

Campbell Opera Librettist Prize 2024

OPERA America

Campbell Opera Librettist Prize

Important Dates

Application deadline: May 24, 2024, 11:59 p.m. ET

Applications adjudicated: June 2024

Grantees notified: July 2024

Contact Diana Hossack, director of grantmaking, at DHossack@operaamerica.org for questions.

Applicant Information

Applicant First Name*

Character Limit: 100

Applicant Surname/Family Name*

Character Limit: 100

Applicant Email Address

Character Limit: 254

Applicant Website

If applicable.

Character Limit: 2000

Applicant Biography*

The biography should be narrative and limited to 3,500 characters. Please include names of all theatrical productions and previous awards. Do not include quotes from reviews by critics in the biography. A full biography or resume may be uploaded as a PDF.

Character Limit: 3500 | File Size Limit: 3 MB

Why would you like to be considered for the Campbell Opera Librettist Prize?

Character Limit: 250

Personal Statement

What compels you to choose opera as a form for telling stories?*

Character Limit: 5000

What in your past experience as a theater artist has helped you prepare for libretto-writing?*

Character Limit: 5000

What do you believe defines a successful collaboration with a composer?*

Character Limit: 5000

What direction would you like to see opera go in the future? How will you contribute to moving toward that direction?*

Character Limit: 5000

Work Samples

Work samples are one of the most important parts of this application. Your work samples represent your artistic work and voice.

- Applicants must submit two written work samples and may submit up to three written work samples. Audio or video recordings of the submitted samples are encouraged (whether set to music or text readings) but not required.
- The most competitive applications will include recent examples of the librettist's works.
- Samples should demonstrate your aptitude for theatrical storytelling for trained voice(s) and instrumentation.
- Two of the samples must be from opera librettos that have been set to music or are in the process of being set (though not necessarily premiered in a full production).
- Shorter and/or one-act librettos are permitted. Only complete dramatic works for the stage will be considered. Screenplays, poems, text for arias, fragments from librettos, and academic articles are not accepted.
- Librettos written in languages other than English must be accompanied by a complete English translation.

SAMPLE 1

Sample 1 - Title*

Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 - Relevance

Explain the reason you are presenting this as one of your samples.

Character Limit: 250

Sample 1 - Relevance (continued)

Character Limit: 2000

Sample 1 - A/V link

If set by a composer.

Character Limit: 2000

Mp3 Sample

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Sample 1 - A/V password (if necessary)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 - Timings

If you are not provided trimmed samples to a specific excerpt that you would like to be reviewed, please provide suggested timings (e.g., play from 3'22" to 7'49").

Character Limit: 250

Sample 1 - Composer Name (if applicable)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 - Additional Librettist (if applicable)

Character Limit: 250

Sample 1 - Synopsis*

Character Limit: 1000

Sample 1 - Production History (if applicable)

Character Limit: 1000

Sample 1 - Description

Include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample, and credit performing artists.

Example:

SOPRANO, Sally Singer

BASS, Bobby Baritone

It's raining. In this duet, Sally Singer tries to encourage young Bobby Baritone to continue his opera career in New York, but Bobby Baritone longs to go back home to Kansas to be with his family. This work sample shows my ability to write for various voice types, and the orchestral

music demonstrates my ability to dictate complex emotions - in this case longing and indecisiveness.

Character Limit: 250

Sample 1 - Libretto Upload*

File Size Limit: 5 MB

SAMPLE 2

Sample 2 - Title

Character Limit: 100

Sample 2 - Relevance

Why are you presenting this as one of your samples?

Character Limit: 250

Sample 2 - Relevance (continued)

Character Limit: 2000

Sample 2 - A/V link

If set by a composer.

Character Limit: 2000

Sample 2 - A/V password (if necessary)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 2 - Timings

If you are not providing trimmed samples to the specific excerpt that you would like to be reviewed, please provide suggested timings (e.g., play from 3'22" - 7'49").

Character Limit: 250

Composer Sample 2 - Composer Name (if applicable)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 2 - Additional Librettist (if applicable)

Character Limit: 250

Sample 2 - Synopsis

Character Limit: 1500

Sample 2 - Production History

If applicable.

