



## 2019 Young Voice Competition Rules

The Pikes Peak Opera League's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **Young Voice Competition** is being held in February/March 2019, offering an exciting opportunity for promising young high school singers. Two separate sets of judges (Preliminary and Finals) made up of opera performers, voice teachers, directors and other professionals will choose up to eight Finalists to proceed in the Competition. Cash awards are given to the three Winners in order to encourage and help these young people continue their vocal arts studies. The League's Young Voice 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 of Packard Hall, 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 as they begin their careers, and to encourage these young artists to carry on the tradition of fine singing. Important: 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 **Friday, February 1, 2019**. Remember, a singer who enters the competition **must be a full-time high school student as of the entry date of February 1, 2019**. **Note:** Each applicant **MUST** be able to attend all three events (Preliminary Auditions, the Master Class and Finals Concert) to qualify.

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 Preliminary Auditions, Finals Auditions Concert or future Performances 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 1, 2019.**

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 \$25 by check or money order, made out to PPOL, must be received no later than **February 1, 2019.** Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.

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

1. Payment of the non-refundable entry fee of \$25. Check made out to PPOL.
2. A completed 2019 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:**

**NOTE:** Singers must submit a list of **THREE (3) contrasting songs** selected from **THREE (3)** of the different categories listed below. No more than two opera arias may be included in the list of songs. All repertoire must be performed by memory. One selection must be sung in a foreign language. **IMPORTANT: 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. Classic Folk Song
6. 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 of \$25 (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 1, 2019.** ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE DATE. LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

**NOTE:** PPOL feels that there must be enough singers who enter the Competition to proceed. If the Young Voice Competition team leaders feel that there are NOT enough singers who apply for the 2019 Competition to take place, you will be notified right after the Application Deadline and your application fee will be refunded.

## **Preliminary Auditions**

**Preliminary auditions will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at First United Methodist Church, 420 North Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs 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 February 1. No video-taped or recorded auditions or accompaniments will be allowed. Remember that all singers 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 for all three Competition events. No rehearsal time is granted.

The Applicants will sing one selection of their choice at the Preliminary Audition. The Judges (names TBA) may then 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). **MEN:** Wear nice slacks and a shirt/sweater.

## **Master Class**

Finalists are required to participate in a **Master Class on Sunday, March 10, 2019, at 3 pm at Packard Hall, Colorado College campus,** (SW corner of Cache La Poudre & Cascade Ave.) The professional who will conduct the Master Class will be announced soon. All singers must arrive no later than 2:30 pm. The master class is free and open to the public. **DRESS:** Same as Preliminaries but in this case, Women and Men: you each may wear a nice pair of slacks and a nice shirt or sweater, nice shoes. No jeans please.

## Final Auditions Concert

**A maximum of eight singers will be chosen as Finalists 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 15, 2019.** 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 or they will decide as a group to keep the order chosen for the Master Class. Finalists will be heard for 10-12 minutes each. Each Finalist will sing one selection of their choice at the Final Auditions Concert. The Finals Judges (names TBA) will then request the balance of the other numbers to be heard from the repertoire submitted. The Finalists will introduce themselves by name on stage and present each song or aria presented. **NOTE: NO music changes will be allowed after submitting your list your application.** At the of the Finals Concert, each singer will introduce herself/himself and give their full name, their school (community), grade level, their age and teacher’s name. **NOTE: All teachers must be seated behind the Judges at the Finals Concert.**

A dessert reception is held after the Finals Concert in the Lobby of Packard Hall while the Judges confer. Everyone is then led back into the Hall where Winners are announced and Cash Awards presented on Stage. The three 2019 Competition Winners may be asked to sing at some point for a **Pikes Peak Opera League event or program (Date/Location TBA).**

**FINALS CONCERT DRESS: WOMEN** wear a long solid-colored formal dress (not too revealing please), nice shoes (heels not too high please). Hair pulled back away from the face so Judges can see you (they will mention this). **MEN** wear a dark suit, with a tie, and dress shoes.

