PRODUCING FULLY STAGED OPERA WILL PROVIDE ARTISTIC, professional and cultural opportunities for our students, faculty and community. It will raise the College’s profile in a city known as an arts and culture capital, historically steeped in an abiding devotion to the performing arts. By combining the College’s resources with the institution’s musical partner, the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, CofC will be able to provide the community with experiences previously available only during Spoleto Festival, USA.

GOAL $2,000,000

Opera, the most comprehensive art form, has the power to transform, move and inspire.
COFC OPERA

$2,000,000

The first opera in America was performed in 1735 at what is now Charleston’s Dock Street Theater. Since then, Charleston continues to have an appetite and audience for year-round opera.

To produce opera for the Charleston community, the College has key resources, namely talented students in music, theatre and arts management; a world-class faculty; the newly renovated, historic Sottile Theatre; and a partnership with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. To set up a full-scale opera in Charleston, the College’s resources need to be paired with philanthropic support.

IMPACT:

Community
• Present full-scale operas annually for the greater Charleston area’s growing population of arts patrons.
• Share opera with school children through relatable stories, unique performance venues and a diverse group of singers.

Students
• Attract talented undergraduates with on-stage performance experience typically offered at a graduate school level.
• Position students for graduate school and careers in directing, conducting, design and marketing.

Reputation
• Elevate the College’s reputation as a leading liberal arts and sciences institution.

PRODUCTION:
• Costume and set design materials
• Marketing
• Music rights and score rental
• Sound and lighting equipment
• Audio/visual experts who will work with student designers and technicians
• Individualized vocal and instrumental instruction
• Guest coaches

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRIVE FOR THE 250TH, CONTACT:
Kenton Youngblood, Director of Development | 843.953.5348 | youngbloodk@cofc.edu | give.cofc.edu