

# Awards for Digital Excellence in Opera - 2023

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*OPERA America*

## *Guideline Highlights*

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OPERA America is pleased to announce the second annual Awards for Digital Excellence in Opera, an initiative that seeks to recognize the best projects created for digital platforms and encourage further investment in this vibrant aspect of opera. Open to member and non-member individual producers and organizations based in the United States and Canada, the program is made possible by a generous grant from The Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation, with gratitude for the support of foundation trustees, Joe Erdman and Melissa Young.

During the COVID crisis, opera producers and artists demonstrated tremendous creative capacity to adapt and invent, most notably on digital platforms. From film projects and recitals, to education programs and lecture series, new and exciting digital projects reached veteran opera lovers and newcomers to the art form across the country and around the world.

The objectives of the Awards for Digital Excellence in Opera are to:

- Raise the standard of digital opera production by turning the spotlight on the best audio/visual projects being created each year.
- Promote digital activity as a continuing and important part of the opera enterprise.

### **Qualified Digital Activities**

The Awards are open to member and non-member individual and organizational producers in the U.S. and Canada. Content may include any form of audio/visual digital product, including made-for-digital projects, filmed stage performances that progress work in the digital space, virtual and augmented reality, and enrichment content, among others.

This Award will be offered in four different categories:

- Artistic Creation, which may include film projects, stage performances and recitals, or any other artistic expression;
- Education/Enrichment, which may include education programs for all ages, such as K-12 classroom activities, lectures, demonstrations, master classes, and/or interviews or panel discussions;
- University/Conservatory Projects, which may include projects conceived, created, and distributed by a teaching institution; and

- Noteworthy Projects, which may include works that cross traditional boundaries, broaden accessibility onstage and off, achieve digital technical innovations, and/or expand the definition of opera. Examples may include accessibility projects, serial operas or video channels, or other digital activities, such as magazines and podcasts.

## *Application Information*

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### **Type of Applicant\***

Is this application to OPERA America's Awards for Digital Excellence in Opera submitted on behalf of an organization or individual?

#### **Choices**

Organization

Individual

### **North American Status\***

Certification of North American status is required for the project to be eligible for this award opportunity. Select the appropriate box.

#### **Choices**

Applying organization acknowledges it is based in the United States or Canada.

Applying individual acknowledges they are a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or has DACA status.

Applying individual acknowledges they are a Canadian citizen or has permanent resident status.

### **Project Representative First Name\***

*Character Limit: 50*

### **Project Representative Last Name\***

*Character Limit: 50*

### **Organization Name (if applicable)**

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Project Representative Title (if from organization)**

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Relationship to Project (if individual)**

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Project Representative / Relationship to Project Email\***

*Character Limit: 254*

### **Consortium\***

Is this application submitted on behalf of a consortium of producers?

## Choices

Yes

No

If yes, please list the name(s), title(s), and organization(s) of other producer(s).

*Character Limit: 250*

## Applicant Biography or Organization Description\*

*Character Limit: 5000*

## Project Information

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### Project Name\*

Name of Project.

*Character Limit: 100*

### Project Description\*

Provide a brief overview of the project, considering the following questions:

- What is the purpose of the project?
- How does the project align with the organization's mission or applicant's career?
- How did the outcome of this project relate to initial project goals?
- Who was the intended audience for this digital project and who ultimately experienced the program?

The questions above are listed as a guideline and should not be limiting.

*Character Limit: 1000*

### Category for Consideration\*

Please select the category that you believe best describes this digital project.

- Artistic Creation, which may include film projects, stage performances and recitals, or any other artistic expression;
- Education/Enrichment, which may include education programs for all ages, such as K-12 classroom activities, lectures, demonstrations, master classes, and/or interviews or panel discussions;
- University/Conservatory Projects, which may include projects conceived, created, and distributed by a teaching institution; and
- Noteworthy Projects, which may include works that cross traditional boundaries, broaden accessibility onstage and off, achieve digital technical innovations, and/or

expand the definition of opera. Examples may include accessibility projects, serial operas or video channels, or other digital activities, such as magazines and podcasts.

### Choices

Artistic Creation  
Education/Enrichment Material  
University/Conservatory Project  
Noteworthy Project

### Premiere Date\*

*Character Limit: 10*

### Premiere Medium\*

Examples may include movie theater, live theater on screen, livestream, on-demand stream, paywall subscription, private viewing, etc.

*Character Limit: 250*

## *Producers/Creators*

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### Producer(s)\*

List the name(s) and title(s) of all producers.

*Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

### Creative Artists\*

Please upload a list of the name(s) and role(s) of all creative personnel as appropriate.

You may upload a list in your format, or you may use the provided spreadsheet, which can be found here.

*Character Limit: 2000 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

### Funding, Commissioning, or Other Crediting (if applicable)

*Character Limit: 250*

### Special Acknowledgment (if applicable)

*Character Limit: 250*

## *Rights and Licensing*

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To be advanced for consideration, all submitted digital project must have secured:

- Rights and licensing for the project's original and additional run(s); and

- Permission for the submitted links to be shared with OPERA America and the judges through the adjudication process.

## REQUIRED CONFIRMATIONS

I confirm, on behalf of the producer(s) and copyright owner(s) of the submitted project, that the rights and licenses were/are in place to allow the content to be available for unlimited on-demand streaming for a minimum of 30 days during the project's original run and at least a 30 day minimum during any subsequent runs.\*

### Choices

Yes

I confirm, on behalf of the producer(s) and copyright owner(s) of the submitted project, that all rights and agreements for this digital project allow permission for the submitted link to be viewed by OPERA America and the judges throughout the adjudication process.

