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PRESS RELEASE

15 DECEMBER 2016

Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus offer up a treat for Christmas

Members of the **Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus** entertained audiences at the **Royal Opera House** recently when they performed at the **Paul Hamlyn Christmas Treat**.

The Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus sang two-part Christmas carols: *O Come All Ye Faithful, Hark the Herald Angel Sing, The First Noel, We Wish You a Merry Christmas, God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, Deck the Halls* to the more than 2000 people attending the event. The ladies of the Chorus also sang *the Snowflake Waltz* in the Paul Hamlyn Hall.

Thanks to the ongoing support of the **Helen Hamlyn Trust**, the Paul Hamlyn Christmas Treat opens up the Royal Opera House to many families who have never been to the Royal Opera House before. As well as performances from the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus, guests are invited to participate interactive activities around the building as well as enjoy a special Royal Ballet performance of *The Nutcracker*.

To find out more about Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus, please go to www.roh.org.uk/community-chorus

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Notes for Editors

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock has been offering innovative and creative projects and programmes in schools, colleges and across communities in the Thames Gateway since 2006.

Since then, more than 60,000 people have participated in activities ranging from schools' projects to teacher training, from work-based learning to fully-staged community operas. People in Thurrock have both been able to watch special performances at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden and gain a very special insight into the behind-the-scenes process.

The Learning and Participation team runs the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus which currently has over 140 members of all ages and regularly performs across Thurrock and at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. For further information, please go to: www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/community-chorus. Details of future performances and taster session for the Community Chorus can be obtained by emailing getinvolved@roh.org.uk or calling 01708 891200.

Regular public tours of the state-of-the-art Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop where the sets and scenery for the Royal Opera House stage in Covent Garden are built, and the Bob and Tamar Manoukian Costume Centre, which opened in October 2015, are now available. Please go to www.roh.org.uk/visit/tours/thurrock-tours for further details.

In April 2012, the Royal Opera House agreed to become a [Bridge](#) organisation, working to connect children and young people to great art and culture across Essex, North Kent, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

The Learning and Participation team is based at the High House Production Park in Purfleet which is supported by a unique partnership including Arts Council England, Creative & Cultural Skills, the Royal Opera House and Thurrock Council: www.hhpp.org.uk