

# OGFC: Commissioning FY20

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*OPERA America*

## *Application*

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### **Opera Grants for Female Composers: Commissioning**

*Generously funded by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation*

This program helps OPERA America Professional Company Members to commission works by talented women who compose for the opera stage. Grants cover up to 50 percent of a female composer's fee for a full production of a commissioned work, with awards of up to \$50,000.

The Commissioning Grants are only open to OPERA America Professional Company Members based in the United States.

### **Timeline**

The following timeline is in place for 2020 Commissioning Grants:

- Intent to apply deadline: April 14, 2020, 11:59 p.m. ET (required for access to full application)
- Application deadline: May 7, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. ET
- Applications adjudicated: June 2020
- Grantees notified: July 2020

To access the grant guidelines, please click [here](#).

## *Creator Overview*

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### **Work title\***

*Character Limit: 150*

### **Composer\***

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Composer's website**

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Composer Email\***

*Character Limit: 254*

**Librettist**

*Character Limit: 100*

**Librettist's website**

*Character Limit: 2000*

**Stage director (if known)**

*Character Limit: 100*

**Conductor and/or music director (if known)**

*Character Limit: 100*

**Total composer commission**

The fee paid to the composer for the commission of the work, independent of any other fees or in-kind contributions.

*Character Limit: 20*

**Award amount requested**

Award may not exceed 50 percent of the total commission paid by the company or consortium to the composer.

In the case of a consortium of companies co-commissioning a work, the lead applicant will be the fiscal agent for this award, and all payments will be made to them.

*Character Limit: 20*

**Commissioning agreement upload (if available)**

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

**Designers (if known)**

*Character Limit: 500*

**Dramaturg (if known)**

*Character Limit: 100*

**Other**

*Character Limit: 500*

## *Work Information*

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**Anticipated premiere date**

Work must premiere no earlier than July 1, 2020, and no later than August 31, 2023.

*Character Limit: 10*

### **Commitment to premiere\***

At least one member of the consortium must commit to producing the premiere of the work. What is the commitment of your company and any consortium partners to presenting this work?

Please list the anticipated premiere dates and locations, if available.

*Character Limit: 300*

### **Production timeline\***

Please provide an approximate timeline, if known, including premiere performance dates. For example:

*December 2021 Companies A and B to sign commissioning agreement*

*March 2022 Delivery of libretto*

*July 2022 Completion and delivery of piano and vocal score*

*September 2022 Company A holds piano and vocal workshop in New York*

*November 2022 Company A holds libretto reading in New York*

*December 2022 Company B holds an orchestral reading in Los Angeles*

*January 2023 Completion and delivery of final orchestra score, parts, and revised libretto*

*April 2023 Company A holds premiere performance in New York*

*August 2023 Company B holds regional premiere in Los Angeles*

*Character Limit: 750*

### **Synopsis\***

Submit a synopsis of the opera associated with this application.

*Character Limit: 1000*

### **Dramatic structure\***

Outline the theatrical arc of the opera, either as a dramaturgical framework, scene breakdown or storyboard.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Artistic connection\***

Why has the company chosen to take on this project? In particular, why is the company compelled to produce this piece at this time?

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Roles\***

List the cast by role and voice type.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Chorus\***

Does this work utilize a chorus? If so, of what size?

*Character Limit: 750*

## **Orchestration**

List the orchestration for this work (if available).

*Character Limit: 750*

## **Previous funding**

Has this work received developmental support from OPERA America in the past? If so, please give a brief account of the outcome of the previous project.

*Works that have received past developmental support from OPERA America are eligible for Opera Grants for Female Composers in the Commissioning category, but a work may not receive more than one Commissioning Grant.*

*Character Limit: 750*

## **Company background\***

What is the company's history with new works? How does the proposed project fit into the company's mission and overall artistic goals? Is this part of a new initiative?

*Character Limit: 1000*

## **Scope\***

Explain whether this project will be presented as a mainstage, second-stage and/or touring production. Describe why your organization selected the venue(s) for performance.

*Character Limit: 1000*

## **Administration\***

Who are the key staff members involved in this project and what are their responsibilities? How will their expertise benefit the project?

*Character Limit: 1500*

## **Evaluation\***

Describe how the company and creative team will evaluate the work and receive feedback to determine the logical next steps for the life of the piece, including what role the organization will play.

In your description, please include information about methodology and the planned timeline for evaluation.

*Character Limit: 1000*

## **Has a commissioning agreement been signed?**

A signed agreement is not required to apply for this program, although a signed agreement does help to verify eligibility.

## **Choices**

Yes

No

## *Budget and Organizational Resources*

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The composer's commissioning fee is the sole budgetary item eligible for support. To give context to the opera's commissioning expense, please supply the following financial information:

### **Operating budget\***

Please upload your organization's operating budget for the current fiscal year.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **Audit\***

A copy of the company's most recent audited balance sheet.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **Project budget\***

Provide a one-page budget overview for the full production expenses related to the commission. Institutional overhead expenses need not be included.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

## *Consortium*

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The lead applicant must be a Professional Company Member (PCM) of OPERA America, based in the United States. Canadian PCMs, as well as International, Associate and Educational Producing Affiliate (EPA) members of OPERA America may participate as consortium members but are not eligible to submit applications directly.

This section is only relevant to applications for co-commission requests between a consortium of companies.

If your application is requesting funding for a sole commissioner, please skip this section and go directly to the verification at the bottom.

### **Company B**

Legal name of the second partner in the consortium.

