



## Kenosha Opera Festival Fellowship Program *Piano 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.*

<b>Piano Fellows</b>	Piano Fellows will develop transferable skills for the unique needs of the opera industry and wider chamber and collaborative arts. They will engage in skill-building sessions relevant to accompanying in the unique context of opera performance, experiential learning centering on rehearsal and performance, and networking with industry professionals. Fellows will learn specific skills pertinent to accompanying opera. The Piano Fellow will assist the chorus master and accompanist in chorus and mainstage rehearsals, accompany their Vocal Fellow colleagues as assigned, grow their knowledge in classes on industry and artistic topics, and work one-on-one with Festival accompanists.
<b>Full Description</b>	
<b>Age limit:</b> 19+	
<b>Deadline to Apply:</b> February 1, 2022	
<b>Method of Submission:</b> <a href="#">Google form</a>	
<b>Fellowship Dates:</b> July 1-August 7, 2022	

### 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 professionally auditioning, 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!

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## PROSPECTIVE PLANS

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

Week 2: Classes, community outreach performances, coaching sessions, check ins, Fellowship Production rehearsals

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

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

Week 5: Mock audition, community outreach performances, mainstage performances, public masterclass, classes, exit interviews

## **THE THREE FELLOWSHIP PILLARS**

<b>SKILL-BUILDING</b>	<b>EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING</b>	<b>NETWORKING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Take an introductory course on Industry Standards.</li><li>-Engage in sessions led by industry professionals on operatic conventions that impact singer-piano collaboration, self-promotion in modern opera industry, finances, language, and more.</li><li>-Develop efficient practicing and audition skills.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Perform public masterclass and engage in community outreach</li><li>-Engage in private piano coaching with Festival artists and learn rehearsal technique, orchestral coloring, and further your collaborative skills.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Participate in Festival orientation, including meeting with Festival leadership, artistic staff, and other Festival representatives.</li><li>-Engage in networking with industry professionals both in person and through virtual experiences.</li></ul>

## **APPLICATION AND AUDITION**

*Because of the COVID-19 pandemic we are asking for digital auditions, only.*

Application Materials Needed:

- ❖ Please submit two video recordings (new or within the last year). Present one classical solo performance and one classical collaboration with a singer.
- ❖ Recent headshot.
- ❖ 2 references, please provide phone number and email address.
- ❖ 1-page performance 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/>

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](mailto:info@kenoshaoperafestival.com). Applications must be received by February 1, 2022.

## **RECORDING STANDARDS AND HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS**

Due to the challenges of digital submission when creating your audition video, live accompaniment is preferred, but not required. A recorded track from a pianist, or midi/digital accompaniment (which can be found widely online) are perfectly acceptable.

If you are not able to record with a live pianist, 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. Also please be sure to set the audio track with which you will sing behind you so that it does not overpower 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. We just ask that you do the best you can with what you have. We'll be better able to appreciate your performance if there aren't too many audio and video quality issues. We're rooting for you to succeed!