Twofour54 Media Free zone • P.O. Box 77923, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. **E:** info@nsouae.org • **W:** www.nsouae.org

PRESS RELEASE

December 8, 2014 • For Immediate Release

NSO OPERA EXTENDS SEASONAL CHEER WITH MAGICAL FAMILY OPERA "AMAHL & THE NIGHT VISITORS"

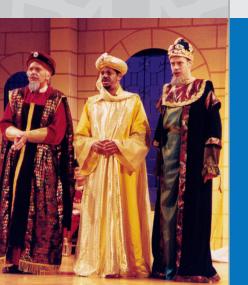
CONTACT:

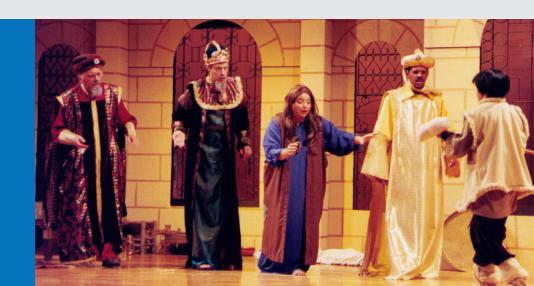
FRANCES BARTON, NSO MEDIA DIRECTOR media@nsouae.org • Mobile: 050 650 3900

Abu Dhabi, UAE. 8 December 2014 - NSO Opera is extending the seasonal festivities into the New Year with the Abu Dhabi Premiere of Menotti's magical family opera "Amahl & the Night Visitors".

Running from 22 to 23 January 2015 at Brighton College - Abu Dhabi, with a Friday afternoon matinée, the fully staged, one-act opera features professional opera singers, some especially flown in for the performance.

The NSO Chamber Orchestra and Chorus, led by NSO Maestro Andrew Berryman, will accompany the star performers, along with stunning dance sequences by a student ballet troupe.







Janet Hassouneh, NSO Founder and Executive Director, said: "The enduring charm of "Amahl & the Night Visitors", with its beautifully uplifting story, wonderful music, and colourful costumes and sets, will surely enthral audiences of all ages.

"We, at NSO, are honoured to continue contributing to the cultural life of the capital by presenting such an engaging opera, especially during the New Year's seasonal festivities."

Originally written for American Television, "Amahl & the Night Visitors" is a moving tale about a curious, crippled shepherd boy and his widowed mother who are visited by the Three Wise Men on their way to Bethlehem.

This charming opera has been performed on every continent and in many languages, and has been seen by more people than any other opera in history.

The performances on 22 and 23 January 2015 start at 7.30pm, with the Friday matinée at 4.30pm.





ABOUT NSO • WWW.NSOUAE.ORG

NSO comprises the NSO Symphony Orchestra, the NSO Chamber Orchestra, the NSO Symphonic Pops Orchestra and NSO Opera & Chorus. More than 100 musicians of some 20 nationalities, who live in six of the seven emirates, make up the various formations of NSO and are professional musicians and musical educators who have performed regularly for their own national orchestras.

NSO performs numerous major symphonic and operatic works, as well as a more popular classical and music theatre repertoire. Every concert endeavours to feature musical contributions from the UAE, whether a composer, solo singer or musician, such as a pianist or Oud player. NSO presents concerts throughout the year for the general public and is regularly called upon to perform for private, corporate and government events. NSO also outsources, through its NSO Music Agency, smaller groups such as the NSO Symphonic Brass, the NSO Big Band, the NSO String Quartet, the NSO Three Tenors and the NSO Three Sopranos.

Entrepreneur and former Opera Singer Janet Hassouneh founded NSO in 2011 to meet the region's cultural aspirations. Originally from the USA, where she obtained her master's in musical performance, she has worked in the music business in the UAE for the past 30 years, performing, teaching and organising music theatre and opera concerts featuring international guest artists from New York and London. Numerous performances were staged for charitable causes, under the auspices of the UAE authorities. NSO UAE was formed to reciprocate the government's hospitality.

