

Local Opera Singers AUDITION NOTICE

WHEN	WHERE	APPLICATION DEADLINE
Saturday, June 7, 2025 2:30–5:30 PM	Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall UTEP Campus	Friday, May 30, 2025 5:00 p.m.

This season, El Paso Opera will once again build a pool of local, El Paso-area singers of all voice types to represent El Paso Opera as our **Season 2025–26 “ARTIST AMBASSADORS.”** *Preference will be given to experienced opera singers with voice types other than soprano.*

Please read this document in its entirety.
Instructions on how to request an audition are at the end.

Purpose

El Paso Opera’s **Artist Ambassadors (or “AAs”, formerly known as Resident Artists)** are the public faces—and voices—of El Paso Opera and represent us in many different performance settings.

The primary function of AAs is to perform on #CurbsideOpera (“#CO”) performances to raise community awareness of the company and the art form and enrich our neighbors' lives.

These engagements also serve to promote upcoming EPO events.



AA Performances in 2025–26

- **#CurbsideOpera mobile performances:**
 - 3 rounds of #CurbsideOpera throughout the season,
 - #CurbsideSummer (July)
 - #CurbsideCaroling (December)
 - #CurbsideTour (January)
 - Performances will be throughout the El Paso area, both indoors and outdoors
 - Live piano accompaniment
 - Artist Ambassadors are required to participate in no fewer than 7 #CurbsideOpera performances evenly distributed throughout the season.
- **Encores & Overtures**, El Paso Opera’s annual fundraising gala. (Friday, Sept. 5)
- **Mainstage Opera Chorus:** All Artist Ambassadors will be invited to be in the chorus for our mainstage production, 5 performances from January 30–February 7.
- **End-of-season Opera:** AAs will serve as principal performers in El Paso Opera’s end-of-the-season show (expected to be a one-act chamber opera).
- **Additional opportunities** to perform:
 - at “Friends of the Opera” events.
 - when El Paso Opera is requested for a gig (i.e., Madeline Park Shakespeare Festival in September; A Christmas Fair in November).

Anticipated Performance Dates

Specific performance dates are subject to change, but the applicant should be generally available for:

- July 18–27 #CurbsideSummer
- September 5 Encores & Overtures Gala (fundraiser)
- December 11–22 #CurbsideCaroling
- January 10–18 #CurbsideTour (promotion for mainstage show)
- January 30–Feb. 8 Mainstage Production performances (5 performances)
- June 2026 Artist Ambassador Performance Tour
(Title TBD, expected to be a one-act opera with roles for each AA)

Rehearsals

Individual rehearsals with the pianist for preparation for each #CO session will be provided as needed.

Benefits

Compensation

Artist Ambassadors will be paid a stipend for each performance, dependent on the length and type of performance. Typical #CurbsideOpera performances will now be paid at \$75 per performance.

Professional Development

Each AA will receive:

- 2 coachings per season with Artistic Director, Cherry Duke (one in Fall, one in Spring).
- At least 2 coachings sessions per season with a professional and highly experienced opera vocal coach/collaborative pianist.
- Professional headshots are provided for each artist, also available for personal use.
- Opportunities for interactions with industry professionals and leaders, such as
 - Coachings, workshops, and/or master classes
 - Career talks
 - Invitation to attend rehearsals of the mainstage show
 - Invitation to participate in social events with the mainstage cast and other out-of-town artists and professionals

Expectations

Artist Ambassadors are an important part of the El Paso Opera family. As with any meaningful partnership, mutual expectations help ensure a successful and rewarding experience for everyone involved. Above, see what EPO commits to provide for AAs (compensation, professional development). In return, Artist Ambassadors are expected to:

- **Prioritize a professional relationship with the company.**
 - When given performance dates/calendar, commit to maintaining availability for EPO. In the case of an unavoidable conflict, communicate in writing ASAP.
 - Keep their voice in the best possible shape for all performances.
 - Arrive for all rehearsals and coachings fully prepared, having learned all assigned repertoire accurately and completely.
 - Respond promptly on BAND (the designated messaging service for AAs), text, email, etc. Check for such communications several times a week.

- If something arises that prevents an AA from participating in a full cycle of #CO, prompt communication is expected. Flexibility is possible with clear advance notice.
- **Be an active and enthusiastic member of the EPO community/family:**
 - Represent the company in the best way possible at all times (AAs are our ambassadors!)
 - Share info about EPO events and performances with their networks (on social media, email, etc.)
 - Attend EPO performances, social events, etc.
 - AA's qualify for a deeply discounted flat rate of \$25 per event (excluding the gala, which is \$75), unless performing in the event.
 - Opportunity to attend select rehearsals
 - Usher/production assistant opportunities (paid & volunteer)

Request an audition:

Qualified and experienced operatic singers interested should follow the instructions below to request an audition.

- Complete [this form](#) no later than **Friday, May 30, 2025, 5:00 p.m.**
 - On the form, you will be prompted to select an audition slot and attach your PDF performance résumé, color headshot (JPG, PNG, or PDF), and PDFs of your sheet music.
- **REPERTOIRE:** Prepare 3 to 5 selections that best demonstrate your vocal ability. Choose from the categories below, including at least one operatic aria, and at least one piece in English. Selections in Spanish are encouraged.
 - *Repertoire may include:*
 - operatic arias
 - art song
 - "legit" musical theater songs
 - "crossover" songs (that blend classical vocal technique with popular styles)
 - Please upload clear, readable PDFs of your audition selections in the correct keys with your application. You may change your repertoire later, but the pianist will need your sheet music in advance for best preparation.
- **ACCOMPANIMENT:** A collaborative pianist will be provided for your audition. If you wish to bring your own pianist (at your own expense), please indicate that on the form.

Please note:

- **Singers must live in the El Paso area.** Housing and transportation are not provided.
- No auditions will be heard without an appointment.
- Apply early for maximum choice of time slots. Once the slots are full, auditions will be closed.
- Applicants will receive an email confirmation with your confirmed audition time.
- Guests will not be permitted in the audition room.
- We reserve the right to hear only specific portions of any selection offered.

For more information, email info@epopera.org .

- For information on El Paso Opera, visit www.epopera.org .
- Please follow El Paso Opera on social media: [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)