\*

### Choices

Yes

## REQUESTED INFORMATION

Current rights/licenses are not required to be considered for an award.

Describe all screening/streaming rights that were cleared for this project to allow initial release, subsequent distribution of this project, and the length/term of those clearances (e.g., written agreements with all artists [performers, musicians], production team [directors, designers], and technical personnel, including union and non-union personnel.

*Character Limit: 1000*

## Expiration Terms\*

Has any of these terms expired, or are they expected to expire in the next 6 months from submission?

### Choices

Yes

No

## *Production and Technical Specifications*

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### **Production Details\***

Outline the numbers of creative artists, crew, and labor credited in the creation of your video. For example: 48 pit performers; 13 onstage artists (including 6 singers, 1 spoken actor, 3 dancers, 1 juggler); 30 crew (3 costumed), AGMA, AFM, IATSE, Equity, and USA represented labor.

*Character Limit: 1000*

### **Runtime\***

Provide runtime in minutes and seconds.

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Resolution, Aspect Ratio, and Format\***

OPERA America prefers submissions that have a 1080 x 1920 resolution, or a 16:9 aspect ratio. The video should be horizontal (not vertical). It should be formatted as an MP4.

Indicate if your submission meets these preferences. If not, please indicate the digital project's resolution and aspect ratio.

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Embedded Text\***

Check all that apply.

#### **Choices**

- Translations
- Captions
- Closed captions (ADA compliant)
- Other

If you selected other, please describe the other embedded text used in the project.

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Audio Tracks**

Can separate and/or isolated audio track(s) be made available?

#### **Choices**

- Yes
- No

### **Publisher(s)**

Include any relevant music, poetry, or prose publishers.

*Character Limit: 250*

## Trigger Warnings

Describe any trigger warning language used during the run of this project, including for language, nudity, subject content, strobe lighting, etc.

*Character Limit: 500*

## Digital Preview/Performance\*

Are you planning a digital broadcast/stream of this project in the next 3–6 months from submission?

### Choices

Yes

No

If so, when?

*Character Limit: 500*

## Supplemental Materials

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### Project Link\*

Provide a link to the complete digital project to be considered. All A/V samples must be hosted externally (preferably on Vimeo, YouTube, or private server).

*Character Limit: 2000*

### Password

Include password for any locked sample.

*Character Limit: 250*

## Supplementary Materials

You may upload any collateral that reflects the audience experience of the release. This may include teaching guides, program notes, promotional materials, or interactive materials received by audience members.

*File Size Limit: 5 MB*

## Comments

Please add any information regarding your supplemental materials.

*Character Limit: 2000*

## *Press Release Materials*

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Please provide the following information to be used for the public announcement if this project is awarded. This response will not be publicized unless your application is selected as a finalist. You will also have an opportunity to review the description prior to publication.

### **Project Title\***

Provide the official title for the project for event marketing materials.

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Producer Biography\***

Provide a brief biography of the producer(s) — organization or individual — for the proposed project.

Note: This should be a single project team biography. For example, if you are applying as a team comprised of a company and two individual producers, you will submit one biography for that team. Multiple bios for company/producers will not be accepted.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Project Description\***

Provide a brief description of the piece for event marketing materials.

*Character Limit: 1000*

### **Award Text**

Should your work be selected as a finalist and/or winner, we will need to following information exactly as you wish it to appear on certificates and trophies.

### **Title of Work\***

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Name of the Producer(s)\***

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Sizzle Reel Finalist Clip: 10 Seconds**

Upload a 10-second video showcasing the proposed project. This will not be shown to judges and will only be used if the project is selected as a finalist, at the awards ceremony. Please upload files to <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/NationalOperaCenter>.

### **Sizzle Reel Winner Clip: 2-3 minutes**

This will not be shown to judges and will only be used if the project is selected as a winner, at the awards ceremony. Please upload files to <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/NationalOperaCenter>.



## Applicant Organization Logo\*

Please provide a logo that is 1500x1500 pixels and sized appropriately to display within a circle. While we are asking for a square asset, please ensure your logo will not be cut off if it is displayed in a 1500-pixel-diameter circle (For example, if you uploaded this asset to Instagram to serve as your profile picture, would the design be cut off by the circle frame?)

*Character Limit: 2000*

## Verification

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You acknowledge that, to the best of your knowledge, the information contained in this application and its attachments is accurate and complete.\*

### Choices

Yes

## Notification

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Please let us know up to three people who should receive OPERA America communication regarding status of this application in addition to the Project Representative.

### Contact #1 - Name

Please indicate first and last name of the first contact who should receive application status notification.

*Character Limit: 250*

### Contact #1 - Title (if applicable)

*Character Limit: 250*

### Contact #1 - Organization (if applicable)

*Character Limit: 250*

### Contact #1 - Email

*Character Limit: 254*

### Contact #2 - Name

Please indicate first and last name of the second contact who should receive application status notification.

*Character Limit: 250*

### Contact #2 - Title (if applicable)

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Contact #2 - Organization (if applicable)**

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Contact #2 - Email**

*Character Limit: 254*

### **Contact #3 - Name**

Please indicate first and last name of the third contact who should receive application status notification.

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Contact #3 - Title (if applicable)**

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Contact #3 - Organization (if applicable)**

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Contact #3 - Email**

*Character Limit: 254*