

## Young Artist Program - Director

### About the program

We are thrilled to introduce our new Young Artist Program (OAYAP) – an initiative that represents our commitment to the future of opera in Australia.

Generously supported by Principal Patron, Maureen Wheeler AO, Opera Australia's new Young Artist Program redefines the way we discover and nurture emerging talent.

The OAYAP is not just a training program; it's an investment in the next generation of operatic talent. We're offering paid, 18-month, full-time experience that provides emerging artists with the skills, opportunities, and support needed to launch successful international careers.

What makes the program so exciting is the combination of rigorous training, real-world experience, and the chance to work alongside some of the best in the business. Our young artists will receive vocal and dramatic coaching, language classes, and career guidance. They'll have opportunities to assist, cover roles, and even receive commissions, all while earning a full-time salary that allows them to fully dedicate themselves to their craft.

We're looking for diverse voices and perspectives from across Australia – singers, directors, and répétiteurs who will shape the future of opera. The ideal candidates will not only possess exceptional talent but also demonstrate creativity, adaptability, and a passion for pushing the boundaries of our art form.

At Opera Australia, we believe that opera remains deeply relevant and exciting for today's audiences. Through the OAYAP, we're nurturing artists who can balance tradition with innovation, address contemporary issues, and connect with diverse communities.

Our program prepares young artists for the international stage by offering overseas experiences and collaborations with global partners. We're committed to developing well-rounded performers who can navigate the challenges of a rapidly changing artistic landscape.

The Opera Australia Young Artist Program will be delivered in three stages over 18-months including onsite training at The Opera Centre in Sydney, an international residency and finally, advanced preparation, experience and professional integration into OA including roles and covers in OA events and productions at the Sydney Opera House.

To aspiring opera singers, directors, and répétiteurs: if you dream of a career in opera and are ready to dedicate yourself to this exhilarating art form, we want to hear from you. The OAYAP could be your pathway to a brilliant future in the world of opera.

See [Opera Australia Young Artist Program](#) for more information

## About you

The successful candidate is an emerging director with demonstrated maturity, resilience, self-motivation and of course, directing experience. They will have trained at a performing arts institution or have similar practical experience.

Applicants may have previous experience directing opera, music theatre or theatre at the university, community, independent and/or professional level and have demonstrated interest in both traditional and contemporary opera.

Applicants read music proficiently and have knowledge of a language (Italian, French, German or other) or have an aptitude to learn.

Applicants are selected based on prior training, experience, and/or interest in opera.

The criteria for Directors includes but is not limited to:

- Demonstrated ability to adapt: to elicit the dramatic intent of operatic repertoire and a willingness to explore.
- Musicianship and Interpretation: Strong musicality, understanding of performance practice.
- A genuine curiosity and passion for the opera art form that drives the pursuit of excellence.

## Applications

- 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 2+ years of relevant experience.
- Personal Statement – 500 words. Declaration Statement. All recording and treatment submissions should be recorded/created within 3-months of submission.
- Opera Treatment. See below.

### [Director – Audition Criteria](#)

## Director Round #1 Audition Material

Submit Treatment:

Please submit your directorial concept for one of the following operas (no more than 2 A4 pages). Highlight your thoughts on the set, costume and how this would illuminate the world of the piece and how the music informs the text and the drama.

- *The Magic Flute*
- *Carmen*
- *Eugene Onegin*

- *The Marriage of Figaro*
- *La Bohème*

Applications close on: **Monday October 21 @ 9.00am. 2024**

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

For any enquiries about this role please contact [youngartistprogram@opera.org.au](mailto:youngartistprogram@opera.org.au)

### **About Opera Australia**

Opera Australia is one of the world's most celebrated opera companies with an ambition to bring an Australian stamp to telling great stories through music and song, and a commitment to develop and nurture new generations of Australian talent on and off the stage.

Opera Australia is the largest and busiest performing arts organisation in Australia, with over 800 opera performances a year, including opera seasons in Sydney and Melbourne, Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour, musical theatre, opera concerts and a range of other activities. Through its touring arm, the Company reaches out to communities in regional Australia, and also delivers an extensive program to school students. Opera performances are broadcast and distributed nationally and internationally.

The Company manages the Opera Australia Orchestra and also works in partnership with Orchestra Victoria. The Company works with leading directors and designers, and employs a large number of highly skilled people in the areas of scenic construction and painting, wardrobe and wig-making, stage production, and management and administration. Overall, the Company plays a vital role in developing and sustaining a specialist skills base in this unique area of the performing arts.

For more about OA please refer to our website: [opera.org.au/](http://opera.org.au/)

*Opera Australia is committed to enabling and preserving a culture of inclusion and connectedness. Our team come from all walks of life. We acknowledge that all individual differences, life experiences, self-expression, and talent represent our culture and reputation of Opera Australia. In recruiting for our team, we welcome the unique contributions that you can bring in terms of education, opinion, culture, ethnicity, race, sex, gender identity and expression.*