A Storyboard for

BEAR HUG
ABRAZO DE OSO!

NASHVILLE OPERA

THE NATIONAL OPERA CENTER AMERICA

INNOVATION GRANTS

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Welcome to the opera Bear Hug! 
Meet the four singers in our show. 
They sing in both English and Spanish.
Meet the zookeeper.
He feeds the different bears in the zoo.
He’s afraid of grizzly bears!
Polly is a panda bear who likes to read. She’s been studying Spanish.
Polly meets the new bear, Bernardo. Bernardo is the only Spanish brown bear in the zoo. He is different from the other bears because he speaks Spanish. He feels lonely until Polly becomes his friend.
Polly and Bernardo play lots of games. They want to explore the rest of the zoo but need a key to unlock the gate. They begin to search for the key.
While Polly and Bernardo look for the key, they hear Marla the koala bear! She sings about her favorite food—vegetables! Marla is different from other bears but Polly and Bernardo are happy to be her friend. Marla, Polly, and Bernardo look for the key.
The three bears talk about the other animals that live in the zoo. Marla says there may be tarantula spiders and Bernardo sings a Spanish song! Bernardo’s funny song teaches you to dance if a spider bites you. Dancing will save you from a spider bite!
Marla finds the key! Bernardo, Marla, and Polly use the key to open the gate. Behind the gate is Griff the grizzly bear! Griff scares the other bears and chases them.
Bernardo runs to the insect exhibit. He finds a tarantula spider and chases Griff! Griff is very afraid of the spider and runs from Bernardo, Polly and Marla.
Griff is afraid of lots of things. Griff is afraid of spiders, the dark, and being by himself. He feels different from other grizzly bears and that makes him feel sad sometimes.
Polly, Marla, and Bernardo want Griff to be their friend. They tell him they like him even more because he is different from other grizzly bears.
We should all be friends no matter what we look like, how we talk, or where we’re from. Kindness and friendship brings us together and reminds us that we are more alike than different.