Character Limit: 1000

Sample 2 - Description

Include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample, and credit performing artists.

Example:

SOPRANO, Sally Singer

BASS, Bobby Baritone

It's raining. In this duet, Sally Singer tries to encourage young Bobby Baritone to continue his opera career in New York, but Bobby Baritone longs to go back home to Kansas to be with his family. This work sample shows my ability to write for various voice types, and the orchestral music demonstrates my ability to dictate complex emotions - in this case longing and indecisiveness.

Character Limit: 250

Sample 2 - Libretto Upload

File Size Limit: 5 MB

SAMPLE 3

Sample 3 - Title

Character Limit: 100

Sample 3 - Relevance

Why are you presenting this as one of your samples?

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 - A/V Link

If set by a composer.

Character Limit: 2000

Sample 3 - A/V Password (if necessary)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 3 - Timings

If you are not providing trimmed samples to the specific excerpt that you would like to be reviewed, please provide suggested timings (e.g., play from 3'22" - 7'49").

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 - Composer Name (if applicable)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 3 - Additional Librettist (if applicable)

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 - Synopsis

Character Limit: 1000

Sample 3 - Production History (if applicable)

Character Limit: 1000

Sample 3 - Description

Include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample, and credit performing artists.

Example:

SOPRANO, Sally Singer

BASS, Bobby Baritone

It's raining. In this duet, Sally Singer tries to encourage young Bobby Baritone to continue his opera career in New York, but Bobby Baritone longs to go back home to Kansas to be with his family. This work sample shows my ability to write for various voice types, and the orchestral music demonstrates my ability to dictate complex emotions - in this case longing and indecisiveness.

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 - Libretto Upload

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Self-Identify

Applicant Citizenship Status

Indicate if you have United States citizenship, permanent residence, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status.

Choices

Yes

No

To better understand the demographics of OPERA America's applicant pool and evaluate the impact of our grant programs, we invite you to optionally provide information about how you identify.

Tell us how you identify racially and/or ethnically:

Arab – includes those who identify with one or more nationalities originating in the Arabian peninsula and neighboring territories, inhabiting much of the Middle East and North Africa.

Asian – includes those who identify with nationalities or ethnic groups originating in the Far East, Indian subcontinent, and Southeast Asia.

Black – includes those who identify nationalities or ethnic groups originating in any of the Black racial groups of Africa, including African American, Caribbean, and Latin American, etc.

Latinx – includes those who identify with nationalities or ethnic groups originating in Central America, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and South America, and other Latin nations.

Native American – includes those who identify as Aboriginal peoples, First Nations, Indigenous peoples, and/or Native peoples of the Americas who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Pacific Islander – includes those who identify with nationalities and ethnic groups originating in Guam, Hawaii, Samoa, and other Pacific Islands.

White – includes those related to a group of people having European ancestry.

The above is not an exhaustive list.

Please select all that apply.

Choices

Arab
Asian
Black
Latinx
Native American
Pacific Islander
White
Self-identify

Self-identify - Applicant Racial and Ethnic Identity

If you selected "self-identify" from the checklist above, please write how you identify racially and ethnically.

Character Limit: 250

Self-identify - Applicant Gender Identity

Please tell us your gender identity.

Choices

Intersex
Man
Nonbinary
Transgender
Woman
Self-identify

Self-identify - Applicant Gender Identity

If you selected "self-identify" from the checklist above, please describe how you gender identify.

Character Limit: 100

Self-identify - Applicant Gender Pronouns

Please share the pronouns you use in reference to yourself (e.g., she/her/hers, he/him/his, they/them/their, ze/hir/hir — to learn more about gender pronouns, click [here](#)).

Character Limit: 150

Certification

Citizenship

I certify that I fulfill the citizenship requirements for this grant program: I have U.S. citizenship, permanent resident status, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) status.

Choices

Yes

Experience

I certify that I have written at least two complete librettos that have been set to music or are in the process of being set to music.

Choices

Yes

Signature

Applicant signature*

By typing your name below, you acknowledge that the information contained in this application and its attachments is accurate and complete.

Character Limit: 100