



Music and Mind

Panel & Book Signing

May 9th | 12-2 p.m.
Founders Hall at OU-Tulsa

TULSA OPERA



CO-HOST Magic City Books

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PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction | **Lori Decter Wright**

Music and Mind: Harnessing the Arts for Health and Wellness | **Renée Fleming**

Human Development and Attachment:
The Role of Sound and Music | **Dr. Linda Barnum**

Advancing Mental Health in Oklahoma | **Zack Stoycoff**

Songs by Heart: Connecting People with Memory Loss to
the Language and Joy of Music | **Jenny Cook**

Panel Discussion | **Renée Fleming, moderator**

Audience Questions and Answers

Book Signing

Lori Decter Wright

General Director and CEO,
Tulsa Opera

Renée Fleming

International operatic
soprano, arts administrator,
leading arts-health advocate

Dr. Linda Barnum

Assistant Professor of
Human Relations, OU-Tulsa
Co-Founder of The Human
Value Project

Zack Stoycoff

Executive Director, Healthy
Minds Policy Initiative

Jenny Cook

Music Therapist, Songs by
Heart Foundation



RENÉE FLEMING



DR. LINDA BARNUM



ZACK STOYCOFF



JENNY COOK

RENÉE FLEMING is one of the most highly acclaimed singers of our time, performing on the stages of the world's great opera houses and concert halls. Winner of five GRAMMY® Awards and the U.S. National Medal of Arts, she has sung for momentous occasions from the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony to the Diamond Jubilee Concert for HM Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace. She is one of the handful of modern opera singers who has successfully earned recognition in popular culture, through projects such as the *Lord of the Rings* soundtrack, performing at the 9/11 Memorial and the 2014 Super Bowl, and appearances on Broadway.

In 2023, the World Health Organization appointed Renée as Goodwill Ambassador for Arts and Health, and in 2024, she published her anthology, *Music and Mind: Harnessing the Arts for Health and Wellness*. A prominent advocate for research at the intersection of arts, health, and neuroscience, as former Artistic Advisor to the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Renée launched the first ongoing collaboration between America's national cultural center and its largest health research institute, the National Institutes of Health. She created her own program called Music and Mind, which she has presented in countless cities around the world.

DR. LINDA BARNUM received her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, specializing in Somatic Psychology. She holds a Master's in Clinical Psychology from the Santa Barbara Graduate Institute and a Master's in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma. Her doctoral research on attachment supports her teaching interests in trauma resolution, developmental neurobiology, and working with couples and families.

Dr. Barnum calls on over 25 years of clinical experience and a pragmatic approach to instruct students in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at OU-Tulsa where she teaches numerous core and elective courses. In her work as a Licensed Professional Counselor in Oklahoma, Dr. Barnum integrates numerous evidence-based modalities that address issues ranging from severe childhood trauma, PTSD, gender, and addiction to inter-generational trauma resolution in families. Her current research involves the

repair of historical and intergenerational trauma.

Dr. Barnum is also the co-founder of The Human Value Project. Her book on the repair of Intergenerational Trauma will be published in May of 2026.

ZACK STOYCOFF is the founding executive director of Healthy Minds Policy Initiative, a nonprofit that leads policy and community change to end untreated mental illness and addiction in Oklahoma. He and his team of policy and public health experts advise state and local officials, treatment systems, schools, and other partners in developing data-driven, evidence-based solutions to behavioral health challenges faced by communities across the state.

Zack leads collaborations that have drawn millions of dollars into the state for new and enhanced treatment services and helped pass some of the nation's strongest state legislation expanding access to behavioral health care. His work has advanced solutions for many of the most pressing needs in behavioral health, including the youth mental health crisis, health insurance parity, and clinical workforce shortages.

Zack has a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma and 15 years of professional experience influencing public policy. He was previously Vice President of Government Affairs for the Tulsa Regional Chamber, where he advocated for state policy priorities around health insurance, education, and criminal justice reform. He has a background in journalism, including covering state and local government issues for the *Tulsa World* and several other newspapers.

JENNY COOK is a board-certified music therapist and singer with the Songs by Heart Foundation, where she has been working for ten years. She completed undergraduate and graduate degrees in both Music Therapy and Vocal Performance at Michigan State University and Alverno College. As a singer, Jenny has performed with various companies such as Detroit Opera and the Castleton Music Festival. As a music therapist, Jenny has worked in several settings such as hospice, mental health, and with children who have developmental and intellectual disabilities. Her work with Songs by Heart is focused on providing accessible and engaging sing-along programs to people living with dementia to improve quality of life.