



NEWS RELEASE
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**FORT WORTH OPERA PROUDLY ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS
FOR THE 2020 MCCAMMON VOICE COMPETITION**

FORT WORTH, TX — Fort Worth Opera (FWO) is pleased to announce auditions for the 2020 McCammon Voice Competition, scheduled to take place April 3-4, 2020, preceding the Fort Worth Opera Festival (April 17-May 4). Semi-finals for the nineteenth biennial contest will be held at The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth on April 3, followed by the finals concert and awards ceremony on April 4, on the grand stage of Bass Performance Hall. The aim of the McCammon Voice Competition is to discover and support exceptional opera singers. An accompanist will be provided for singers during all rounds of the competition, and artists will audition for a panel of internationally distinguished judges to be announced at a later date. The deadline for singers to apply is January 31, 2020, and all applications must be submitted online through YAP Tracker.

Since its debut in 1985, the McCammon has become one of the opera world's most prestigious events, launching major careers for young, aspiring singers. Every two years the contest showcases some of the most compelling young voices of the 21st century. Many past winners and finalists enjoy prolific careers with major opera companies across the globe, including Joyce Di Donato, Angela Meade, Norman Garrett, Joo Won Kang, and Kyle Ketelsen. 2018 First Prize winner, Abigail Levis, will make her Fort Worth Opera debut in 2020, as Prince Orlovsky, in the company's Roaring Twenties comedy, *Revenge of the Bat* (*Die Fledermaus*). In addition to the coveted prize money of \$15,000, many past winners have received a contract in Fort Worth Opera productions.

COMPETITION DATES:

April 3-4, 2020 – Fort Worth, Texas

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Registration begins October 1, 2019 and ends January 31, 2020

ARTISTS MUST:

- Be 21 to 35 years of age
- Have not performed a contracted role with a Level I company
- Not be engaged as an artist in the 2020 Fort Worth Opera Festival
- Artists in a young artist/resident artist program at a Level 1 company are eligible to apply.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

- All applicants must submit recordings of four opera arias representing contrasting styles and languages. The recordings must have been made within the last year, and may be with piano or live orchestral accompaniment (proof of permission to use the orchestral recording must be supplied upon request).
- From the applications, up to 30 contestants will be chosen to participate in the semifinals round.
- If selected as a semifinalist, artists will submit a list of five opera arias for the competition rounds (these arias do not have to be the same as submitted with the application).
- Following the semifinal auditions, up to 12 artists will be chosen to compete in the finals concert.
- An accompanist will be provided during all rounds of the competition.

PRIZE AWARDS:

- First Place - \$15,000 and a potential role in a future Fort Worth Opera production
- Second Place - \$7,500
- Third Place - \$5,000
- Female Encouragement - \$2,500
- Milburn Male Encouragement - \$2,500
- Audience Favorite - \$2,500

HOW TO APPLY:

All applicants must include the following materials:

- Resume - include education/training information, roles performed and where, other professional experience (concerts and awards)
- Headshot
- Proof of Age - driver's license, birth certificate or passport
- Recording of four opera arias in contrasting styles and languages, made within the previous year
- \$40 non-refundable application fee
- All applications must be submitted online through YAP Tracker.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Each contestant selected for the semifinals will receive a \$250 travel stipend.
- Housing will be provided for all contestants.
- Transportation to all venues will be provided by the McCammon Voice Competition.
- Visit <https://www.mvcompetition.org> for further details.

ABOUT FORT WORTH OPERA: Founded in 1946, Fort Worth Opera is the oldest continually-performing opera company in Texas, and one of the 14 oldest opera companies in the United States. The organization has received national acclaim from critics and audiences alike for its artistic excellence. Beginning in 2017, Fort Worth Opera launched the second phase of its landmark, 10-year Opera of the Americas initiative with *Noches de Ópera (Nights of Opera)*, a groundbreaking campaign that introduces powerful operas, each reflecting the diverse cultures of American audiences.

Fort Worth Opera is sponsored in part by awards from The Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County, The City of Fort Worth, and the Texas Commission on the Arts. Additional Fort Worth Opera sponsors include: the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the Amon G. Carter Foundation; American Airlines; Visit Fort Worth; Autobahn; Crystelle Waggoner Charitable Trust, Bank of America, Trustee; Web Maddox Trust, J.P. Morgan Chase, Trustee; the Sid W. Richardson Foundation, Arts and Culture Texas Magazine; and many others.