



# New Works Showcase at the 2025 New Works Forum

*Supported in part by public funds from the  
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs  
in partnership with the City Council*

## 2025 Guidelines and Application Procedures

### Important Dates and Deadlines

- Application deadline: November 1, 2024, 11:59 p.m. ET
- Applications adjudicated: November 2024
- Grantees notified: December 2024
- New Works Showcase: January 16, 2025

### Important Links

[OPERA America Website](#)

[OPERA America Grants Portal](#)

The OPERA America website and Grants Portal require different usernames and passwords.

If you need to reset your password for OPERA America's website, go [here](#).  
For Grants Portal information, contact [Diana Hossack](#), director of grantmaking.

**OPERA America**  
National Opera Center  
330 Seventh Avenue  
New York, NY 10001  
[operaamerica.org](http://operaamerica.org)

OPERA America invites applications to be selected as a featured performance at the New Works Showcase at the 2025 New Works Forum.

## New Works Showcase

The New Works Showcase is intended to expand and diversify the range of new works presented at the New Works Forum beyond those presented by New York-based companies as part of their public seasons.

Pieces selected to be presented as part of the showcase will represent works in development by OPERA America Professional Company Members or individual artist grant recipients, who are in good standing. The showcase will feature three 10- to 15-minute excerpts from selected works in Marc A. Scorca Hall at the National Opera Center.

## New Works Forum

The New Works Showcase will be part of OPERA America's New Works Forum, which is the pre-eminent national convening dedicated to improving the quality and quantity of new American operas produced and performed across the country. The winter forum will take place from January 14–16, 2025. The showcase will be presented at the National Opera Center at 7:00 p.m. on January 16, 2025.

The forum nurtures more informed producers and creators and establishes stronger relationships among them. Each forum includes a variety of essential elements:

- Facilitated discussion about the creation and presentation of new operas;
- Presentation of case studies that highlight successful artistic and managerial strategies;
- Diverse presentations of workshops, readings, and performances of new works and works in process; and
- Network-building among producers and creative artists.

## Award

Selected applicants will receive:

- \$1,000 to help offset expenses for the presentation;
- 2 complimentary hours in a National Opera Center studio for rehearsal time;
- Complimentary registrations for the New Works Forum;
- Announcement in *Opera America Magazine*.

## Funding Parameters

Successful applicants will be responsible for the selection of singers, instrumentalists (ensembles), casting, rehearsals, and all related costs. Support from OPERA America will help offset these expenses for the presentation, although any costs in excess of the OPERA America award are the responsibility of the producing organization.

## Eligibility

The lead applicant may be either a Professional Company Member (PCM) of OPERA America or an OPERA America grant recipient.

- Professional Company Member Eligibility Requirements:
  - PCM applicants must be based in the United States. Canadian PCMs, as well as International and Associate Members of OPERA America, may participate as consortium members but are not eligible to submit applications directly. The majority of partner organizations must be based in the United States.
  - At least 50 percent of the composer librettist team must have United States citizenship, permanent residence, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status.
  - PCMs must have been members for at least one year before the start of the performance and must be members in good standing — current in membership dues, the submission of required surveys (including the Professional Opera Survey), and the submission of reports from open grants.
  - Submitted works must be in development or have received their world premiere no earlier than January 1, 2020.
- OPERA America Grant Recipient Eligibility Requirements:
  - Awardees must have received an IDEA Opera Grant, IDEA Opera Residency, or an Opera Grant for Women Composers: Discovery Grant.
  - The proposed work must be the project that was awarded the OPERA America grant. No new projects will be considered.
  - Awardees must be up-to-date with grant reports.
- Applicants must have OPERA America’s logo, including a hyperlink to the OPERA America website, in a prominent location on their website.
- If awarded, the lead applicant will serve as the producer of the presentation and as the fiscal agent for the project, disbursing all funds received and providing all required financial and narrative documentation to OPERA America.
- Works previously featured in any OPERA America showcase or sampler are ineligible for consideration.

## How to Apply

- Read the guidelines carefully before completing any application materials.
- All materials must be submitted online via the [Grants Dashboard](#).

- Submit a complete final application, including all supplemental materials, by November 1, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- Applications that are incomplete, late, or sent via mail, fax, or email will not be accepted.

## **Application Review**

All final applications for the New Works Showcase will be reviewed and approved by program staff in consultation with members of OPERA America's Artistic Services Committee and based on the availability of funds.

Using the following criteria, panelists evaluate the applications through a cultural humility lens, which is a practice of honoring the cultural values and perspectives of the applicants while self-reflecting on how one's own background and the background of others impact the review of applications.

The panel will select a balance of work styles, subject matter, and scope.

All panel decisions are final.

## **Award Announcement**

- All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their requests after the panel completes its review.
- All award agreements will contain a start date and an end date for the grant period.
- Funds may be withheld by OPERA America if a company is not current in its membership dues, the submission of required surveys, or the submission of reports from prior grants.
- The full award will be disbursed following receipt of a signed agreement.
- New Works Showcase works are restricted to the project described in the application. Funds advanced to the grantee by OPERA America must be repaid in the event the approved project is not carried out.
- The receipt of a grant at any stage of a project or activity does not guarantee continued support from OPERA America.

## **Reporting Requirements**

Successful applicants will receive an award agreement explaining the grant's terms and conditions, including required narrative and financial documentation.

New Works Showcase recipients may be asked to submit additional documentation or cooperate with OPERA America in sharing the results of their projects with the field both during and after the grant period.

Awardees are required to acknowledge OPERA America and other funders in the manner described by OPERA America in the award agreement. Recognition of the awarded project is required in all print and digital materials distributed to the press and general public.

Recipients of a New Works Showcase award must maintain OPERA America's logo, including a hyperlink to OPERA America's website, in a prominent location on their website.

## **Contact Information**

For more information, contact Diana Hossack, director of grantmaking, at [DHossack@operaamerica.org](mailto:DHossack@operaamerica.org) or 646.699.5236.

## **Funder**

The New Works Showcase is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

Programming at the National Opera Center is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.