



SAN FRANCISCO  
OPERA

## JENSEN AND LORI HUANG MAKE TRANSFORMATIONAL COMMITMENT TO SAN FRANCISCO OPERA



Jensen and Lori Huang with Matthew Shilvock.  
Photo: Kristen Loken/San Francisco Opera

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (November 20, 2025) — At a special *Monkey King* event hosted by Jensen and Lori Huang in the Green Room at the War Memorial Veterans Building, the Huangs announced a multi-year commitment of \$5 million a year to the San Francisco Opera to support its artistic work and the San Francisco artist community. This year their gift will help underwrite the Opera's acclaimed production of composer Huang Ruo and librettist David Henry Hwang's *The Monkey King*. In subsequent seasons, the gift will support the creative vitality of the Company including mainstage operas, young artist training, community programming such as the *Bohème Out of the Box* series, and digital media initiatives, allowing San Francisco Opera to build on record ticket sales, new audiences and an exciting creative momentum.

With this extraordinary commitment, the Huangs join the Opera's Company Sponsors, a group of 18 households who provide seven-figure support for the Company through both annual gifts and through draws on their endowment funds. As part of this commitment, the Huangs will host a number of events each year on the War Memorial campus.

Jensen Huang, founder and CEO of NVIDIA, said: "San Francisco is home to innovation and imagination. We are delighted to partner with and support the San Francisco Opera – one of the city's greatest anchors of culture and the arts."

Matthew Shilvock, General Director of San Francisco Opera remarked: "I am profoundly grateful to Jensen and Lori Huang and their family for this breathtaking commitment to San Francisco Opera. At this exciting moment when San Francisco is reverberating with the extraordinary possibilities of tech innovation, this gift shows what is possible when the technology and arts sectors join together to propel forward creativity. This is a great affirmation of the cultural vitality of the Bay Area, and I am overjoyed to be taking the creativity of the company forward with Jensen and Lori's heartfelt partnership."

Jack Calhoun, President of San Francisco Opera, said: "This significant support from Jensen and Lori Huang will allow the Opera to continue the artistic excellence that is engaging our patrons and attracting new audiences with such great energy. The success of *The Monkey King* is a wonderful exemplar of the amazing artists and artisans we have here in San Francisco, and this incredible investment will allow the Opera to carry forward such thrilling energy into the future."

Maryam Muduroglu, member of the San Francisco Opera board, *The Monkey King* committee, and Chair of the Silicon Valley Office of Protocol Host Committee remarked: "This represents an exceptional opportunity to further strengthen the cultural bridge between Silicon Valley, San Francisco, and our global community. I extend my sincere appreciation to Lori and Jensen Huang for their remarkable initiative and leadership."

As Co-Chairs of *The Monkey King* Honorary Committee, a group of leaders from the business, nonprofit, tech, and cultural sectors formed to serve as ambassadors for this major new work, the Huangs have been an instrumental part of one of the most successful artistic undertakings in the Company's recent history.

This world premiere opera, commissioned in partnership with the Chinese Heritage Foundation of Minnesota and produced by San Francisco Opera, opened on November 14 to great critical acclaim. Based on the opening episodes of the Ming Dynasty literary classic *Journey to the West*, this new action-hero opera centers around the mythical Monkey King (Sun Wukong). The *New York Times* said: "Now, his tale has been turned into a spectacular new opera by Huang Ruo and David Henry Hwang ... It's a production that has been given resources to pull off a jaw-dropping feat of music theater, making a thrilling case for the vitality and potential of opera on a grand scale."

*The Monkey King* has completely sold out its run of eight performances and has realized over \$3M in philanthropic support from the community under the leadership of board member Doreen Woo Ho. Performances continue at the War Memorial Opera House through November 30. For more information, visit [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).

### About San Francisco Opera

Under the leadership of Tad and Dianne Taube General Director Matthew Shilvock and Caroline H. Hume Music Director Eun Sun Kim, San Francisco Opera is a global leader for presenting opera, training young artists and fostering repertory-expanding new works. Since 1961, more than 30 new commissions and co-commissions have been presented by the Company. A focus on the Chinese and Chinese American literary traditions began in 2008 with the world premiere of *The Bonesetter's Daughter* by composer Stewart Wallace and librettist Amy Tan. *Dream of the Red Chamber*, a commissioned opera by Bright Sheng and David Henry Hwang, followed in 2016 and was subsequently presented at the Hong Kong Arts Festival, on tour in China and in a 2022 revival at the War Memorial Opera House. In addition to the world premiere of [\*The Monkey King\*](#), the Company's current 103rd season includes a new production of Wagner's [\*Parsifal\*](#), a 25th-anniversary presentation of Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally's [\*Dead Man Walking\*](#) (a San Francisco Opera commission in 2000), Verdi's [\*Rigoletto\*](#), Rossini's [\*The Barber of Seville\*](#), Strauss' [\*Elektra\*](#), and a variety of concerts and special events. Learn more at [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).

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The commission of *The Monkey King* is funded by the Chinese Heritage Foundation of Minnesota.

#### *The Monkey King* Honorary Committee

Jensen & Lori Huang, Honorary Chairs

Carol Franc Buck Foundation, Chinese Heritage Foundation of Minnesota, Emmanuel Chao, Margaret Liu Collins, Jerome & Thao Dodson, Sakurako & William Fisher, Sue Graham Johnston & Eric Johnston, Koret Foundation, Lyna Lam & Chris Larsen, Isabel & Insik Rhee, Marieke & Jeff Rothschild, Maria Manetti Shrem, Nadine M. Tang, Joe & Clara Wu Tsai, Barbara Wolfe, Akiko Yamazaki & Jerry Yang, Eric Yuan & Sherry Zhang, Julia Zhen - Zenni Optical, and an anonymous donor

*The Monkey King Committee*

Jerome Dodson, Soo Venkatesan and Doreen Woo Ho, Co-Chairs

Pearl Lam Bergad, Claire Bobrow, Ken Fong, Tim Kahn, Fred Levin, Annie Liu, Maryam Muduroglu,  
Peggy Nute, Shirley Soong, Jay Xu, Melinda Yee Franklin, Mark Young, Jian Zhang

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