



March 23, 2007

Contact: Jean Heyer
Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance
612/822-0500
jheyer@mnovarian.org

Jessica Sachariason
Roepke Public Relations
612-677-1717
Jessica@roepkepr.com

**CANDACE OTTO “A MUSICAL SOIREE”
TO BENEFIT MINNESOTA OVARIAN CANCER ALLIANCE
May 12 at the Ordway Center McKnight Theatre**

Minneapolis, MN – Soprano Candace Otto will perform in the McKnight Theatre at the Ordway Center for Performing Arts at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 12 at a benefit for Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MOCA). The cabaret-style performance will feature opera arias and selections from the American Musical Theater.

Ms. Otto, a former Miss Pennsylvania, studied Musical Theatre at Northwestern University and opera with the Ezio Pinza Council of American Singers of Opera in Italy. In 2003, at the Miss America pageant, Ms. Otto was awarded the Bernie Wayne Performing Arts award. Currently, she is a student of Ross Dacal, who is a tenor and chairman of the Metropolitan Opera National Council for the Great Lakes Region.

Proceeds from Ms. Otto’s performance will benefit MOCA. The organization’s mission includes funding ovarian cancer research, raising awareness of the disease and providing support to women with ovarian cancer families. In just seven years, MOCA has awarded \$1.7 million for research grants in Minnesota.

“My mother-in-law is an ovarian cancer survivor and my family has actively supported MOCA for the past couple of years,” explains Ms. Otto. “We wanted to do something even more personal and that’s how this idea of a Musical Soiree came about. I am very happy to donate my time to support the important work that MOCA is doing to increase awareness and advance research towards better diagnosis and a cure.

Ms. Otto's concert appearances both in the US and abroad include "The Games of Love" (Oderzo, Italy), "The Mother of Sorrows Jubilee Tour" (Florence, Milan, Assisi, Rome & the Vatican), "First Night New Years Celebration" (Pittsburgh, PA), "The Hillman Center for the Performing Arts Grand Opening Gala" (Pittsburgh, PA) as well as over 150 appearances as Miss Pennsylvania.

To purchase tickets for the event, call the Ordway Box Office: 651/224-4222 or online at www.ordway.org.

For more information about MOCA, call 612/822-0500 or visit www.mnovarian.org.

For more information about Ms. Otto, see her web site: www.candaceotto.com.

###