



Shreveport Opera Xpress (SOX)

presents

# *Stop, Bully!*

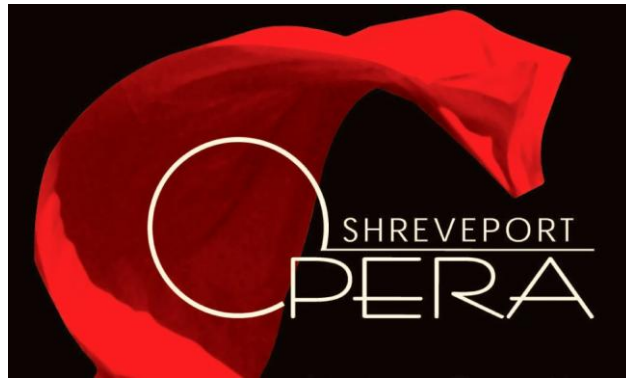
Study Guide

By Steve Aiken and Jason Heald for Shreveport Opera 2011

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Thank you for inviting Shreveport Opera Xpress (SOX) to your school. We are delighted to bring this year's production to schools throughout the Ark-La-Tex. We are proud to present this short educational opera about bullying prevention.

The SOX Program is an important part of Shreveport Opera. We are committed to producing outstanding professional operas for children that educate as well as entertain. The objectives of SOX and this study guide are:

- To introduce students to the fundamental components of opera
- To introduce basic music terminology
- To excite children about seeing live performances
- To plant the seed for the audience of the future
- To include a social impact message
- To help all involved understand that opera is also fun!

This study guide contains information that I hope you will find useful as you prepare your students to see *Stop, Bully!*

I urge your school coordinator or principal to please fill out and return the evaluation form. Your positive feedback and improvement suggestions are a fundamental part of ensuring grants and other funding opportunities for future performances.

Should you have any questions or need anything further, please don't hesitate to contact me at [executivedirector@shreveportopera.org](mailto:executivedirector@shreveportopera.org) or by phone at (318) 227-9503.

All the best,

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# STOP, BULLY!

## EVALUATION FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

**Demographics** - For Shreveport Opera grant documentation, please give your best estimate for the number of students attending who are:

White \_\_\_\_\_ Black \_\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Total Students in Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Levels: \_\_\_\_\_

### Pre-Performance

Did you make use of the materials provided on the Shreveport Opera website? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If No, please indicate why:

\_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, please rate the quality and suitability of the guide: \_\_\_\_\_ Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_  
Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor

### Post-Performance.

How would you rate the quality of the performance? \_\_\_\_\_ Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor

How would you rate the quality of the overall experience? \_\_\_\_\_ Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor

Did you find the performers easy to understand? \_\_\_\_\_ Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Poor

Comments/Suggestions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**We welcome and encourage student feedback. This form as well as any student drawings, notes, and/or thank you letters may be mailed to:**

**Please Mail To: Shreveport Opera  
212 Texas Street, Suite 101  
Shreveport, LA 71101**

**Fax to: (318) 227-9518**

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## Musical and Operatic Definitions

**ALTO** (It.)

The lowest female voice. Also called contralto.

**ARIA** (It.)

pronounced (AH-ree-ah) - A song for solo voice.

**BARITONE**

pronounced (BARR-ah-tone) - The middle range male voice, between tenor and bass.

**BASS**

pronounced (BASE) - Lowest of the male voices.

**COSTUME**

Clothing a singer wears to portray a character.

**COMPOSER**

The person who writes the music.

**DESIGNER**

The person who creates the scenery, costumes and lights.

**DUET**

pronounced (do-ET) - Music written for two people to sing together, usually to each other.

**ENSEMBLE**

Two or more singers singing at the same time to express their emotions and tell the story.

**LIBRETTO** (It.)

pronounced (lih-BRET-oh) - The word literally means "little book." The text or words of an opera.

**MELODY**

A series of musical tones that make up a tune.

**MEZZO-SOPRANO** (It.)

pronounced (MEDZ-oh soh-PRANH-oh) - The middle female voice, between soprano and contralto.

