IDEA Opera Grants - 2021-2022

OPERÁ America

IDEA Opera Grants
Supported by the Charles and Cerise Jacobs Charitable Foundation

August 11, 2021: Intent to apply deadline
September 22, 2021: Application deadline
October 2021: Adjudication
November 2021: Notification

For more information, please refer to the grant guidelines here.

Contact Diana Hossack, grantmaking associate, at DHossack@operaamerica.org for questions.

Applicant Information

Lead Applicant First Name*
Character Limit: 150

Lead Applicant Last Name*
Character Limit: 250

Lead applicant team role*
Choices
Composer
Librettist

Lead applicant bio*
The biography should be narrative and limited to 1,000 characters. The resume should be uploaded as a PDF.
Character Limit: 1000 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Teammate First Name, if applicable
Character Limit: 150

Teammate Last Name, if applicable
Character Limit: 250
Teammate role

Choices
Composer
Librettist

Teammate bio
The biography should be narrative and limited to 1,000 characters. The resume should be uploaded as a PDF.

*Character Limit: 1000 / File Size Limit: 1 MB

Teammate Email
*Character Limit: 254

Personal Statement

Personal statement*
What inspires you creatively? Why have you chosen this subject matter? Why did you choose to tell this story as an opera?

*Character Limit: 1500

Work Samples

Work samples are one of the most important parts of this application. Your work samples represent the artistic merit of your work and the work of your collaborators.

If available, you are encouraged to submit excerpts from the work for which you are requesting support. If you do not have samples from that work, please provide samples that demonstrate your ability to write in the genre/style of the proposed work.

Composer

Please provide two work samples for the composer that reflect the best work of the artists involved (audio, video, and/or score or chart samples). Media samples can be Vimeo, YouTube, or SoundCloud links.

Although no previous experience with opera is required, we are interested in hearing any vocal music you might have written and if possible, would like to get some sense of your notational skills (e.g., scores, chord charts, or other graphic representation of your music).

The total timing of the musical selections should not exceed 20 minutes. Trim samples to the specific excerpt that you would like to be reviewed. If you are not trimming the samples as suggested above, clearly mark the timings in the notes (e.g., Play from 3’22”–7’49”).
MIDI recordings are permitted but not recommended. For any questions about work samples, please contact Diana Hossack, grantmaking associate, at DHossack@operaamerica.org.

SAMPLE 1

Sample 1 title*
Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 A/V link*
Character Limit: 2000

Sample 1 A/V password (if necessary)
Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 composer*
Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 librettist (if applicable)
Character Limit: 100

Sample 1 description/annotation*
Please include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample and credit performing artists (e.g., soprano Sally Singer, bass Bobby Baritone).
If not excerpting, please include timings for guided listening.
Character Limit: 1000

Sample 1 score or chart (optional)
Upload the score/chart below and provide any relevant notes about the score here.
Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 4 MB

SAMPLE 2

Sample 2 title*
Character Limit: 100

Sample 2 A/V link*
Character Limit: 2000

Sample 2 A/V password (if necessary)
Character Limit: 100
Sample 2 composer*

Character Limit: 100

Sample 2 librettist (if applicable)

Character Limit: 100

Sample 2 description/annotation*

Please include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample and credit performing artists (e.g., soprano Sally Singer, bass Bobby Baritone).

If not excerpting, please include timings for guided listening.

Character Limit: 1000

Sample 2 score or chart (optional)

Upload the score/chart below and provide any relevant notes about the score here.

Character Limit: 1000 / File Size Limit: 4 MB

Librettist

Please attach two writing samples (in PDF format only), limited to 20 pages in total (e.g., you may include one 8-page sample and one 12-page sample). Although no previous experience with opera is required, we are especially interested in seeing any lyrics, poetry, or theater work you may have written.

SAMPLE 3

Sample 3 title*

Character Limit: 100

Sample 3 A/V link

Character Limit: 2000

Sample 3 A/V password (if necessary)

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 composer

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 librettist (if applicable)

Character Limit: 250

Sample 3 description/annotation

Please include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample and credit performing artists (e.g., soprano Sally Singer, bass Bobby Baritone).
If not excerpting, please provide timings for guided listening.

*Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 3 MB

**SAMPLE 4**

**Sample 4 title**
*Character Limit: 250*

**Sample 4 AV Link**
*Character Limit: 2000*

**Sample 4 A/V passwork (if necessary)**
*Character Limit: 250*

**Sample 4 composer**
*Character Limit: 250*

**Sample 4 librettist (if applicable)**
*Character Limit: 250*

**Sample 4 upload**
Please include roles, voicing, and information about this work sample and credit performing artists (e.g., soprano Sally Singer, bass Bobby Baritone).

If not excerpting, please include timings for guided listening.

*Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 4 MB

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**Overview**

**Work title***
Title or working title of the opera in development

*Character Limit: 250*

*Please update these fields if anything has changed since you submitted the intent to apply.*

**Work summary***
Submit a plot summary of the work associated with the application.

*Character Limit: 1000*

**Project activity type***
**Choices**
Working performance, with or without an audience
Reading
Workshop
Other

If "Other," describe here.
*Character Limit: 500

Project description*
*Describe the specific activities for which funding will be used.*
*Character Limit: 1000

Proposed project start date*
*Funding may not be applied to expenses incurred before December 1, 2021.*
*Character Limit: 10

Proposed project end date*
*Grant-funded activities must be completed by December 1, 2022.*
*Character Limit: 10

Creative Team
*Please name any other creative or performing artists associated with this project, if known at this time (e.g., stage director, music director, lighting designer, dramaturg).*

You are not required to have a full creative team in place at this time.

