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Festival focuses on opera Thursday

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The Mozart opera, "The Magic Flute," takes the spotlight on the Thursday schedule of the Montana Fine Arts Festival-18th Century, which opened a three-week program at the University of Montana Monday, reports Dean Charles W. Bolen of the School of Fine Arts.

The opera will be performed Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in the University Theater. Edd Blackler, Missoula, will sing the role of Sarastro at the matinee. The part will be sung at the 8:15 p.m. performances Friday, Saturday and Sunday by Nicola Moscona of the Metropolitan Opera Company.

Boris Goldovsky of Goldovsky Opera Institute, New York City, will lecture on "The Magic Flute" Thursday at 8:15 p.m. in the Recital Hall.

Dr. Goldovsky's lecture is open to the public without charge, Dean Bolen said. Tickets for the opera are available at the University Theater box office, which is open from noon to curtain time on the days of performances.