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## **Anchorage School Business Partnership with Opera Celebrates Russian Culture in Alaska**

((Anchorage, Alaska – September 7, 2009) Anchorage Opera (AO) is pleased to announce a new Anchorage School District Partnership between Chugiak High School and AO, highlighting Russian Culture in Alaska.

The partnership is the result of an exchange of ideas between Valerie Ekberg-Brown, Russian Teacher and School Business Coordinator at Chugiak High School and Torrie Allen, General and Artistic Director of AO. The discussion centered on Chugiak High School and AO partnering to create educational opportunities for students participating in the Russian Language Program at Chugiak High School.

Through the partnership, AO will offer students a host of special opportunities including opportunities to participate as ‘supers’ in AO’s 2010 production of Eugene Onegin, administrative and production internships, backstage tours, and an opera outreach presentation at Chugiak High School. AO is also partnering with **The Alaska World Affairs Council** and **Anchorage Museum** to spotlight the amazing array of activities celebrating Russian culture that now occur in the Greater Anchorage Area and all of Alaska every year.

Please see the corresponding document “**Russian Activities in Alaska 2009-2010**” for a detailed list of various community partnership events.

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