



Pikes Peak Opera League

presents

2017 Young Voice Competition Rules

The Pikes Peak Opera League's 5th 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 whom cash awards are given in order to 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 Recital 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 events. A reception for the Finalists and audience after the formal Final Auditions Recital is offered in the Lobby.

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

Purpose

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 will be based on present accomplishment rather than 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: **Saturday, February 4, 2017**. Remember, a singer who enters the competition **must be a full-time high school student in southern Colorado**.

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.

The **First Place Winner** from any previous year is not eligible to participate.

Note: Performers in Pikes Peak Opera League (PPOL) sponsored auditions, competitions, recitals 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 **February 4, 2017**.

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 by no later than **February 4, 2016**. 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 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. A completed Repertoire List must also be included.

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 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, Spanish or Italian)
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 February 4, 2016. 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 11, 2017 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. Singers will be notified 2 weeks in advance of their audition time. Contestants will remain anonymous until the audition is completed. Singers will be known as singer number throughout the competition. No taped auditions or accompaniments will be allowed. A skilled accompanist is provided for you.

The Contestants will sing one selection of their choice at this 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. **Finalists are required to participate in a Master Class to be held on Sunday, March 5 at 3 pm at Flex Room, Cornerstone Theater, Colorado College campus, (SE corner of Cache La Poudre & Cascade Ave.) presented by a well-known voice instructor, voice clinician (name TBA).**

Finals Auditions Recital

A maximum of eight singers will be chosen to sing in the “Final Auditions Recital” held also at Packard Hall, SW corner of Cache La Poudre & Cascade Ave. at 3:00 pm on Sunday, March 12, 2017. All Singers need to arrive no later than 2:20 pm and will be assigned a performance number in a lottery system before the Recital. Contestants in the Finals will be heard for 10 minutes each. Contestants will sing one selection of their choice at the Final Auditions Recital. 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 number until the Final Auditions are complete and winners are announced. The finalists will introduce themselves only by singer number on stage until the ceremony is held to announce the winners.

A reception will be held after the Finals Recital 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 competition winners also present a winners’ program, singing two songs each at the **June 7 Luncheon of Pikes Peak Opera League (Location TBA).**

Judges

There will be three judges at the preliminary auditions and three different judges at the finals auditions recital. **Teachers having students in the auditions will not be eligible to adjudicate at either set of auditions, nor will present the Master Class.**

Accompanist: No taped accompaniments will be allowed. Pikes Peak Opera League will provide an accompanist or the singers may choose to use their own accompanist for the preliminary auditions. **For the Preliminary Audition, Master Class and Finals Audition Recital, singers must use the accompanist provided by Pikes Peak Opera League.**

QUESTIONS ABOUT RULES AND REGULATIONS, OR ABOUT REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

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

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 and are 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. Greet the judges and audience in a friendly but businesslike manner. Announce your singer number 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!*

Judges will be listening for vocal quality, pitch, musicianship, diction 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.

Dress

For the preliminaries, **Ladies** should wear a solid color dress that is not too short. Prints, ruffles, off the shoulder and other adornments that detract from your voice should be avoided. Do not wear pants unless **all** your arias listed are pants roles. For the Final Auditions Recital, Ladies must wear a long more formal dress. Please make sure it age appropriate (not too low cut). And heels not too high please.

Men may wear nice dress slacks or a suit with a nice shirt or turtleneck for the preliminary auditions but must wear a suit with a shirt and tie for the Final Auditions Recital. Be sure to wear nice leather dress shoes.

Accompanist: Have all your music well marked and in easily readable condition with no spills or tears. Having sheet music should be in a binder with pages that turn easily. If you plan to use cuts, take time to go over them with the accompanist in advance before you begin on stage.