



See a Social Security Number? Say Something!
Report Privacy Problems to <https://public.resource.org/privacy>
Or call the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490



Form 990-EZ

Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions) All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 at the end of the year may use this form

The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

OMB No 1545-1150

2011

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2011 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2011, and ending 06-30-2012

- B Check if applicable: Address change, Name change, Initial return, Terminated, Amended return, Application pending

C Name of organization: SIERRA CHAMBER OPERA. Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite: 834 E ALAMOS AVE. City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4: FRESNO, CA 937043103

D Employer identification number: 94-2515886. E Telephone number: (559) 227-4377. F Group Exemption Number

G Accounting method: Cash, Accrual, Other (specify)

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

I Website: WWW.SIERRACHAMBEROPERA.ORG

J Tax-Exempt status (check only one): 501(c)(3), 501(c), (insert no), 4947(a)(1) or 527

K Check if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ \$ 191,491

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

Table with 21 rows and 3 columns: Line number, Description, and Amount. Rows include Revenue (1-9), Expenses (10-17), and Net Assets (18-21).

Part II Balance Sheets

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

(See the instructions for Part II)

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	264,858	22 228,057
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	5,511	24 1,137
25 Total assets	270,369	25 229,194
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	2,209	26 2,935
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	268,160	27 226,259

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?

TO PRESENT OPERATIC PERFORMANCES PRINCIPALLY IN THE SCHOOLS IN AND AROUND THE AREA OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, THEREBY TO ENCOURAGE THE MUSICAL EDUCATION OF THE YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY AND TO BUILD AUDIENCES FOR CULTURAL EVENTS

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others)

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

28 DURING THE YEAR, WE PERFORMED OUR CURRENT ONE-ACT OPERA "GO GREEN WITH JO GREEN" 112 TIMES WE PERFORMED FOR 34,370 STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND DISTRIBUTED TO THEM 5,000 COPIES OF OUR EDUCATIONAL BOOKLET (THE BOOKLET ALSO APPEARS IN ITS ENTIRETY, ALONG WITH A RECORDING OF ALL THE MUSIC FROM THE OPERA, ON OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.SIERRACHAMBEROPERA.ORG) THE BOOKLETS WERE DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOLS IN ADVANCE OF THE PERFORMANCE TO ENHANCE THE AUDIENCE'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE MUSIC AND DRAMA OF OPERA WE ISSUED A SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER WHICH GOES TO 450 CONTRIBUTORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY THE PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF OUR WORK INCREASES, AS DO THE UNDERSTANDING OF OUR AUDIENCES AND OUR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS

(Grants \$ 0) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here **28a** 0

29
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here **29a**

30
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here **30a**

31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here **31a**

32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a) **32** 0

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees. List each one even if not compensated (See the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
See Additional Data Table				

Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

Form 990-EZ (2011) questions 33-45b regarding significant activities, changes to organizing documents, income reporting, political expenditures, loans, and controlled entities.

Yes No

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

46 Yes No

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.

All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 47-49b and 52.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

Yes No

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II

47 Yes No

48 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E

48 Yes No

49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

49a Yes No

b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

49b Yes No

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None"

Table with 5 columns: (a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000; (b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position; (c) Compensation; (d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation; (e) Expense account and other allowances. Row 1 contains 'NONE'.

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None"

Table with 3 columns: (a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000; (b) Type of service; (c) Compensation. Row 1 contains 'NONE'.

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? NOTE: All Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A. [X] Yes [] No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here section containing Signature of officer (*****), Date (2012-09-11), and Type or print name and title (KATHY BARBA PRESIDENT).

Paid Preparer's Use Only section containing Preparer's signature (MARY ANN STITES CPA), Date (2012-09-11), Check if self-employed (checked), Preparer's taxpayer identification number (P00123908), Firm's name and address (MARY ANN STITES CPA, 4949 N CRYSTAL AVE STE 110, FRESNO, CA 937050231), EIN (77-0045728), and Phone no ((559) 222-9667).