**OPERA**

pronounced (AH-per-ah) - A play that uses singing instead of speaking and is accompanied usually by piano in rehearsals and orchestra in performances.

**PIANO** (It.)

pronounced (pee-AN-oh) - A musical instrument used to accompany singers in rehearsals when there is no orchestra. The orchestral score is reduced from parts for many instruments to one part for the pianist, which combines all the important music that must be played to give a complete sound for the singers.

**RECITATIVE**

pronounced (ress-it-uh-TEEVE) - A type of music using words sung with the rhythm of natural speech with some melody added. Recitative can come before an aria or stand alone and it gives information or moves the story along.

**REHEARSAL**

The time singers and musicians spend practicing before a performance.

**PROPS**

Objects placed on the stage, excluding scenery. Short for “properties.”

**SCORE**

The book which contains both the music and the text of the opera.

**SET**

The scenery used on the stage to show location for the action.

**SOPRANO (It.)**

pronounced (soh-PRANH-oh) - The highest female voice.

**STAGE DIRECTOR**

The person who decides how the singers will move on stage and how they will act while they are singing their parts.

**TENOR**

pronounced (TEH-nor) - The highest male voice.

**TRIO (It.)**

pronounced (TREE-oh) - Music written for three characters to sing together.

**VIBRATO (It.)**

pronounced (vi-BRAH-toe) - The natural way for a voice or instrument to enlarge its sound through a very rapid but very tiny waver in pitch.

**VOCAL RANGE**

The scope of the human voice from its highest to its lowest sounds. Voices fall into these categories:

**female:** soprano – high

mezzo-soprano – middle

alto or contralto – low

**male:** tenor – high

baritone – middle

bass – low



# Investigate...the opera!!

## WHAT DOES THE WORD OPERA MEAN?

The meaning of the word "opera" comes from the Latin word "opus" which means a "work." What is a "work?" It is something that a person makes or thinks up. It is a poem or a song or a drawing or a composition or any other creative thing a person makes. The plural of opus is opera. "Opera" means "works" in the Latin language. Today we use the word "opera" to describe one large work of performing art that combines many kinds of performances. Opera = many works that are combined together. In opera there is a symphony orchestra, a dramatic play or comedy, singing and acting, scenery, costumes, special lighting and sometimes dancing.

## WHERE DID OPERA BEGIN?

Opera was created over 400 years ago in Florence, Italy. In 1597 a composer named Jacopo Peri wrote a play that was sung throughout instead of spoken. He did this because he was trying to write a play the way the ancient Greeks did. During this time period educated people were trying to learn all they could about the world of ancient Greece and imitate it. This first opera was about a character in Greek mythology and was called Daphne. The idea of presenting plays that were sung became very popular and more and more composers began to combine music and drama. Love of opera spread all over Europe and eventually the world. Operas have been written in every language and their popularity shows no signs of slowing down.

As in a play, designers must be called in to create the costumes, lights, sets and makeup for an opera production. As the actual performance approaches, the singers have dress rehearsals where they get to wear their new costumes and perform in front of the newly crafted scenery. Rehearsals give the singers an opportunity to practice their music and their acting with each other.

In opera, the composer sometimes writes both the words and the music. However, the person who usually writes the words is the librettist.

## HOW IS THE OPERATIC VOICE DIFFERENT?

Operatic singing is different from popular singing. There is more vibration in an opera singer's voice. This vibration is called vibrato, an Italian word. It helps the singer hold notes for a long time without taking a breath. Proper breathing is very important because the air in the lungs must be let out very slowly in a controlled way. Opera singers must be able to sing very high and very low, in a wide range and sing fast runs, which are many notes in a row, sung very rapidly. They do not use microphones or amplifiers to project their voices. All the power in their voices must come from inside their bodies. It takes years of study and breath control to learn how to do this. The highest singing voice is called soprano and the lowest voice is bass. Opera singers must also be able to sing in different languages because most operas are performed in the language in which they were originally written.



## What Should I Do If I'm Bullied?

### What is bullying?

Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose. The person being bullied has a hard time defending himself or herself. Usually, bullying happens over and over.

