

# TRICITIES OPERA

August 17, 2017

Dear New Milford Rotarians,

On November 15, 200 High School Students from the six high schools in Susquehanna County will be attending free of charge a special performance of the new opera *Glory Denied* presented by the Tri-Cities Opera (TCO) at the Opera Center in Binghamton.

I invite you to help make this exceptional educational opportunity possible with a generous gift.

*Glory Denied* is based on the true personal story of Vietnam Veteran, Jim Thompson, America's longest held Prisoner of War (POW), 1964-1973. It recounts his time as a POW and the issues he faced when he was released in 1973.

The opera is part of a 9-day observance of Veterans Day by Veterans groups in Broome County and the surrounding area representing the 9 years of Thompson's captivity. You may wish to visit the website: <http://glorydeniedsos.com/>. The observance also coincides with Ken Burns' new documentary on PBS on the Vietnam War. The 9-day observance will end with a free performance of *Glory Denied* for all Veterans and their families on November 11, Veterans Day.

Please consult the information included in this packet for detailed information.

A generous gift of LTC Robert Wert (RET) will enable the students to be bussed to the Opera Center. Thanks to Madonna A. Munley and Kate Farrell Kurosky, retired staff of Mountain View High School, the students will be prepared with a multi-disciplinary curriculum that address the historical and cultural context of *Glory Denied*.

We still need to raise \$10,000 to cover the production costs for the student's performance. Your contribution will provide High School Students with a unique opportunity to honor our Veterans, become acquainted with a significant time in American history, and participate in one of the oldest forms of narrative story-telling --- opera.

A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Please make out checks to: The Tri-Cities Opera. Please note "Susquehanna Students" on the check.

If you wish, I am most happy to visit with you to tell you more about this amazing program.

Please take the opportunity to help local students honor our nation's veterans.

Thank you.

Charles A. Cesaretti  
Vice Chair, The Tri-Cities Opera  
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