Opera Grants for Women Composers: Discovery Awards 2022

*OPERA America*

**Letter of Intent**

Opera Grants for Women Composers: Discovery Awards

*Generously funded by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation*

**Discovery Grants**

OPERA America invites proposals for grants of up to $15,000 from composers who identify as women to and can document their ability to compose theatrical works for the trained voice and instrumental ensemble. Each Discovery Grant will provide financial assistance to advance and promote an opera project in development.

Grant recipients will be introduced to leaders in the field through *OPERA America Magazine* and at future New Works Forum meetings and annual conferences. Supported works will be considered for presentation at future forum events.

**Important Dates**

*Application available online:* December 2021  
*Intent to apply deadline:* December 22, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. ET (required for access to full application)  
*Application deadline:* January 18, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. ET  
*Application adjudication:* February 2022  
*Grantee notification:* March 2022  
*Grant Activity Period:* April 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

**How to Apply**

Read the grant guidelines carefully before completing any application materials. Guidelines are available here (link).

- Applicants will be advised of the suitability of the project for support and counseled on the eligibility of proposed expenses once their intent to apply is submitted. Only applicants who submit an intent to apply will be advanced to the full application. Early submission facilitates the review and counseling process. Intents must be filed by 11:59 p.m. ET on December 15, 2021.
- Submit a complete, final application, including all supplementary materials, by 11:59 p.m. ET on January 18, 2022. Applications that are submitted without work samples as
specified in the application will not be considered. Applications that are incomplete, late or sent via fax, mail, or e-mail will not be accepted.

**Applicant Information**

**Composer First Name**
*Character Limit: 100*

**Composer Last Name**
*Character Limit: 100*

**Composer website**
*Character Limit: 2000*

**Are you a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or DACA recipient?**
Only U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or DACA recipients may apply for this grant. Inaccurate reporting of this information will disqualify your application from consideration. Verification of status may be requested prior to acceptance of any award.

**Choices**
- U.S. citizen
- Permanent resident
- DACA recipient
- Other

**Librettist First Name**
*Character Limit: 100*

**Librettist Last Name**
*Character Limit: 100*

**Librettist website**
*Character Limit: 2000*

**Work Information**

**Work title**
Provide the title or working title of the opera in development.

*Character Limit: 150*
Synopsis*
Submit a concise synopsis of the work associated with this application. (You will be given an opportunity to describe the work in greater detail in the full application.)

*Character Limit: 750

Intellectual property*

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

"Existing work" includes items such as a novel, short story, film, or life story.

Rights documentation
If the opera 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 full application deadline (January 18, 2022). Otherwise, your application will be deemed incomplete and unable to proceed to the adjudication phase.

*Character Limit: 750 / File Size Limit: 3 MB

Project Information

Project type*
This is the project for which you are requesting funding. For more guidance on eligible activities, please refer to the grant guidelines available here (link).

Choices
Lab production
Workshop
Reading
Working performance
Other

Other project type
If you selected "Other," please describe your project here.

*Character Limit: 250

Project description*
Describe the specific activities for which funding will be used. You will have the opportunity to describe the activities in greater detail in the full application.

*Character Limit: 1000

GRANT ACTIVITY PERIOD
While the development of the project may have commenced, the scope of the funded activities proposed cannot cover expenses incurred outside of the award period, and the budget should be restricted to anticipated expenses between April 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023.

**Proposed project start date**
*Funding may not be applied to expenses incurred before April 1, 2022.*
*Character Limit: 10*

**Proposed project end date**
*Grant-funded project activities must be completed by June 30, 2023.*
*Character Limit: 10*

**Total anticipated budget**
*Character Limit: 20*

**Total requested funding**
The Discovery Grant may fund up to $15,000.00 of the total budget.
*Character Limit: 20*

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**Identity**

**IDENTITY (Optional)**

OPERAr America believes that different perspectives, cultural histories, life experiences, and personal stories are essential to the contemporary American opera repertoire.

Data is essential to understand where our field stands in relation to our communities and to understand what is needed to advance a more inclusive field that encompasses people of diverse ages, genders, backgrounds, races, and ethnicities. In order to measure progress of OPERAr America programs, including our grants portfolio, it is important to understand the current state of the opera industry.

To that end, OPERAr America has developed a short demographic survey with guidance from opera professionals of color. The design of the survey is rooted in respect, and allows you to self-identify. Thank you for your participation in this optional survey and for your continued efforts to move opera forward.

*Character Limit: 250*

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**Race/Ethnicity Identity**

**Choices**

African/Black
Latin(o)(a)(x)
Asian/Pacific Islander
Native America
Arab
White

Prefer to self-describe
Character Limit: 250

Gender Identity
Choices
Woman
Man
Non-binary/third gender
Prefer not to respond

Prefer to self-describe
Character Limit: 250

Pronouns
I prefer you use the following pronouns when referencing me:

Choices
She/Her/Hers
They/Them/Theirs
Ze/Hir/Hirs
Prefer not to respond

Prefer to self-describe
Character Limit: 250

Other
Have you previously applied for a Discovery Grant?*
Please list the name of the project (if different) and the year(s) that you applied. If this is the same project you submitted in previous application(s), please articulate the changes or progress made since your last submission.

Composers who have applied unsuccessfully in two cycles with the same piece must articulate the substantive changes made since the last cycle in their Intent to Apply. Changes may include, but are not limited to:

- Rewriting of the text and/or music;
- Restructuring of the dramatic arc;
- Change in librettist or other key personnel.
If this is your first time applying for a Discovery Grant, respond with “N/A.”

*Character Limit: 1500*

**How did you hear about this grant opportunity?**
Please check all that apply.

- Choices
- Colleague
- Facebook
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- OPERA America e-blast
- OperaLink
- Professor
- Twitter
- Third party e-blast
- Other

**Questions (optional)**
Do you have questions or concerns about your application? You may use the space here to outline your thoughts and an OPERA America staff member will assist you. Your response will not be visible to the evaluators.

*Character Limit: 1000*

**Signature**
By typing my name below, I attest that the information contained in this application and its attachments is accurate and complete.

*Character Limit: 100*