



# Pikes Peak Opera League

## Presents

### 2018 Young Voice Competition Rules

**Underwritten by Cherri and Michael Disque  
In memory of Margaret and Ned Disque**

The Pikes Peak Opera League's 6<sup>th</sup> annual Young Voice Competition is being held in February/March and offers an exciting event for promising young high school singers. Two separate sets of judges made up of opera performers, directors and/or educators choose a designated number of finalists to proceed in the competition. Cash awards are given to the top three Winners in order to encourage and help these young people continue their arts education. The League's Competition was founded in cooperation with Opera Theatre of the Rockies.

Both the Master Class and Finals Concert are free and open to the public. Preliminary Auditions are closed to the public. We encourage family members, voice teachers, friends and colleagues to attend both public events. A dessert reception for the Finalists and entire audience after the formal Final Auditions Concert is offered in the Lobby, while the Judges deliberate. Winners are then announced at the end of the Finals Concert evening.

The Competition is an exciting event for aspiring young singers, and the Opera League is proud to provide this experience, opportunity and support to young singers across the Region.

#### **Purpose**

The Competition's purpose is to select young singers from southern Colorado, whose artistry already qualifies them for professional advancement in their careers, and to encourage these young artists to carry on the tradition of fine singing. Selection of Winners is based on present accomplishment and abilities displayed in the Finals Auditions rather than on future potential.

#### **Rules & Regulations**

##### **Eligibility Requirements**

An applicant must be registered in High School or be at that level while being home-schooled. The deadline entry date for receipt of the application and application fee is **Monday, January 29, 2018**. Remember, a singer who enters the competition **must be a full-time high school student as of the entry date of January 29, 2018**.

The applicant's sponsoring teacher must be a member of the faculty of a public or private High School or a qualified teacher of singing with whom the applicant will have studied for at least one academic year.

**NOTE** The **First Place Winner** from any previous year is ineligible to participate a second year.

**NOTE:** Performers in Pikes Peak Opera League (PPOL) sponsored auditions, competitions, concerts shall perform from lawful music editions and shall support and obey all laws relative to

copyright and the U.S. Copyright Policy. PPOL endorses a strict policy regarding copyright laws. The use of photocopied music is prohibited at all PPOL-sponsored competition events.

### **Application Procedures**

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED by the stated Deadline of **January 29, 2018**.

Online applications are available at **pikespeakoperaleague.org** under "Voice Competition." If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the Young Voice Competition Co-Chair, Susan Loring at 719-290-6738. The completed application, including payment of the fee of \$20 by check or money order, made out to PPOL, must be received no later than **January 29, 2018**. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.

#### **Applications must include:**

1. Payment of the non-refundable entry fee of \$20. Check made out to PPOL.
2. A completed 2018 Application Form (found on the web site of PPOL). The application requires the signature of the sponsoring high school teacher or teacher of singing.
3. Make sure the Repertoire List is completed on the Application

#### **Repertoire:**

Singers must submit a list of three (3) contrasting songs selected from at least three (3) of the following categories: No more than two opera arias may be included in the list of songs. All repertoire must be performed by memory. **Repertoire changes are NOT allowed after the list is submitted.**

1. Art songs (English, French, German, Italian or Spanish)
2. Opera
3. Oratorio
4. Musical Theater
5. Classical Folk or Spiritual

Complete listings for all repertoire selections must include:

1. TITLE
2. COMPOSER or arranger
3. KEY
4. ACCURATE TIMING (Duration)

#### **Submission of Materials**

A money order or check for the non-refundable entry fee (made out to PPOL) along with the Application and supporting materials shall be addressed to:

**Susan Loring**

**Young Voice Competition**

**8025 Pinoak Court**

**Colorado Springs, CO 80920**

**APPLICATION RECEIPT DEADLINE IS January 29, 2018.** ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE DATE. LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

### **Preliminary Auditions**

**Preliminary auditions will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2018 at First United Methodist Church, 420 North Nevada Ave. starting at 9:00 am.**

Singers will be given an audition time by a lottery system and notified of their Preliminary Audition time a few days after January 29. Contestants will be known throughout the Competition only by their first name. No taped auditions or accompaniments will be allowed. PLEASE KNOW THAT A SINGER MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR THE PRELIMINARY AUDITIONS, THE MASTER CLASS AND THE FINALS CONCERT TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY. A highly-skilled accompanist is provided for you.

The Contestants will sing one selection of their choice at the Preliminary Audition. The Judges (names TBA) may request additional selections from the repertoire submitted. Notification of finalists will be made on the day of the Preliminary Auditions. DRESS: Women wear a solid colored skirt (not too short) and blouse, or simple short solid colored dress. Flats or heels not too high please.

### **Master Class**

Finalists are required to participate in a **Master Class on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 3 pm at Packard Hall, Colorado College campus,** (SW corner of Cache La Poudre & Cascade Ave.) presented by a well-known voice instructor, voice clinician (name TBA). All Singers need to arrive no later than 2:30 pm. The master class is free and open to the public. DRESS: Same as Preliminaries or you may wear nice dress pants/slacks and a nice shirt/top/sweater.

