

## *La Bohème* 2024|25

### Post-performance discussion and reflection questions

Now that you have seen the opera, consider the following questions:

1. Did you like the opera? Why or why not?
2. Did you relate to any of the characters? Which one(s) and why?
3. Did you have a favorite part?
4. Did anything surprise you?
5. Did you change your mind about anything? Did it affect your view of opera?
6. If you were writing the opera, would you make any changes to it? How?
7. What did you see that was visually interesting?
8. Did you recognize any of the music?
9. Was there any music that stood out to you? What made it remarkable?
10. Now that you've seen an opera, why do you think we've performed them for hundreds of years? Why do you think we are still performing them today?
11. How did you feel about being in the opera house?
12. Would you see another opera? Why or why not?
13. If you worked in an opera house, what job would interest you? (singer, lighting designer, usher, director, orchestra member, costumer, set designer, carpenter, etc...)
14. Is there a story that you would like to see in the form of an opera?

Consider these additional prompts, listed here and in the *La Bohème* [learning resources slide deck](#):

1. **Love and Sacrifice:** In *La Bohème*, characters like Colline and Musetta sacrifice for their loved ones. Write about or discuss a time when love required sacrifice, either in a story you've read, movie you've watched, or if you choose, in your own experience.
2. **Friendship and Community:** Rodolfo and his friends support each other through tough times despite their limited resources. How do friendship and community help people overcome challenges in the opera? Compare this to a time you've witnessed members of your community come together to support one another.
3. **Access to Healthcare:** Mimì's illness in *La Bohème* is a central part of the story, and her lack of access to proper medical care contributes to the character's challenges throughout the piece. Is this theme still relevant today? If yes, how so?
4. **Artistic Struggles:** The characters in *La Bohème* are artists who dream of success but live in poverty. Why do you think so many artists face challenges like this? And why do the artists in the show continue to pursue their art when they could make a more stable living elsewhere?