

# 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)

CMB No. 1545-1150

## 2009

Open to Public  
Inspection

Form **990-EZ**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$500,000 and total assets less than \$1,250,000 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.

**A** For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning **SEP 1, 2009** and ending **AUG 31, 2010**

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

**C** Name of organization  
**FAMILY OPERA, INC.**

**D** Employer identification number  
**31-1792599**

**E** Telephone number  
**617-354-2797**

**F** Group Exemption Number

Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite  
**23 NORRIS ST**

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4  
**CAMBRIDGE, MA 02140-1814**

• Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

**G** Accounting method:  Cash  Accrual  
Other (specify) ▶

**I** Website: ▶ **WWW.FAMILYOPERA.ORG**

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

**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) —  501(c) ( 3 ) ◀ (insert no.)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K** Check  if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

**L** Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts; if \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$ **84017.**

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

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	51476.
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	19444.
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	
	4	Investment income	4	119.
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6	Special events and activities (complete applicable parts of Schedule G). If any amount is from gaming, check here <input type="checkbox"/>		
	6a	Gross revenue (not including \$ of contributions reported on line 1)	6a	
	6b	Less: direct expenses other than fundraising expenses	6b	
6c	Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (Subtract line 6b from line 6a)	6c		
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances Stmt 3	7a	5397.	
7b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	7769.	
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	-2372.	
8	Other revenue (describe ▶ See Statement 2 )	8	7581.	
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8	9	76248.	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule)	10	
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	11083.
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	13633.
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	6109.
	16	Other expenses (describe ▶ See Statement 1 )	16	14740.
	17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16	17	45565.
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	30683.
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	23688.
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation)	20	
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20	21	54371.

**Part II Balance Sheets.** If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$1,250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

(See the instructions for Part II.)

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	23688.	22 style="text-align: right;">54371.
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe ▶ )		24
25 <b>Total assets</b>	23688.	25 style="text-align: right;">54371.
26 <b>Total liabilities</b> (describe ▶ )	0.	26 style="text-align: right;">0.
27 <b>Net assets or fund balances</b> (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	23688.	27 style="text-align: right;">54371.



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

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity		X
1	Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes		X
35	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?		X
b	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?	N/A	
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Sch. N		X
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. <span style="float:right">▶ 37a 0.</span>		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the period covered by this return?		X
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved <span style="float:right">▶ 38b N/A</span>		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 <span style="float:right">▶ 39a N/A</span>		
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities <span style="float:right">▶ 39b N/A</span>		
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 <span style="float:right">▶ 0.</span> ; section 4912 <span style="float:right">▶ 0.</span> ; section 4955 <span style="float:right">▶ 0.</span>		
b	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or is it aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		X
c	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 <span style="float:right">▶ 0.</span>		
d	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization <span style="float:right">▶ 0.</span>		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T		X
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. <span style="float:right">▶ MA</span>		
42a	The organization's books are in care of <span style="float:right">▶ SUSAN HALL</span> Telephone no. <span style="float:right">▶ 617-354-2797</span> Located at <span style="float:right">▶ 23 NORRIS ST., CAMBRIDGE, MA</span> ZIP + 4 <span style="float:right">▶ 02140-1814</span>		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		X
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: <span style="float:right">▶</span>		
	See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? <span style="float:right">▶</span>		X
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: <span style="float:right">▶</span>		
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here <span style="float:right">▶ <input type="checkbox"/></span> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year <span style="float:right">▶ 43 N/A</span>		
44	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		X
45	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		X

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 46-49b and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows 46-49b regarding political activities, lobbying, school status, and transfers.

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

Sign Here: 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. Signature of officer: Susan Hall, TREASURER. Date: [blank]

Paid Preparer's Use Only: Preparer's signature: Sharon G. Hargraves, CPA. Date: 06/08/11. Check if self-employed: [X]. Preparer's identifying number: 781-834-8332. Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4: PO Box 1075, Marshfield, MA 02050. EIN: [blank]. Phone no.: 781-834-8332.

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



**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 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.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	18567.	29529.	46657.	30354.	51476.	176583.
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	18567.	29529.	46657.	30354.	51476.	176583.
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)						13819.
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						162764.

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	18567.	29529.	46657.	30354.	51476.	176583.
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	76.	118.	171.	175.	119.	659.
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						177242.
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	122154.
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

14 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	91.83 %
15 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	91.46 %
16a <b>33 1/3% support test - 2009.</b> 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
b <b>33 1/3% support test - 2008.</b> If the organization did not check a 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 <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a <b>10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2009.</b> 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 <input type="checkbox"/>		
b <b>10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2008.</b> 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 <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 <b>Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2009

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)** (Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)▶	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
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						
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						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
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						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)▶	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
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.)						

14 **First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

15 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	%
16 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	%

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

17 Investment income percentage for 2009 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	%
18 Investment income percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	%

19a **33 1/3% support tests - 2009.** 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 - 2008.** 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

Form 990-EZ	Other Expenses	Statement	1
Description		Amount	
COSTUMES, MAKEUP, RECORDING, SETS&LIGHTS, SOUND, SUPPLIES		9684.	
MISCELLANEOUS		2152.	
ACCOUNTING		1347.	
INSURANCE		1102.	
COMPUTER		455.	
Total to Form 990-EZ, line 16		14740.	

Form 990-EZ	Other Revenue	Statement	2
Description		Amount	
PROGRAM ADVERTISING		6940.	
MISCELLANEOUS		641.	
Total to Form 990-EZ, line 8		7581.	



Form 990-EZ	Income and Cost of Goods Sold Included on Part I, Line 7a	Statement	3
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Income			
1. Gross receipts . . . . .	5397		
2. Returns and allowances . . . . .			
3. Line 1 less line 2 . . . . .			5397
<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			
4. Cost of goods sold (line 13) . . . . .	7769		
5. Gross profit (line 3 less line 4) . . . . .			-2372
<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			
Cost of Goods Sold			
6. Inventory at beginning of year . . . . .			
7. Merchandise purchased . . . . .			
8. Cost of labor . . . . .			
9. Materials and supplies . . . . .	7769		
10. Other costs . . . . .			
11. Add lines 6 through 10 . . . . .			7769
<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			
12. Inventory at end of year . . . . .			
13. Cost of goods sold (line 11 less line 12). . . . .			7769
<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			

FORM 990-EZ

Information Regarding Transfers  
Associated with Personal Benefit Contracts

Statement 4

A) Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds,  
directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal  
benefit contract? . . . . . [ ] Yes [X] No

B) Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums,  
directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? . . [ ] Yes [X] No