

**Media Contact:**

Elizabeth Giblin  
Director of Development & Marketing  
Lake George Opera at Saratoga  
[lgiblin@lakegeorgeopera.org](mailto:lgiblin@lakegeorgeopera.org)  
(518) 584-6018



**LGOpera at Saratoga Alumna**  
**Sings at the Olympics**

**Saratoga Springs, NY (March 3, 2010)** Ariana Chris, an alumna of Lake George Opera at Saratoga's renowned Young Artist Apprentice program, was selected to sing at the televised Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Chris, a Canadian-born mezzo-soprano, performed the Greek National Anthem during the closing ceremonies Sunday evening, where her performance was heard by millions of viewers worldwide. This was not the first time Ariana Chris sang during the Olympics. In 2004 during the Summer Olympic games in Greece, Chris sang at the Canada House in Athens.

During Lake George Opera at Saratoga's 2004 summer season, Chris was one of eight Young Apprentice Artists chosen to perform with the Company. That summer she sang the role of Giannetta in *L'Elisir d'Amore* and performed in concert with her fellow Young Artists.

Lake George Opera at Saratoga has made an indelible mark nationally in the field of professional opera training by operating the country's second oldest Young Artist Apprentice Program. This vigorous program offers young artists the chance to explore their own unique musical and dramatic talents through public & private performances.

The Company's Apprentice Artist Program features a very select group of eight singers, chosen each year from a pool of over 800 applicants, representing the finest educational institutions across the country and beyond. During a six-week residency in Saratoga Springs, young artists receive vocal and dramatic training and career counseling, prepare and perform musical performances in a variety of settings, and sing chorus and supporting roles in mainstage opera performances.

Alumni of the Young Artist Programs are frequently engaged for future appearances with Lake George Opera at Saratoga. The success of the Young Artist Program in reaching its goal is most clearly evident in the subsequent work of its distinguished alumni, such as Ariana Chris.

Lake George Opera at Saratoga artistic director Curtis Tucker said he was thrilled when watching the Vancouver Olympic closing ceremonies, recognizing Ariana Chris as a former Company Apprentice Artist. "You never know where our Young Artists will appear!" he stated after witnessing her performance.

**For additional information on Lake George Opera at Saratoga's Young Artist Apprentice Program or the 2010 summer mainstage season featuring *Carmen* and *Viva La Mamma*, call the Opera office at 518-584-6018 or visit them on-line at [www.lakegeorgeopera.org](http://www.lakegeorgeopera.org).**