Creator name
*Character Limit: 250

Creator role
*(e.g., stage director, music director, lighting designer, dramaturg)*
*Character Limit: 250

Creator bio
*You may choose to upload your teammate’s resume in PDF format, provide a brief bio (1,000 characters or less), and/or share a link to their website here.*
*Character Limit: 1000 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Creator 2 name
*Character Limit: 250

Creator 2 role
*(e.g., stage director, music director, lighting designer, dramaturg)*
Character Limit: 250

Creator 2 bio
You may choose to upload your teammate’s resume in PDF format, provide a brief bio (1,000 characters or less), and/or share a link to their website here.
Character Limit: 1000 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Creator 3 name
Character Limit: 250

Creator 3 role
(e.g., stage director, music director, lighting designer, dramaturg)
Character Limit: 250

Creator 3 bio
You may choose to upload your teammate’s resume in PDF format, provide a brief bio (1,000 characters or less), and/or share a link to their website here.
Character Limit: 1000 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Creator 4 name
Character Limit: 250

Creator 4 role
(e.g., stage director, music director, lighting designer, dramaturg)
Character Limit: 250

Creator 4 bio
You may choose to upload your teammate’s resume in PDF format, provide a brief bio (1,000 characters or less), and/or share a link to their website here.
Character Limit: 1000 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Work Information

Roles*
For example, in an opera adaptation of The Avengers, a cast list might look like this: Captain Marvel, Soprano; Black Widow, Mezzo-Soprano; Spiderman, Tenor; Black Panther, Baritone; The Hulk, Bass. For a list of common voice types in opera, please click here. You are welcome to include non-traditional/alternate voice types, and may explain those choices below.
Character Limit: 1000
Chorus*
*If applicable, indicate the number of singers in the chorus by voice type (e.g., Soprano: 4, Alto: 2, Tenor: 6, Bass: 1).*

*Character Limit: 500*

Instrumentation*
*Please list the instruments you will utilize in your work (e.g., “I will write for 1 piano, 1 violin, 1 viola, 1 cello, and 1 Iranian santur”).*

*Character Limit: 2000*

Provide a scenic breakdown of the opera*
*You may use either a character/scene breakdown, storyboard, or dramaturgical outline that narrates the theatrical arc of the work. Please refer to this link for examples.*

*Character Limit: 5000*

Libretto (optional)
*Please upload as much of the libretto as is available. A partial or libretto outline is acceptable.*

*Character Limit: 250 | File Size Limit: 2 MB*

Intellectual property*
*“Existing work” includes items such as a novel, short story, film, or life story. Please select the appropriate choice from the drop down menu below.*

*Choices*
This is my own original work.
This is based on existing work protected by copyright. I have secured rights to this material.
This is based on existing work protected by copyright for which I have not yet secured rights.
This is based on existing work that is in the public domain.

Rights documentation
*If the work is based on an existing work protected by copyright, please attach rights documentation or outline the timeline and process for securing the rights. Rights must be secured by the adjudication of applications. If rights documentation is not available now, please email it to Diana Hossack, grantmaking associate, by October 1, 2021. Otherwise, your application will be deemed incomplete and unable to proceed to the adjudication phase.*

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

Project Information

Timeline*
*Provide a timeline for the development of the work, including the activities for which you are requesting funding. An example of a timeline is included below for your reference.*
January 2021: Creative team meeting with composer, librettist, and dramaturg
March 2021: Libretto reading
April – October 2021: Revisions to the libretto, completion of excerpts or full piano/vocal score for workshop
Late October 2021: Piano/vocal workshop (5 days), recorded by OPERA America videographers (day 6)
Post-workshop: Creative design meeting with the stage director, librettist, composer, and media designer

This is an example. Your timeline may include other activities.

Character Limit: 2000

Budget*
IDEA Opera Grants fund up to $12,500 of your project. Please use the budget worksheet here to provide your budget. Upload it as an Excel document.

This budget worksheet covers many possible expenses and you do not need to complete every line. There are five "Other" lines in each budgetary section to add other expenses.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Total requested funding*
Please indicate your total request below. You may request up to $12,500.

Character Limit: 20

Other

Is this your first time applying to an OPERA America grant program?*

Choices
Yes
No

From which organization did you hear about this grant opportunity?*

Choices
OPERA America
New Music USA
Philanthropy News Digest
Other

If Other, please specify.

Character Limit: 250
Through which channel?*  
Please select all that apply.

Choices  
Colleague  
E-mail  
Facebook  
Newsletter  
OperaLink  
Professor  
Twitter  
Website  
Other

If Other, please specify.  
Character Limit: 250

Confirmation  
Lead applicant signature*  
By typing your name below, you acknowledge that the information contained in this application and its attachments is accurate and complete.  
Character Limit: 100