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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Thursday, April 28, 2011

**Lyric Opera of Chicago to hold dance auditions for  
Jerome Kern/Oscar Hammerstein II's *Show Boat*  
George Frideric Handel's *Rinaldo*  
and  
Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida***

**Auditions to be held on Monday, July 18 and Monday August 15, 2011,  
at the Civic Opera House, Chicago**

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**Monday, July 18, 2011, Lyric Opera of Chicago is auditioning male and female dancers who are athletic, highly trained in ballet and jazz, and have musical theater experience** for its upcoming production of *Show Boat* with music by Jerome Kern and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II. This new production will be directed by Francesca Zambello with choreographer Michele Lynch, associate choreographer Eric Sean Fogel, and ballet mistress August Tye.

***Show Boat* requires 14 solo dancers: 3 black female; 3 black male; 3 white female; 3 white male; plus 1 black female and 1 black male understudy.**

Stylized, period dancers with special vaudeville skills (i.e. juggling, tumbling, etc.) are encouraged to audition.

*Show Boat* rehearsals begin January 16, 2012, with 12 performances running from February 12 through March 17, 2012.

Auditions will be held at the Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Drive (stage-door entrance).

<b>July 18 (tentative schedule):</b>	10:00 a.m.	Registration
	11:00 a.m.	Class
	12:00 p.m.	Audition
	5:00 p.m.	Callbacks (if necessary)

**Dancers should bring comfortable ballet shoes for class and character shoes for the auditions. Women's character shoes must have a heel (of any height). Please make sure to wear simple dance clothes that show the dance line.**

Please note that if you are offered a contract for **Show Boat**, scheduling precludes you from accepting a **Rinaldo** or **Aida** contract.

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**Monday, August 15, 2011, Lyric Opera of Chicago is auditioning highly trained male and female dancers with contemporary and classical training for its upcoming productions of G. F. Handel's **Rinaldo** and Verdi's **Aida**. **Rinaldo** will be directed by Francisco Negrin with choreography by Ana Yepes. **Aida** will be directed by Matthew Lata with choreography by Kenneth von Heidecke. The ballet mistress for these productions will be August Tye.**

**Rinaldo requires 9 solo dancers: 3 female; 4 male; plus 1 female and 1 male understudy. Aida requires 18 solo dancers: 8 female; 8 male; plus 1 female and 1 male understudy.**

Dancers with partnering experience and strong acting skills are also encouraged to attend.

**Rinaldo** rehearsals begin January 23, 2012, with 7 performances running from February 29 through March 24, 2012.

**Aida** rehearsals begin January 2, 2012, with 12 performances running from January 21 through February 8, 2012, and again from March 6 through March 25, 2012.

Auditions will be held at the Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Drive (stage-door entrance).

<b>August 15 (tentative schedule):</b>	10:00 a.m.	Registration
	11:00 a.m.	Class
	12:00 p.m.	Audition
	5:00 p.m.	Callbacks (if necessary)

**Dancers should bring ballet shoes as well as flat, soft, flexible jazz shoes or socks for this audition. Pointe shoes are not required. Please wear simple, formfitting dance attire for this audition.**

Please note that if you are offered a contract for **Rinaldo** and/or **Aida**, scheduling precludes you from accepting a **Show Boat** contract.

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You must make an appointment to audition. **Walk-ins will not be seen.** Please call Stephanie Karr at (312) 827-3567 to schedule an audition.

All applicants must use the stage-door entrance at Wacker and Washington. All applicants must check in and register for the audition before the audition class. **A résumé and headshot are required for registration.**

Please note that Wacker Drive is under construction. Please refer to our website for up-to-date information: <http://www.lyricopera.org/yourvisit/directions-and-parking.aspx>

**Please be prepared to show a government-issued photo identification card to gain access to the Civic Opera House. All applicants must have valid eligibility to work in the United States. Lyric Opera will not apply for working permits for foreign dancers.**

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