### Judges

There will be three **Preliminary Judges** at the Preliminary Auditions on February 9, 2019 and three different **Finals Judges** at the Final Auditions Concert on March 15, 2019. **Teachers who have students entering the Competition are NOT eligible to adjudicate at the Preliminary or Finals Auditions (Concert) or conduct the Master Class. Your voice teachers are encouraged to attend the Master Class and Finals Concert. They may help support you at the Preliminary Auditions but may not listen in or enter the area of the Auditions room.**

**Accompanist:** No taped auditions or accompaniments will be allowed. No rehearsal time will be granted. Pikes Peak Opera League provides a well-known excellent 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 APPLICATION 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

## Competition Prizes

Cash Awards for Three Winners given generously by Young Voice Competition Supporters

**First Place: \$500**

**2nd Place: \$300**

**3rd Place: \$150**

## Suggestions for Singers

**Song Selections:** Choose songs with which you are most 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 varied in 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 three (3) minutes each. Please remember to choose selections from three (3) different categories with one (1) being in a foreign language. **PROCESS:** First say “hello” to the judges and then You will then walk to the curve of the piano, introduce yourself and your first song (presumably the one you are most confident performing). Mention the composer and work the selection is from. The Judges will then decide if you will sing a second song of their choice. It is possible they will ask for a third song. But know that they might interrupt you in the second or third song. It is best to choose standard works with which the Judges are familiar.

- For all three events: Walk over to the Accompanist and show him your music. Go over the tempo and any cuts or repeats you will sing. Please use a three-ring binder if your music is copied (double-sided) so he can easily turn the pages or if you bring a score, make sure that the pages lay flat.
- Then walk to the curve of the piano, greet the Judges (Preliminary Auditions and Judges and audience at the Finals Concert) in a friendly but professional manner.
- Announce your name and the song you will be singing, the work from which it comes and the composer.
- Make the best of what you have to offer! Arrive early and sit quietly to compose yourself and think about what you are performing. Choose the song to sing first that you are most confident performing and that shows off your voice best. .
- \*\* If you are sick, wait until next year to audition. *Never sing sick!*
- The Judges will confer briefly after your first song and then may request that you sing a second song (Preliminary Auditions) or even begin a third selection. Don't be offended if they stop you mid-way through the second or third song. For the Finals Concert, the Judges will, most likely, ask you to sing the second and third songs and have you perform them all the way through.

Judges will be listening for vocal quality, pitch, musicianship, diction, expression, and your familiarity with the text. They will comment on your stage presence in their notes.

**Appearance: Your performance begins when you first appear on the stage. Choose clothes, shoes that are comfortable and fit well. You should practice singing in them before the Preliminary Audition and Finals Concert. Be sure to look at yourself front and back. 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 and a simple top. Prints, ruffles, off the shoulder, low-cut bodice and other adornments that detract from your singing performance should be avoided. You may wear dress pants for the Master Class only. You may wear long black pants if **all** your arias listed are pants roles. Shoes should be comfortable, flats are fine, Heels NOT too high please. MEN wear nice slacks, a nice shirt or turtleneck, or sweater. Nice shoes.

**Master Class:** Please wear nice pants, a nice shirt, top or sweater, top. No jeans please.

**Final Auditions Concert:** WOMEN must wear a long formal dress. Please make sure it is age-appropriate (NOT too low-cut, off the shoulder or strapless). And heels NOT too high please. And hair pulled back from the face. MEN wear dark suit and shirt, tie, nice dress shoes.

**Accompanist:** Reminders: Have all your music well marked and in easily readable condition with no spills or tears. It should be three-hole punched in a black binder that lays open flat. If you bring original scores, make sure it lays open flat and pages can easily be turned. **Note:** Pages MUST be turn easily.

You need to walk over to the Accompanist first and take the time to confirm the tempo, confirm any cuts, repeats etc. before you stand in the curve of the piano, greet the Judges and introduce yourself, your song/aria. Once you are ready to sing, nod to the Accompanist. Also, acknowledge him with audience applause after your singing at the Finals Concert.

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