



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 18, 2023**

## **RICHLAND LIBRARY WELCOMES FALL ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE COLUMBIA OPERATIC LABORATORY**

*Opera and Fine Art meets Equity and Education at Richland Library*

(Columbia, SC) - Richland Library customers can tune into immersive musical experiences with a little help from **Richland Library's newest Artists-in-Residence, the [Columbia Operatic Laboratory \(COLab\)](#).**

As Richland Library's Artists-in-Residence, COLab will be offering music lessons, workshops, pop-up performances, and sing-a-longs for all ages during **their 2023 residency which began July 17 and ends December 15.**

Founded in 2015, Columbia Operatic Laboratory (COLab) has captivated the ears of audiences both in-person and virtually. Self-described as "not your meemaw's opera company," COLab offers performances in unique venues in Columbia, SC, and surrounding areas.

They seek to showcase local talent, facilitate the creation of new works, and adapt classics with a special COLab twist. Their **performances challenge the high-brow expectations audiences may hold about the art form and seek to provide everyone the opportunity to experience opera.**

Learn more about Columbia Operatic Laboratory and upcoming community performances by [visiting their website](#).

Initially developed in September 2016, Richland Library's Artist-in-Residence program aims to connect the community with local, working artists and to provide creative and educational opportunities for residents in a way that supports cultural and artistic exchange.

For questions regarding Richland Library's Artist-In-Residence program, visit [richlandlibrary.com/Art](http://richlandlibrary.com/Art) or contact Ashley Warthen, Arts Coordinator at [awarthen@richlandlibrary.com](mailto:awarthen@richlandlibrary.com).



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For media inquiries, please contact Anika Thomas via 803.530.4621 or [media@richlandlibrary.com](mailto:media@richlandlibrary.com).

### **About Richland Library**

Awarded the National Medal in 2017 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, [Richland Library](#) is a vibrant, contemporary organization that provides resources and information that advance the Midlands. Offering state-of-the-art technology, a variety of literary and cultural programs and 13 bustling facilities located throughout the county, Richland Library provides a truly customizable, modern library experience for residents and visitors alike.