Cooper-Bing Competition

Broadcast live from the Southern Theatre
Columbus, Ohio

April 30, 2023

JUDGES PANEL

Justin Werner
Founder and President, Stratagem Artists

Daniel Walshaw
Chief Operating Officer, Columbus Symphony

Judge #3

To be announced at a later date

<h1 style="text-align:center; color:#e91e8c;">2023 Cooper-Bing Competition</h1>

The purpose of The Cooper-Bing Competition is to discover, recognize, and encourage young operatic talent.

Eligibility
The competition is open to professional and pre-professional singers who have completed, or are engaged in completing, a musical education suitable for the operatic stage.

1) All applicants must be between 21-35 years of age on April 30, 2023, and available to travel to Columbus, Ohio for the Cooper-Bing Competition Finals (April 30, 2023).

2) Past applicants may submit new applications provided they meet the age requirement. Past finalists are not eligible to apply.

3) Current full-time employees of the Opera Columbus staff are ineligible to audition.

Application Fee
An application fee of $25 must be submitted online through YAP Tracker as part of your application. Application fees are non-refundable.

Application
Each applicant must submit an application form online via YAP Tracker.

Supplemental Materials
Each applicant must submit the following supplemental materials via YAP Tracker:

- a photocopy of their government-issued ID (must show date of birth) or birth certificate
- a current performing resume
- a photograph (jpeg)
- proof of COVID-19 vaccination
- three video files of three different arias (see "Artistic Requirements" below).

Detailed information regarding supplemental materials is included on page three. *All application materials, recordings, and fees become the property of Opera Columbus, and will not be returned to applicants.*

Artistic Requirements
Applicants must submit a high-quality video recording of three contrasting arias from opera and/or operetta. All selections must have accompaniment (piano or orchestra); one recording must be in English language. Recordings must be recent (less than one year old) and may include any combination of filmed performances, home recordings, or studio recordings. Video and audio must be clear and unedited.

Applicants may include no more than one aria translated from the original language, and only if it is a piece that is commonly sung in translation.

For guidance on creating high-quality home or rehearsal studio recordings, please review [Opera America's Recording Gear Recommendations.](#)

Finals
Five finalists we be selected to attend the Cooper-Bing Competition Finals on April 30, 2023. If selected for the Finals, artists will need to prepare three arias. Each finalist will select their first aria, and the judges will select the second aria prior to the competition date. All finalists will be notified of the judges' aria selection in advance of the performance.

A panel of opera and voice professionals will judge these recordings and select the five singers who will compete in the live competition.

Awards

First Place...$10,000

Second Place..$5,000

Third Place...$2,500

Fourth Place $1,500

Fifth Place...$1,000

Merle McInturff Audience Choice Award $300

2023 Cooper-Bing Competition

JANUARY 1, 2023 BY 11:59PM EST is the deadline for online application, payment and the supplemental materials.

INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please retain a copy of your application form for your records.

All applicants will be notified of their status by March 31, 2023.

The Cooper-Bing Competition Finals will be held on **APRIL 30, 2023,** at the Southern Theatre in Columbus, OH. A panel of nationally recognized opera professionals will judge those invited to compete in the final round. Finalists will be responsible for their transportation to and from Columbus, Ohio for the competition.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

All supplemental materials are to include the following and should be uploaded via YAP Tracker:

- **Copy of government-issued ID or birth certificate**
  Include a photocopy of either a government-issued ID, such as a driver's license or state ID card (must include date of birth), or your birth certificate. (Required for age verification.)

- **Photograph**
  Include a professional head shot (jpeg format).

- **Performing resume**
  A performing resume should include complete roles you have prepared, with whom it was performed, awards and grants, musical training and degrees, current and former voice teachers, and any other relevant professional experience. **Maximum two pages.**

- **Video Recordings**
  Your recording should include three contrasting arias from opera and/or operetta. Applicants may include no more than one aria translated from the original language, and only if it is a piece that is commonly sung in translation. One recording must be in English language. **All selections must include accompaniment**.

  - All recordings are reviewed anonymously. Recording files **MUST NOT** include the applicant's name. Please use the file naming convention: "Aria Title – 2023".

  - Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.

  - Please do not include additional selections. Applications with more than the three (3) requested arias will not be considered.

Your payment and online application must be completed, and supplemental materials must be uploaded no later than January 1, 2023 by 11:59pm EST.

If you are unable to submit due to cost, Opera Columbus does have a limited amount of sponsorship opportunities available to cover the $25 application fee. Contact rwill@operacolumbus.org for more information.

Application Checklist:

☐ Completed application form (submitted online via YAP Tracker by 11:59PM EST on January 1, 2023):

☐ $25 application fee (submitted online via YAP Tracker by 11:59PM EST on January 1, 2023):

☐ Supplemental materials: (submitted online via YAP Tracker by 11:59PM EST on January 1, 2023):

    ☐ Copy of ID or birth certificate
    ☐ Performing resume
    ☐ Photograph (jpeg format, does not need to be professional)
    ☐ Video Recordings of three arias
    ☐ Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination Card