



OPERA AWARDS

Opera Awards Application Guidelines

2027 Rules & Conditions

Eligibility

Applicants must fit certain criteria to be eligible for the Opera Awards.

To be eligible for the Opera Awards, a singer must:

- (i) be an Australian citizen or resident
- (ii) have sung at least 2 principal roles with a recognised professional opera company since February 2025 and provide documentation confirming this.

There is no age limit.

It is a condition of the Awards that all broadcast and television rights of your performances in any stage of the competition are freely available to MOST.

2027 Dates

Dates at any stage will not be altered to meet the needs of individual Applicants.

MOST® reserves the right to change the dates of all stages of the competition. All details may be subject to change without notice.

At time of publication, the 2027 Opera Awards dates are as follows:

Entries Open – 15 October 2026

Entries Close – 15 January 2027

Adjudication Day – 24 February 2027

Repertoire

Entrants are required to prepare four (4) arias which must be sung in the original language and must include at least two different languages.

Each singer will be required to perform some or all of the 4 arias submitted. The adjudicators will also interview each singer about their proposal and may request some additional technical/vocal demonstrations. The panel reserves the right not to make the Award.



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A legible, bound copy of the music is to be provided to the adjudication panel on the adjudication day.

Accompaniment

Singers must engage their own accompanist.

Adjudication Panel

The Adjudication Panel will be confirmed before the competition date. Judging of the Finalists will be conducted privately in Sydney on Wednesday, 24 March 2027.

Travel and Accommodation

Any travel undertaken for any stage of the Competition will be at the Competitor's expense. No local travel expenses such as taxis or public transport are provided at any stage of the competition. MOST® shall not have any responsibility for Competitors' loss and/or damage during the Competition and competitors should purchase their own insurance where relevant. Competitors are responsible for their own health and injury insurance, as well as loss or damage of the instrument or luggage in case of accident, fire or theft during travel.

Prize and Conditions

The winner of the Opera Awards receives the YMF Australia Award of \$30,000AUD presented by the Youth Music Foundation of Australia. A condition of the YMFA Award is that it is to be used predominantly for overseas study and that the funds will be distributed in a series of payments over two years.

The main emphasis of the Opera Awards is to enable recipients to pursue overseas study and to assist in the further development of language, voice and music skills in the context of the global operatic and classical singing industry.

The winner is required to give 2 recitals in Melbourne for our principal sponsor YMF Australia at a mutually acceptable time.

The winner will also be required to deliver a pro bono performance at the 2027 or 2028 IFAC Handa Australian Singing Competition's Finals Concert in Sydney with the Opera Australia Orchestra (and, if accepted, will be required to attend the Piano Rehearsal, Sitzprobe, and General Rehearsal which take place in the days leading up to the Concert).

In addition to the YMF Australia Award, the Winner may also be awarded the Armstrong-Martin Scholarship Award (sponsored by the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust); a \$5,000.00AUD cash grant to be used for overseas study only.

A number of prizes & opportunities may be awarded to competitors at the discretion of the Adjudicators.

Performance Rights

MOST® has the right to video, film, record or photograph and retain all rounds of the Competition for archival or promotional purposes ("the Material"). MOST® has the right to retain this Material on websites or any other media without fee and any personal information relating to the Competition. Broadcast, media and other digital rights remain with MOST®. MOST® has the right to distribute the Material in any medium (including without limitation YouTube, X (Twitter), Vimeo, Facebook, Instagram and TikTok), in whole or in part for an unlimited period, without remuneration, for the purpose of promoting the Opera Awards or MOST®. MOST® has permission to use the Material in any way that may not otherwise infringe a Competitor's moral



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right pursuant to the Copyright Act 1968 (Commonwealth), including but not limited to, an Entrant's moral rights associated with their performances (submitted digitally or recorded by the Competition) when used for any promotion or publicity of the Competition or MOST® in any media without limitation for an unlimited period. All approaches to the media must be made through and with the approval of MOST. Competitors and recipients of Awards will be required to be available for promotional or media interviews/calls by arrangement.