

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 12, 2006**

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**Vancouver B.C. Opera to perform acclaimed “Naomi’s Road” on Bainbridge Island, May 12**

The internment of Canadian Japanese in World War II is brought to life in the moving opera “Naomi’s Road” produced by Vancouver Opera, who will bring their production to Bainbridge Island for a special benefit performance for the Nidoto Nai Yoni “Let it not happen again” Japanese American Memorial.

“Naomi’s Road” will be performed on Friday, May 12, 7:30 pm at Woodward Middle School, 9125 Sportsman Club Road. Ticket prices are: \$25 for adults; \$10 for youth and children 18 years old and under; and with every adult ticket, one child 12 years old and under is admitted free. Tickets are available at Eagle Harbor Books, Bainbridge Gardens and Vern’s Winslow Drugs.

The touching and instructive opera is appropriate for children and it follows the journey of nine year-old Naomi and her Canadian Japanese family from Vancouver B.C. to an internment camp in the rugged interior of British Columbia, where she and her older brother Stephen must deal with the harshness of war, racism, bullying and loss of family. Ultimately, the two children triumph over their fears and discover the gifts that sustain them – music, words and love. At the end of the performance, there will be a question and answer period with the producers and actors.

Based on the novel “Naomi’s Road” by Canadian author Joy Kogawa, the opera is one of several productions of the Vancouver Opera in the Schools Program that is bringing art, music and history alive for children throughout the Pacific Northwest.

“Naomi’s Road” was commissioned and produced by Vancouver Opera with the generous support of Opera.ca, Vancouver Foundation, Vancouver Arts Awards, BC Arts Council, The Hamber Foundation, the Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation and The Spirit of BC Arts Fund.

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