspiration Day at the Royal Opera House in Thurrock

**Come and find out more about costume making in a
hands-on practical workshop**

Inspiration Day for individuals

Friday 24 October 10.30am – 3pm

**Royal Opera House Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop, High
House Production Park, Purfleet, RM19 1RJ**

www.roh.org.uk/inspiration

If you have a passion for fashion, theatre and costume design, the **Royal Opera House** in Thurrock has a great opportunity for you. On **Friday 24 October**, a special **Inspiration Day** with an emphasis on costume is taking place at the **Royal Opera House Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop** on the **High House Production Park** in Purfleet.

October's Inspiration Day offers a tour of the Production Workshop to see the craftspeople at work, an opportunity to see some of the Royal Opera House's many on-line and virtual resources about costume and, in the afternoon, participants will take part in a hands-on Costume Workshop with experienced costume designer and maker Lesley Ford. The workshop will explore characterisation through costume, analyzing visual stereotypes such as good and bad characters and defining visual clues that audiences might expect to see and read easily in their costumes. Costumes from the Royal Opera House store in Thurrock will be available to handle and even try on.

For all Royal Opera House press releases visit www.roh.org.uk/press

Until now, the very popular Inspiration Days have only been open to groups but, for the first time in October, individuals can book to attend an Inspiration Day and discover for themselves the skills of the talented craftspeople who turn the Royal Opera House's designers' visions into reality on stage.

The Inspiration Day begins at 10.30am and ends at 3pm. Spaces are very limited and booking is essential. The cost including lunch is £30 and £25 for those under 18. If you would like more information, please either email getinvolved@roh.org.uk or call 01708 891200. Bookings can be made directly with the Royal Opera House Box Office on 020 7304 4000 or online at www.roh.org.uk/events/calendar/2014/10/24

Inspiration Days and the public tours at the Royal Opera House Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop have proved extremely popular. Since the regular tour programme began running in 2012, more than 2000 people have caught a fascinating glimpse into the skills and talents of the many scenic painters, carpenters and metalworkers who work at the state-of-the-art workshop.

Inspiration Days have been running since 2013 and offer a more in-depth look at the behind the scenes work that goes into creating spectacular sets and beautiful scenery for the stages of the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. For more details about Inspiration Days and public tours, please go to www.roh.org.uk/about/thurrock or email getinvolved@roh.org.uk

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Notes for Editors

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock has been offering innovative and creative projects and programmes in schools, colleges and across communities in the Thames Gateway since 2006.

Since then, more than 40,000 people have participated in activities ranging from schools projects to teacher training, from work-based learning to fully-staged community operas. People in Thurrock have both been able to watch special performances at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden and gain a very special insight into the behind-the-scenes process.

The Learning and Participation team runs the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus which currently has over 140 members of all ages and regularly performs across Thurrock and at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. For further information, please go to: www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/community-chorus. RM19, a Youth Vocal Group for 11-25 year olds was started in 2012: www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/rm19-youth-singing-group. Details of future performances and taster session for both the Community Chorus and RM19, can be obtained by emailing getinvolved@roh.org.uk or calling 01708 891200.

Regular public tours of the state-of-the-art Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop where the sets and scenery for the Royal Opera House stage in Covent Garden are built are now available. Please go to www.roh.org.uk/visit/tours/thurrock-tours for further details. Inspiration Days offer a more in-depth look at the work of the Production Workshop. More information can be found at www.roh.org.uk/inspiration

In April 2012, the Royal Opera House agreed to become a Bridge organisation, working to connect children and young people to great art and culture across Essex, North Kent, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

The Learning and Participation team is based at the High House Production Park in Purfleet which is supported by a unique partnership including Arts Council England, Creative & Cultural Skills, the Royal Opera House and Thurrock Council:

www.highhouseproductionpark.co.uk