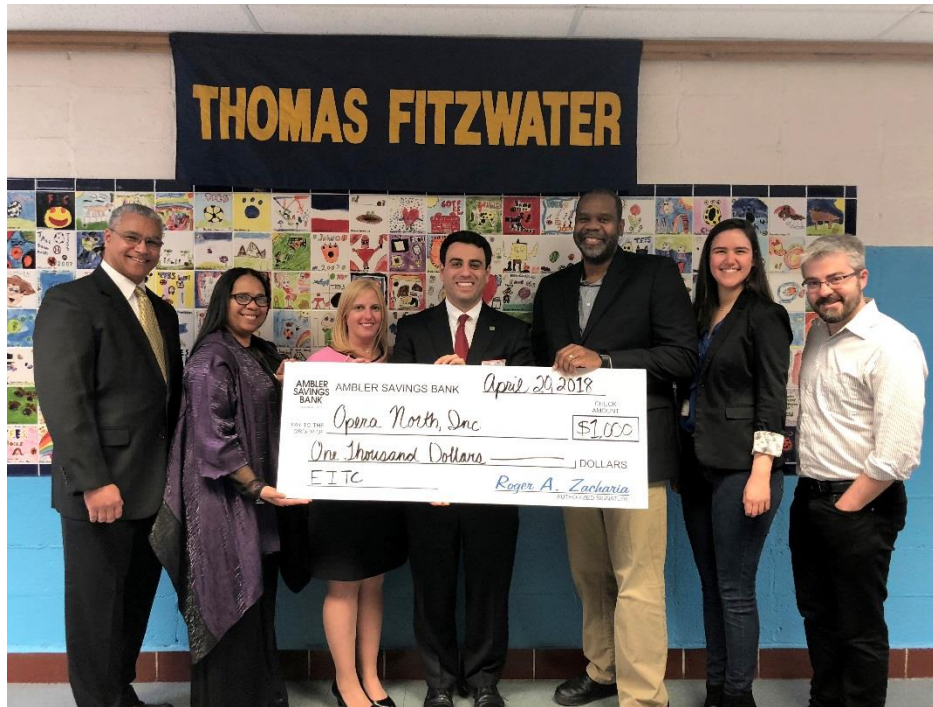


Opera North, Inc. Partners with Ambler Savings Bank to Present *Opera in the Schools*



Leslie Burrs, Executive Director, Opera North, Inc.; Iris Fairfax, Opera North Lyric Coloratura Soprano; Erin Cohen, Ambler Savings Bank Retail Officer; Roger Zacharia, Ambler Savings Bank President and CEO; Peter Alston, Thomas Fitzwater Elementary Principal; Aryssa Leigh Burrs, Opera North Mezzo-Soprano; Rebolla, Opera North Pianist.

WILLOW GROVE — Opera North, Inc. (ONI) the oldest African American opera company in the Philadelphia and Montgomery County region will partner with Ambler Savings Bank to present ONI's *Opera in the Schools* at Thomas Fitzwater Elementary School located at 30 School Lane, Willow Grove, PA 19090 on Friday, April 20th at 2:00 pm. This program is a Pennsylvania Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) partnership performance. ONI is the EITC presenting organization and Ambler Savings Bank the EITC business sponsor.

Opera North, Inc.'s *Opera in the Schools* is a school program allowing opera to serve as an educational tool relevant to the student experience by contributing to the students' curriculum integration, cultural awareness and educational development. This interactive music program provides students with a better understanding of opera as an art form/teaching tool to stimulate interest in the performing arts, history, language and literature. ONI's accomplished performing artists entertain and engage the students through their music, conversation and invitation to have the students perform with them. The performance is presented to the entire student body.

Ambler Savings Bank representatives will be in attendance to present ONI a check for one thousand dollars to commemorate the event and its commitment to the community. Guest artist and former Thomas Fitzwater Elementary School student, mezzo soprano Aryssa Leigh Burrs, will make a special appearance for this event. Aryssa Leigh Burrs is the recipient of the Marian Anderson Young Artist Study Grant and the Bruce Montgomery Foundation for the Arts 2017 Springboard Grant, she is the 2017 and 2018 Seagle Music Colony Emerging Artist performer and scholarship recipient. She graduated the University of Maryland with degrees in vocal performance and music education.

The ONI performers also include Clayton T. Mathews, baritone, Maximiliano Marques, tenor, Gabriel Rebolla, piano and Iris Fairfax, lyric coloratura soprano, recipient of multiple awards performing diverse operatic roles.

For 40 years ONI has continued to fulfill and exceed its vision by presenting innovative programming including productions, recitals, concerts and an impressive array of education and community engagement performance opportunities.

For more information contact Leslie Burrs 215-885-0117 leslieburrs@comcast.net