### **Final Auditions Concert**

**A maximum of eight singers will be chosen to sing in the “Final Auditions Concert” held also at Packard Hall, SW corner of Cache La Poudre & Cascade Ave. at 7:00 pm on Friday evening, March 16, 2018.** All Singers need to arrive no later than 6:30 pm and will be assigned their performance order in a lottery system before the Concert. Contestants in the Finals will be heard for 10-12 minutes each. Each Contestant will sing one selection of their choice at the Final Auditions Concert. The Finals Judges (names TBA) will request the balance of other numbers to be heard from the repertoire submitted. Contestants will remain anonymous and referred to only by first name until the Final Auditions are complete and winners are announced. The Finalists will introduce themselves only by first name on stage until the ceremony is held to announce the winners. Then, each Singer will introduce herself/himself and give their full name, school, grade level, community, age and teacher’s name.

A reception will be held after the Finals Concert in the Lobby. The Winners are announced after the judges confer. The audience and singers are called back into Packard Hall where a ceremony is held to announce the Winners. The three 2018 Competition Winners maybe asked to sing at some point **for a Pikes Peak Opera League event or program (Location TBA).** DRESS: WOMEN wear long solid colored formal dresses (not too revealing), nice shoes (no heels that are too high please). Hair pulled back away from face so Judges can see you. MEN wear dark suits, tie and nice dress shoes.

## Judges

There will be three Judges Preliminary Judges at the Preliminary Auditions on February 10, 2018 and three different Finals Judges at the Final Auditions Concert on March 16, 2018. **Teachers who have students enter the Competition will not be eligible to adjudicate at either set of Auditions, nor will he or she present the Master Class.**

**Accompanist:** No taped accompaniments will be allowed. Pikes Peak Opera League provides an Accompanist for all the Singers for all three events (Preliminaries, Master Class and Final Auditions Concert) and all Singers **must use the Accompanist provided by Pikes Peak Opera League.**

QUESTIONS ABOUT RULES AND REGULATIONS, OR ABOUT REPERTOIRE CHOICES OR REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO SUSAN LORING, COMPETITION CO-CHAIR:

Young Voice Competition  
8025 Pinoak Court  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
719-290-6738 - Susan Loring  
sloring55@gmail.com

### Prizes – Cash Awards

First Place: \$500 **Norton Bain Award**

2nd Place: \$300 **S. Kathleen Finney Award**

3rd Place: \$150 **S. Kathleen Finney Award**

### Suggestions for Singers

**Song selection:** Choose songs with which you are comfortable performing. They should be well suited to your vocal expertise at this time. Begin with a selection that shows the best quality of your voice. Try to include some songs that are legato with varied tempo. If your aria has a high note or low note that is unstable, choose another aria. If you have a longer song, use all the standard cuts so as to not run overtime. Selections should be no more 3 minutes. You **may** sing only one song in the Preliminary Auditions. It is best to choose standard works with which the Judges are familiar.

- First, greet the Judges (and audience at the Finals only. Preliminary Auditions are closed to the public) in a friendly but businesslike manner.
- Announce your First Name and the Song you will be singing and the work from which it comes.
- Make the best of what you have to offer! Arrive early and sit quietly to compose yourself and think about what you are performing. If you are sick, wait until next year to audition. *Never sing sick!*
- The Judges will confer briefly and then may request that you sing a second song.

Judges will be listening for vocal quality, pitch, musicianship, diction, expression and your familiarity with the text.

**Appearance: Your performance begins when you first appear on the stage. Choose clothes that are comfortable and fit well. You should practice singing in them before the audition. Be sure to look at yourself in a three-way mirror. Do not bring water or props on stage. BUT PLEASE DO BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE FOR ALL THREE EVENTS.**

### **Dress**

See above-mentioned dress suggestions for the Preliminaries, Master Class and Finals Concert.

Preliminaries: Women should wear a solid color dress OR skirt that is not too short. Prints, ruffles, off the shoulder and other adornments that detract from your voice should be avoided. You may wear dress pants for Master Class only. You may wear pants if **all** your arias listed are pants roles. Shoes should be comfortable, heels women, NOT TOO HIGH please. Men wear nice slacks, shirt or turtleneck please. Nice shoes.

Master Class, you all may wear nice pants, a nice shirt, blouse, or sweater.

Final Auditions Concert: Ladies must wear a long formal dress. Please make sure it age appropriate (not too low cut). And heels not too high please. Men wear dark suit and tie, nice dress shoes.

**Accompanist:** Have all your music well marked and in easily readable condition with no spills or tears. It should be in a black binder that lays flat open, unless you bring actual scores or original music. Pages should turn easily.

You need to walk over to acknowledge the Accompanist and confirm the tempo you choose while standing next to him at the piano. If you plan to use cuts, take time to go over them with the Accompanist in advance before you begin. Then walk over and stand in the curve of the piano, greet the Judges and Audience and announce your First Name. Once you are ready to sing, nod to the Accompanist.

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