

Link to Media Kit:
<http://bit.ly/1N6c2n3>



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

BROADWAY SUPERSTAR KELLI O'HARA TAKES THE STAGE AT KODAK HALL

Eastman Presents Concert Series Brings Tony Award-winner to Rochester on October 26

Rochester, N.Y. – October 13, 2016 – One of Broadway's great leading ladies, Tony Award-winning soprano and actress Kelli O'Hara will perform at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre on October 26 as part of the Eastman Presents concert series, three days before making her debut solo appearance at Carnegie Hall. O'Hara will be joined by pianist and music director Dan Lipton, a longtime collaborator and fellow Broadway veteran.

Best known for her Tony Award-winning portrayal of Anna Leonowens in the critically acclaimed revival of *The King and I*, O'Hara is a renowned performer who has also received Drama League and Outer Critics award nominations. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut in *The Merry Widow* alongside soprano and Eastman School of Music alumni Renée Fleming. O'Hara's voice can also be heard on several Grammy-nominated Broadway cast recordings, including *The Light in the Piazza* and *The Pajama Game*. O'Hara has also made numerous television appearances on PBS, NBC, and CBS, including several televised performances as part of the Kennedy Center Honors' tributes for Barbara Cook, Jerry Herman, and Barbra Streisand.

"Last season Eastman Presents featured the musical delights of Kristin Chenoweth; this year we have her friend and Broadway icon O'Hara taking the Kodak Hall stage," said Eastman School of Music Director of Concert Activities Keith C. Elder. "For Rochestarians to have the opportunity to hear O'Hara's performance before she debuts it at Carnegie Hall is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

A native of Oklahoma, O'Hara graduated with a degree in vocal performance/opera from Oklahoma City University, where she studied voice with Florence Birdwell, who also taught Kristin Chenoweth four years earlier. O'Hara and Chenoweth are both alumnae of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

A six-time Tony Award nominee, O'Hara's first nomination was for Best Featured Actress in a Musical for the 2005 production of [The Light in the Piazza](#). Her subsequent nominations were for [The Pajama Game](#) (2006), [South Pacific](#) (2008), [Nice Work If You Can Get It](#) (2012) and [The Bridges of Madison County](#) (2014), before winning the Tony Award for Best Lead Actress in a Musical for the 2015 revival of [The King and I](#).

For more information on the Eastman Presents concert series, please visit www.EastmanTheatre.org. Tickets for Kelli O'Hara's performance range between \$20 and \$85 and can be purchased at the Eastman Theatre Box Office (433 East Main Street in Downtown Rochester) or by calling (585) 274-3000.

About Eastman Presents

The Eastman Presents concert series first launched in the 2014-2015 season at the Eastman School of Music. The series features international artists from a variety of genres at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre in Rochester, New York. In its third year, the 2016-2017 season offers another exciting lineup of world-

renowned performers. The series kicked off with Break of Reality, a cello rock ensemble that gives rock a whole new meaning followed by opera superstar Joyce DiDonato; Norm Lewis, a history-making Broadway legend will perform; Garrison Keillor will spend the evening with his witty storytelling; and the season closes out with the oldest orchestra in Russia, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, and Savion Glover's unique STePz experience. For more information on the Eastman Presents concert series and other performances at the Eastman School of Music, visit www.EastmanTheatre.org.

###

Eastman Theatre Press Contact:

Jamie Frumusa, Tipping Point Communications

Jamie@tippingpointcomm.com

(585) 683-5439