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions. [X] Yes [] No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
SIERRA CHAMBER OPERA

Employer identification number

94-2515886

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).**
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state

- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9 An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III)
- 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4).**
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h
 a Type I b Type II c Type III - Functionally integrated d Type III - Other
- e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
 (i) a person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the the supported organization?
 (ii) a family member of a person described in (i) above?
 (iii) a 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?
- h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support?
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public Support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income (Explain in Part IV) Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets						
11 Total support (Add lines 7 through 10)						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (See instructions)					12	

13 First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** **Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

14 Public Support Percentage for 2011 (line 6 column (f) divided by line 11 column (f))	14	
15 Public Support Percentage for 2010 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	

16a 33 1/3% support test—2011. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization **b 33 1/3% support test—2010.** If the organization did not check the box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization **17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization **b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2010.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization **18 Private Foundation** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a or 17b, check this box and see instructions

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	82,516	82,195	45,553	57,946	27,608	295,818
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose	11,003	14,425	11,723	15,475	11,950	64,576
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	93,519	96,620	57,276	73,421	39,558	360,394
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						0
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						0
c Add lines 7a and 7b						0
8 Public Support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						360,394

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6	93,519	96,620	57,276	73,421	39,558	360,394
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	13,906	5,306	1,790	1,629	7,773	30,404
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b	13,906	5,306	1,790	1,629	7,773	30,404
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
13 Total support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11 and 12)	107,425	101,926	59,066	75,050	47,331	390,798
14 First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public Support Percentage for 2011 (line 8 column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	15	92.220 %
16 Public support percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	72.400 %

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2011 (line 10c column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	17	7.780 %
18 Investment income percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	7.700 %

19a 33 1/3% support tests—2011. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3% and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

b 33 1/3% support tests—2010. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

20 Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a or 19b, check this box and see instructions

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Supplemental Information. Complete this part to provide the explanation required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; or Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Explanation

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or to provide any additional information.**
▶ **Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization
SIERRA CHAMBER OPERA

Employer identification number

94-2515886

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
OTHER REVENUE	FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 8	DESCRIPTION INTEREST AMOUNT 36 DESCRIPTION DIVIDENDS AMOUNT 5,361 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 8 5,397
OTHER EXPENSES	FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16	DESCRIPTION BANK AND BROKER FEES AMOUNT 2,176 DESCRIPTION INSURANCE AMOUNT 2,621 DESCRIPTION MISCELLANEOUS AMOUNT 716 DESCRIPTION OFFICE EXPENSE AMOUNT 170 DESCRIPTION PRODUCTION COSTS AMOUNT 664 DESCRIPTION PROMOTION AMOUNT 6,154 DESCRIPTION TRAVEL AMOUNT 2,200 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 16 14,701
OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 20	DESCRIPTION UNREALIZED LOSSES AMOUNT -5,006
OTHER ASSETS	FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 24	DESCRIPTION PREPAID EXPENSES BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,873 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,137 DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 3,638 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 0
OTHER LIABILITIES	FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 26	DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 2,209 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 2,935

**TY 2011 Transfers Personal Benefits
Contracts Declaration**

Name: SIERRA CHAMBER OPERA

EIN: 94-2515886

Declaration: THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY,OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY,OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 94-2515886
Name: SIERRA CHAMBER OPERA

Form 990-EZ, Special Condition Description:**Special Condition Description****Form 990EZ, Part IV - List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees**

(A) Name and address	(B) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(C) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(D) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(E) Expense account and other allowances
BARBARA VLYMEN NON-BD MEMBER 452 E RICHMOND FRESNO, CA 93720	GENERAL DIR 25 00	22,200	0	0
KATHY BARBA 2435 E MENLO FRESNO, CA 93710	PRESIDENT 10 00	0	0	0
SUSAN LIBERTY 329 W BULLARD 102 FRESNO, CA 93704	VICE PRESIDENT 1 00	0	0	0
CAROL N BLORE 834 E ALAMOS FRESNO, CA 93704	TREASURER 3 00	0	0	0
REBECCA SARKISIAN 6644 N PALM FRESNO, CA 93704	SECRETARY 0 50	0	0	0
EDWIN FERRALL 1845 N HARRISON FRESNO, CA 93704	BOARD MEMBER 0 50	0	0	0
CARL NUSS 3615 W POMEGRANATE FRESNO, CA 93711	BOARD MEMBER 0 50	0	0	0
OLGA QUERCIA 5438 E MCKENZIE FRESNO, CA 93727	BOARD MEMBER 0 50	0	0	0