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Company B - membership status**

#### **Choices**

Associate Member  
Educational Producing Affiliate (EPA)  
OPERA America Professional Company Member (American)  
Opera.ca Professional Company Member (Canadian)  
Opera Europa Professional Company Member (European)  
Other

### **Company B - operating budget**

Upload Company B's operating budget for the current fiscal year.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **Company B - audit**

Upload a copy of Company B's most recent audited balance sheet.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **Company C**

Legal name of the third partner in the consortium.

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Company C - membership status**

#### **Choices**

Associate Member  
Educational Producing Affiliate (EPA)  
OPERA America Professional Company Member (American)  
Opera.ca Professional Company Member (Canadian)  
Opera Europa Professional Company Member (European)  
Other

### **Company C operating budget**

Upload Company C's operating budget for the current fiscal year.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **Company C - audit**

Upload a copy of Company C's most recent audited balance sheet.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **Consortium agreement**

Has a consortium agreement been signed?

Respond "Yes" or "No."

If yes, please upload it here.

*Character Limit: 10 | File Size Limit: 3 MB*

## Consortium members

How were the consortium members identified?

*Character Limit: 3000*

## Roles and responsibilities

Describe the roles and responsibilities of each partner and how the consortium members will address artistic and financial decisions.

*Character Limit: 3000*

## Previous collaboration

Has the lead organization worked with these consortium members before? If so, on what project(s)?

*Character Limit: 500*

## Creative Team Bios

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### Composer biography\*

*Character Limit: 1000*

### Librettist biography

*Character Limit: 1000*

### Artist statement\*

Submit an artist statement from the composer explaining the relationship between her form/style and the content. Why did she choose to tell this story as an opera?

*Character Limit: 750*

### Building the creative team\*

Describe how the creative team was identified. How does this work build on or depart from their previous creative efforts?

Note: If the composer and/or librettist have not previously written an opera, please explain the company's decision to commission this work from these artists.

*Character Limit: 1000*

### Previous collaborations

Have these artists collaborated with your organization before? If so, on what project(s) and when?

*Character Limit: 750*

**Additional creative team:**

Include biographies of any other creative artists involved in this project, e.g. director, choreographer, designers or dramaturg.

**Bio 1**

*Character Limit: 750*

**Bio 2**

*Character Limit: 750*

**Bio 3**

*Character Limit: 750*

**Bio 4**

*Character Limit: 750*

**Bio 5**

*Character Limit: 750*

## *Work Samples*

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Please provide three high-quality audio/visual examples of the composer's work.

All a/v samples must be hosted externally (preferably on Vimeo, YouTube or SoundCloud). Please remember to include passwords for any locked samples.

A corresponding, notated score excerpt must accompany each a/v submission. Applications without work samples will not be advanced for consideration.

- At least one of the samples must be from a theatrical work for voice(s) and instrumental ensemble. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit excerpts of the work for which funds are being requested, if possible.
- It is strongly suggested that a/v and score samples are cut to correspond with each other.
- It is recommended that you caption videos or display the corresponding text beneath the sample so listeners can easily follow along.

**Important note: the total time of music samples should not exceed 30 minutes.**

**Sample 1**



**Work sample 1 - title\***

*Character Limit: 100*

**Work sample 1 - composer\***

*Character Limit: 100*

**Work sample 1 - librettist**

*Character Limit: 100*

**Work sample 1 - description\***

*Character Limit: 500*

**Work sample 1 - excerpt length\***

*Character Limit: 20*

**Work sample 1 - score (upload)\***

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

**Work sample 1 - media link\***

*Character Limit: 2000*

**Work sample 1 - media password**

If required, please note the media link password here.

*Character Limit: 50*

**Sample 2**

**Work sample 2 - title\***

*Character Limit: 250*

**Work sample 2 - composer\***

*Character Limit: 100*

**Work sample 2 - librettist**

*Character Limit: 100*

**Work sample 2 - description\***

*Character Limit: 500*

**Work sample 2 - excerpt length\***

*Character Limit: 20*

**Work sample 2 - score (upload)\***

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

### **Work sample 2 - media link\***

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Work sample 2 - media password**

If required, please note the media link password here.

*Character Limit: 50*

## **Sample 3**

### **Work sample 3 - title\***

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Work sample 3 - composer\***

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Work sample 3 - librettist**

*Character Limit: 100*

### **Work sample 3 - description\***

*Character Limit: 500*

### **Work sample 3 - excerpt length\***

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Work sample 3 - score (upload)\***

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

### **Work sample 3 - media link\***

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Work sample 3 - media password**

If required, please note the media link password here.

*Character Limit: 50*

### **Full score**

If the full score is available (PV or orchestral), please upload here.

*File Size Limit: 3 MB*

### **Complete libretto**

If the complete libretto is available (draft or final), please upload here.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

## Supplementary materials

If there are additional materials (e.g., press releases, program copy, design proposals, etc.) that further illustrate the concept, history or development of the opera, please upload them here as a single PDF.

*File Size Limit: 4 MB*

## Verification

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### Press release project summary\*

Please provide a project summary for OPERA America's public announcement of the grant recipients. Your response will not be visible to the adjudication panel and will not be publicized unless your application is awarded. You will have the opportunity to review the description prior to publication.

*Character Limit: 500*

### Logo\*

Please provide a link to access and download your company's logo. EPS or high-resolution JPEG preferred.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### Verification\*

I attest that to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is accurate and complete.

### Choices

Yes

No