

Opera Australia Young Artist Program - Singer

The successful candidates will be gifted musicians with previous voice training.

Trained at a major performing arts institution or with practical experience, they will possess exceptional vocal talent but also demonstrate the dedication, versatility, and potential to grow into a well-rounded and accomplished opera performer.

The criteria for Singers includes but is not limited to:

- Vocal technique and quality: resonance, breath management, vowel work, articulation, range and dynamics.
- Musicianship and interpretation: Strong musicality and shaping. Understanding of music theory, harmony and performance practice desired but not required. In their audition, they will demonstrate the ability to convey the emotional depth and dramatic intent of the operatic repertoire and understanding of how the music informs the text, how the words interact with melody, with harmony and with orchestration.
- Stage presence and acting ability: A commanding presence, using body language, expression and gesture to fully embody the character and enhance performance. A genuine passion for storytelling through opera and a willingness to explore, demonstrating dramatic versatility and adaptability.

SINGERS, PLEASE SUBMIT:

- Completed **Application Form**
- Headshot or current colour photo
- CV: You should upload a CV of relevant information including records of early-career success and/or recognition. If you do not hold an undergraduate degree, your CV must show evidence of at least two years of relevant experience.
- **Personal Statement** of 500 words. See link for more information.
- Recording of 3 pieces. Click here – **Recorded Audition Instructions** – for details.
- Declaration Statement. All recording and treatment submissions should be recorded/created within 3 months of submission. Click here – **Application Checklist** – for details.

SINGERS Round #1 Audition Material: Perform 3 pieces:

- 2 x operatic Arias: Must be in the original languages and keys
 - First selection in English
 - Second selection in language – Italian, German, French (desired but not essential)
- 1 x own choice of song (not Aria)

Program should not exceed 15 minutes.

Applications close on: **Monday 21 October 2024, 9am**

You will be advised via email if you have been successful in Round #1.

Opera Australia Young Artist Program Application - APPLY NOW



Agnes Sarkis as Nicklausse in Opera Australia's 2023 production of *The Tales of Hoffmann* at the Sydney Opera House Photo Credit: Keith Saunders

Continue reading for further information such as recorded audition instructions, application checklist, and personal statement guide.

PATRON-IN-CHIEF
DR HARUHISA HANDA

HERO PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



Recorded Audition Instructions

To be accepted, recorded auditions must observe the following criteria:

Opera Australia will accept video or audio recordings taken within 3 months of submission.

Video recordings will ONLY be accepted via a Vimeo or YouTube link.

Please ensure all documents are either PDF, PNG or JPEG file types. The max file upload size is 1Mb.

1. PREPARE:

- Check your repertoire list and make note of time limits.

2. PRACTICE:

- Set up your camera or phone. Make sure to film horizontally (landscape).
- Record from a single fixed position as if the panel were seated in front of you.
- Check that the recording is set to HD.
- Check that the available light is on your face and not behind you. Light behind you will cast your face in shadow. Face a window or shoot in a place with bright natural light.
- Consider your background and avoid clutter or visual noise. A blank wall is ideal.
- Consider the acoustics of your room and ensure you can capture a clear sound.
- Take some footage or audio and watch or listen back to ensure the audio is clear with minimal background noise and that you are in frame.
- Clearly say the name of the piece you are performing to the camera before you begin.

3. RECORD:

- Make sure you are in a light, quiet, resonant space with minimal distractions.
- Record your pieces in one continuous take.
- OA will accept a recording of a performance/recital/concert if it is within 3 months of the submission and the sound quality is exceptional.

4. EDIT

- Listen to/watch your recording fully before submitting.
- Insert bookmarks before each piece in the recording. Many tutorials are available online on how to add bookmarks to your video/recording.
- Share your audio/video with another party to ensure it can be opened and viewed before submitting.

5. UPLOAD

- Upload your recording.
- Submitting a YouTube link:
 - Go to Broadcasting and Sharing Options.
 - Select 'unlisted'. NB if you select 'private', OA cannot view or hear your recording.
 - Ensure the video remains available for a minimum of 6 months.

6. DECLARE

- Candidates are to provide a written statement as follows: "I declare that the material recorded on this recording is my own work. The recording took place on (Date) at (Venue) in (City) in one continuous un-edited take."

PLEASE NOTE: *These submissions are for private consideration and will not be shared or viewed beyond the Opera Australia Young Artist selection panel.*

Application Checklist

- Read through the **General Information for Applicants** and **FAQs** before you make your application **OA YAP Application**.
- Check you have compiled all parts of your application including:
 - Application form completed
 - CV (2-pages)
 - Personal Statement – 500 words
 - High quality current photo or headshot
 - Treatment **OR** Recordings Web-link (unlisted YouTube video/Vimeo)
 - Declaration
- Declaration: Candidates are to provide a written statement as follows: "I declare that the material on this recording is my own work. The recording took place on (Date) at (Venue) in (City) in one continuous un-edited take. Please include your signature.
- Please take care to label your documents with your name before you upload them.
Fullname_Documentname_2024
- Ensure all file formats are either PDF, PNG or JPEG file types. The max file upload size is 1Mb.
- Do you live in Australia? Residency status (Yes/No). If you are successful, you will be required to provide proof of identity and Australian residential address.
- Review recordings to ensure they're clear and uninterrupted and write your declaration.
- Submit before the due date **9am Monday 21 October 2024** and confirm receipt of application.

Personal Statement

This is a statement that enables us to get to know you better. No more than 500 words, this piece of writing should tell us about you, your experience and goals, your passion for opera and anything else you would like us to know. There is no need to be overly formal, use an authentic tone that represents you. Please find a few prompt questions below if you need help to get started. These questions are not prescriptive but suggestions only.

- Share something about who you are and what you're passionate about outside of opera.
- What are your aspirations for your career?
- Tell us about your broader musical and artistic experience and interests.
- What have you identified are your greatest strengths as a musician/performer/learner?
- What would you like to spend time developing during your time with Opera Australia?
- Why opera?
- What's an activity that has shaped your personality and character?
- Tell us about your influences.
- Give us an example of a challenge you have overcome in your training and what you learned along the way.