

Dear Andy,

This letter will serve as my resignation as General and Artistic Director of the Toledo Opera Association, effective April 2, 2011.

While I greatly appreciate the support of so many members of the board and executive committee, given the discord that has occurred these last several months, I no longer feel able to continue in this dual capacity.

I am extremely proud of what Tom and I have accomplished in a region that is so highly challenged economically. We have taken on more and more responsibility in an effort to keep the Opera viable, without the necessary support needed to ensure its success.

As you know, I have served as the Opera's development director, marketing director and production manager, as well as artistic director. Tom, without compensation, has served as chorus master and has taken on numerous other tasks, on a purely voluntary basis, to assist me in the realization of our artistic vision and in the fulfillment of the Opera's mission as defined by the board of directors.

I continue to care deeply about Toledo Opera, and, while I will pursue other opportunities, I would be willing to remain as Artistic Director. As such, I would continue to select repertory, audition singers and cast the operas, select sets and costumes, coordinate the work of stage and lighting directors and stage management, and supervise the many other aspects of opera production. Under this arrangement, Tom would consider remaining as principal conductor, conducting the operas and preparing the music. He would, however, no longer be available to recruit and train the chorus or to be involved in day-to-day operations.

It is my wish that Toledo Opera prosper and grow under new leadership. I would be happy to help in any way I can to facilitate this change.

Sincerely,
Renay Conlin