Sometimes bullying is easy to notice, such as with hitting or name calling, and other times it's hard to see, like with leaving a person out or saying mean things behind someone's back. Both boys and girls bully, and both boys and girls get bullied. Bullying is not fair, and it hurts.

### How to deal with bullying:

- Tell your parents or other trusted adults. They can help stop the bullying.
- If you are bullied at school, tell your teacher, school counselor, or principal. Telling is not tattling.
- Don't fight back. Don't try to bully those who bully you.
- Try not to show anger or fear. Students who bully like to see that they can upset you.

- Calmly tell the student to stop...or say nothing and then walk away.
- Use humor, if this is easy for you to do. (For example, if a student makes fun of your clothing, laugh and say, "Yeah, I think this shirt is kind of funny-looking, too.")
- Try to avoid situations in which bullying is likely to happen. You might want to
  - Avoid areas of the school where there are not many students or teachers around.
  - Make sure you aren't alone in the bathroom or locker room.
  - Sit near the front of the bus.
  - Don't bring expensive things or lots of money to school.
  - Sit with a group of friends at lunch.
  - Take a different route through hallways or walk with friends or a teacher to your classes.

**Resource KIT**

These and other materials are available online at: [www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov](http://www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov)

## WORD FIND

B	W	D	T	E	L	L	W
U	O	H	U	R	T	S	I
L	R	E	S	P	E	C	T
L	D	Z	Y	Q	A	M	N
Y	S	K	I	D	S	A	E
B	T	A	R	G	E	T	S
E	O	X	Y	E	L	L	S
H	P	F	R	I	E	N	D

Chandra says: Find these words! They can be found forward or down.

- |                                |                                  |                                  |                                |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BULLY | <input type="checkbox"/> YELL    | <input type="checkbox"/> TARGET  | <input type="checkbox"/> WORDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TELL  | <input type="checkbox"/> RESPECT | <input type="checkbox"/> WITNESS | <input type="checkbox"/> HURT  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KIDS  | <input type="checkbox"/> STOP    | <input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND  | <input type="checkbox"/> TEASE |



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## WORD FIND

B	U	L	L	Y	I	N	G	Z	D
A	G	A	I	N	S	T	X	Y	I
D	W	V	W	I	T	N	E	S	S
U	W	O	R	D	S	H	T	C	A
L	D	L	E	Q	R	U	Z	U	B
T	E	A	S	E	I	R	J	M	I
I	R	K	P	N	K	T	E	L	L
F	R	I	E	N	D	M	B	D	I
H	O	D	C	C	Y	B	E	R	T
T	V	S	T	O	P	X	C	G	Y
Y	W	T	A	R	G	E	T	H	I

Chandra says: Find these words! They can be found forward or down.

- |                                     |                                   |                                  |                                |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> KIDS       | <input type="checkbox"/> STOP     | <input type="checkbox"/> TARGET  | <input type="checkbox"/> WORDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST    | <input type="checkbox"/> BULLYING | <input type="checkbox"/> WITNESS | <input type="checkbox"/> HURT  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BULLYING   | <input type="checkbox"/> TELL     | <input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND  | <input type="checkbox"/> CYBER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY | <input type="checkbox"/> RESPECT  | <input type="checkbox"/> ADULT   | <input type="checkbox"/> TEASE |



## WORD FIND

L	R	E	W	O	P	O	O	W	W	Y	T	L
B	X	W	I	T	N	E	S	S	X	T	A	G
I	D	O	D	Q	T	C	E	P	S	E	R	O
U	I	R	D	I	T	I	A	N	Z	L	G	S
T	F	D	P	Q	S	R	I	D	W	L	E	S
P	F	S	P	W	Y	A	B	N	U	M	T	I
K	E	O	O	I	G	H	B	P	J	L	Y	P
I	R	A	T	A	A	H	F	I	A	F	T	T
D	E	Z	S	Y	V	U	K	T	L	R	C	R
S	N	M	R	E	W	R	X	A	B	I	L	E
K	T	N	C	O	N	T	R	O	L	E	T	B
H	B	U	L	L	Y	I	N	G	V	N	N	Y
F	E	X	Q	I	E	N	O	L	A	D	M	C

