



## HoustonGrandOpera

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## CALENDAR LISTING

# Houston Grand Opera Celebrates the Life of Rudy Avelar with *¡Viva Rudy!*

**What:** Houston Grand Opera (HGO) will host *¡Viva Rudy!*, honoring HGO's late director of patron services, Rudy Avelar, who served the company for almost 40 years until his passing in June. Rudy represented everything HGO stands for: dedication, excellence, and service. This commemorative event will be held on Monday, September 19, 2016.

The night will be full of friendship, stories, and music, featuring performances by special guest artists including mezzo-soprano **Joyce DiDonato**, soprano **Heidi Stober**, and bass-baritone **Patrick Carfizzi**.

A smile from the man in the bow tie standing at the valet stand meant the beginning of a night of music and magic. Rudy's patron services program set the standard for customer service in the Houston arts community, and he will never be forgotten.

**When:** Monday, September 19, 2016  
6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Brown Theater, Wortham Theater Center  
501 Texas Avenue  
Houston, Texas 77002

**Cost of Admission:** Free, but tickets must be reserved. To reserve tickets, please call 713-228-6737 (OPERA)

## About Houston Grand Opera

Since its inception in 1955, Houston Grand Opera has grown from a small regional organization into an internationally renowned opera company. HGO enjoys a reputation for commissioning and producing new works, including 61 world premieres and seven American premieres since 1973. In addition to producing and performing world-class opera, HGO contributes to the cultural enrichment of Houston and the nation through a diverse and innovative program of performances, community events, and education projects that reaches the widest possible public. HGO has toured extensively, including trips to Europe and Asia, and has won a Tony, two Grammy awards, and two Emmy awards—the only opera company to have won all three honors.

Through HGOco, Houston Grand Opera creates opportunities for Houstonians of all ages and backgrounds to observe, participate in, and create art. Its *Song of Houston* project is an ongoing initiative to create and share work based on stories that define the unique character of our city and its diverse cultures. Since 2007, HGOco has commissioned 17 new works along with countless innovative community projects, reaching more than one million people in the greater Houston metropolitan area.

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