



Kenosha Opera Festival Fellowship Program *Directing/Production Fellows*

The Kenosha Opera Festival Fellowship Program is a performance-focused learning opportunity designed for the aspiring university level artist seeking real-world experience prior to entering graduate studies or the professional world.

Directing/Production Fellows Full Description

Age limit:
19+

Deadline to Apply:
February 1, 2022

Method of Submission:
[Google form](#)

Fellowship Dates:
July 1-August 7, 2022

Directing/Production Fellows will develop transferable skills for the unique needs of the opera industry, as well as the general performance industry. They will engage in skill-building sessions relevant to directing and other production roles within opera, experiential learning focused on directing and managing a production, and networking with industry professionals. Fellows will learn specific skills pertinent to directing opera (blocking, collaborating with the conductor and cast, etc.) and/or managing other aspects of a production (stage management, technical production, etc.). The Directing/Production Fellow will receive mentorship from the director/assistant director throughout the rehearsal process, grow their knowledge in classes on industry and artistic topics, and play a vital role in the mounting of the Festival's productions.

ABOUT US

The Kenosha Opera Festival is a professional summer opera company in Kenosha, WI. We focus on relatable, high-quality operatic performances, engaging with a wide audience, contributing to our community, professional development for college-age student artists, and creating opera outreach and education series which entertain as much as teach.

The KOF leadership has years of collective experience as opera performers in leading roles; public school, private, and university instructors; in administrative work; and from inside the opera and arts industry. The KOF leadership alone has a collective 6 Bachelors, 5 Masters, and a Doctoral degree in subjects like Opera Performance and Literature, Opera Stage Directing, Education, Acting, and Computer Science.

We're excited to use what we've learned over all our experience to bring Fellows in our program up to speed about the dynamics and expectations of the opera industry, the nuts and bolts of professional production management, and make them ready to submit for graduate programs or the professional world - and in an understanding, constructive environment.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

We are not a pay-to-perform opportunity. While we cannot provide payment, and our program is educational in nature, we have identified sources of potential funding for Fellowship participants who:

- ❖ Live in or are from Wisconsin
- ❖ Attend school in Wisconsin
- ❖ Attend Carthage College, specifically.

If you have concerns about the potential costs associated with staying in Kenosha during the Fellowship and meet any of these criteria, we would be more than happy to guide you to the application for a grant. Don't let money be an object to joining us this summer!

PROSPECTIVE PLANS

Week 1: Orientation, classes, Fellowship repertoire runthrough, mainstage preparation, Fellowship Production preparation

Week 2: Classes, dramatic coachings with Vocal Fellows, check ins, Fellowship Production rehearsals, community outreach performances

Week 3: Coaching/blocking sessions, classes, mainstage rehearsals, Fellowship Production tech/performance, production development, community outreach performances

Week 4: Mainstage rehearsals, mainstage performances, classes, production development, community outreach performances

Week 5: Mock audition panel, community outreach performances, mainstage performances, production development, classes, exit interviews

THE THREE FELLOWSHIP PILLARS

SKILL-BUILDING	EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	NETWORKING
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Take an introductory course on Industry Standards.-Engage in sessions led by industry professionals on operatic conventions such as acting, movement and voice integration, self-promotion in modern opera industry, finances, language, and more.-Develop efficient rehearsal and management skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Participate in dramatic coachings-Assistant direct and facilitate production logistics for one-act opera-Facilitate production logistics for mainstage opera-Facilitate production logistics for community outreach programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Participate in Festival orientation, including meeting with Festival leadership, artistic staff, and other Festival representatives.-Engage in networking with industry professionals both in person and through virtual experiences.

APPLICATION

Application Materials Needed:

- ❖ Please submit a video recording no longer than 5 minutes of yourself discussing the following topics:
 - Your experience/background
 - Your directing style or other aspects of production
 - Why you believe you would be a good candidate for the Fellowship Program
- ❖ Recent headshot.
- ❖ 2 references, please provide phone number and email address.
- ❖ 1-page theater resume. If you would like a formatting guide, we recommend the following: Institute for Music Leadership at Eastman School of Music. Link: <https://iml.esm.rochester.edu/careers/>
- ❖ **Optional:** If you have recorded footage of a production, project, or scenes you've directed/assistant directed, you may include this in your application.

These materials must be uploaded to the Google form when you apply. If you are having trouble uploading attachments to the form, you may email application materials to info@kenoshaoperafestival.com. Applications must be received by February 1, 2022.

RECORDING STANDARDS AND HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS

Please record in a space with as little noise as you can find, and stand at least 5 feet away from your recording device so that the audio doesn't 'blow-out' or 'square-wave.' A cell-phone, laptop, or other device is acceptable to record. Make small test videos with the recording devices you have to find your best-quality option. Please be sure you are in some light so that we can clearly see you. Once you're set up, try testing a brief sample of your video so you can tweak your rig and find the best audio/visual setup for your situation.