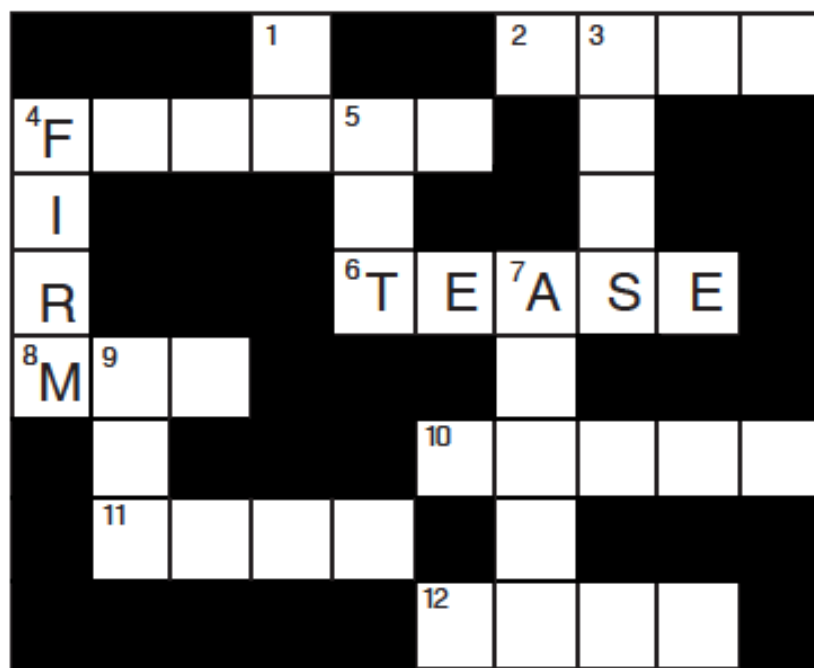
Chandra says: Find these words!  
They can be found forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally.

- |                                     |                                   |                                    |                                |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> KIDS       | <input type="checkbox"/> STOP     | <input type="checkbox"/> TARGET    | <input type="checkbox"/> WORDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST    | <input type="checkbox"/> BULLYING | <input type="checkbox"/> WITNESS   | <input type="checkbox"/> HURT  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOSSIP     | <input type="checkbox"/> TELL     | <input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND    | <input type="checkbox"/> CYBER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY | <input type="checkbox"/> RESPECT  | <input type="checkbox"/> ADULT     | <input type="checkbox"/> TEASE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> POWER      | <input type="checkbox"/> CONTROL  | <input type="checkbox"/> DIFFERENT | <input type="checkbox"/> ALONE |



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## COOL CROSSWORD



### Across

2. It's \_\_\_\_\_ to tell.
4. Speak up. Reach Out. Be a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. To bully with words is to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. If you are being bullied, it's a good idea to talk with your \_\_\_\_\_ and dad.
10. A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who picks on others.
11. One way to help stop bullying is to \_\_\_\_\_ an adult.
12. You can tell the bully to \_\_\_\_\_!

### Down

1. Speak up. Reach out. \_\_\_\_\_ a friend.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ against bullying.
4. Tell the bully in a \_\_\_\_\_ voice to stop.
5. Do \_\_\_\_\_ bully.
7. It's okay to tell an \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Speak Up. Reach \_\_\_\_\_. Be a friend.

ANSWER KEY  
ACROSS • (2) OKAY • (4) FRIEND • (6) TEASE • (8) MOM • (11) TELL • (12) STOP  
DOWN • (1) BE • (3) KIDS • (4) FIRM • (5) NOT • (7) ADULT • (9) OUT

**DONT BULLY**



**BE HAPPY**



[www.fun-with-pictures.com](http://www.fun-with-pictures.com)



Supported by grants from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council and administered by the Shreveport Regional Arts Council and the Bossier Arts Council.

**Funding has also been provided by the following:**



This project is supported by a grant from  
The Community Foundation



The Alta and John Franks Foundation  
The Hicks Fund  
The Powers Foundation  
The Zadeck Family Foundation  
Opera Volunteers International  
The JB Atkins Foundation

The Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation