



SEATS4KIDS at CITY OPERA HOUSE - Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the scholarship fund? *Seats4Kids* was created to provide free tickets to local youth who could not otherwise afford to attend a performing arts event.

How is the program funded? Tickets are purchased with private contributions from individuals and groups. What types of organizations participate in the program? Participating organizations are pre-approved by City Opera House and must be non-profit 501(c)(3) community organizations or Title 1 schools that offer programs focused on economically disadvantaged youth.

How does an organization get pre-approved for tickets? Interested organizations must submit a formal application for consideration. Full requirements are outlined in more detail in the application. Once a formal application is submitted, City Opera House will review the application and corresponding materials to determine if the organization meets the program requirements.

What should we expect after our application is approved? A City Opera House staff member will coordinate with your organization's contact person to determine what tickets can be offered. When tickets are available, they will be provided to the contact person for distribution to approved group members, prior to the City Opera House event.

Is transportation provided for participating groups? No. Participating organizations and/or parents are responsible for providing transportation to and from the theatre.

How many tickets are purchased through this program? The quantity and frequency of tickets are based on available funding provided solely through private contributions.

How do we know that tickets are going to worthy children? Participating organizations must ensure that at least 80 percent of donated tickets are used by economically disadvantaged youth. The remaining 20 percent may be used for chaperones, as needed. Tickets will be given to a designated group leader for distribution to youth and chaperones.

Can contributors designate which organization receives tickets purchased with their gift? No. In order to qualify as a tax-deductible donation, contributors cannot designate which organization receives tickets. If a contributor wants to purchase tickets for a specific pre-approved organization or an organization that has not yet been pre-approved, the donation should be made directly to the organization, and that organization can purchase tickets through the Box Office as a group sale.

Are contributions tax-deductible? Yes. If a contributor is a Michigan resident, the gift also qualifies for a direct income tax credit.

What recognition do contributors receive? Donations will be acknowledged in the City Opera House program for the season in which the tax-deductible gift occurs.