



THE YOUNG VOICES OF THE SANTA FE OPERA



The Young Voices of the Santa Fe Opera was created in January of 2008 to encourage, nurture and guide high school students exhibiting talent, desire and potential for singing classical music.

Program participants receive voice lessons and musical coaching by the Santa Fe Opera's music staff as well as training in diction, music theory and basic acting.

In addition, students participate in Master Classes by visiting guest artists, attend cultural events and have multiple opportunities to gain performance experience through studio classes, community engagement activities and public performances.

Participation in this program is free of charge. However, students are asked to commit to a regular and rigorous training process.

Since the inception of the Young Voices, over one hundred students have participated in the program and many are now pursuing further studies in prestigious music programs.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications can be found at santafeopera.org/community/high-school-mastery-programs/

Open to students entering 9-12 grade in August 2026. Auditions will be held by appointment in person or online in May 2026. Program is free of charge.

APPLICATION OPENS: JANUARY 12, 2026
APPLICATION DUE: APRIL 4, 2026

AUDITIONS: MAY 2026



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APPLICATION FAQs

Who can apply?

Students entering 9-12 grade in August 2026 are eligible to apply. Successful applicants demonstrate high motivation and interest in classical singing, and be able to commit to regular lessons, studio classes, master classes, and performances.

What is the level of commitment required?

The program begins with an orientation in August, and classes are held September 2026 through May 2027. Students are encouraged to participate for multiple years, up to high school graduation, and are required to audition every year.

There are two tiers of commitment to the program, the Young Voices *studio* and the standard Young Voices program. Both tiers will have access to individual and group instruction as well as all classes and community performances. Expect to commit 1-2 Sunday afternoons per month for studio classes, and 2-4 weekly private or group lessons. Participation is expected in approximately 2-6 community events and performances per semester.

Where are lessons and classes held?

Typically lessons are held in both Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with further commute times, which may include online sessions. Studio classes are held at Santa Fe Opera. Community events are held at various locations in Northern New Mexico.

Will this program conflict with other musical pursuits?

Students are encouraged to be involved in other musical activities such as choir, school and community productions, and private instruction on all instruments (including voice). While students are expected to prioritize the Young Voices program, reasonable accommodations will be made for major conflicts when possible.

What do I need to apply?

Application materials include a letter of intent indicating reason for applying, specific interests, and what you hope to gain from participating in this program. You will also need to provide contact information for two teacher/mentor recommendations, at least one of which is from a music or theater teacher/mentor. You will also need a signed Parental/Guardian agreement form.

How should I prepare for the audition?

Qualified applicants will be contacted to arrange a live audition time in April. Please prepare one song, preferably from the Art Song or Musical Theater genres. An accompanist will be provided, but students may sing unaccompanied (a cappella) or with an accompaniment track. After auditions, finalists will be notified and participate in a 20-minute interview before final selections are made.

How much does the program cost?

The program is free. Students are expected to provide their own transportation to and from lessons and classes.

Please direct any further questions to: youngvoices@santafeopera.org
Amy Owens, Director of the Young Voices of the Santa Fe Opera





THE YOUNG VOICES OF THE SANTA FE OPERA APPLICATION

APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 4, 2026

Please complete this application, and return
by e-mail to: youngvoices@santafeopera.org

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND ZIP _____

APPLICANT'S EMAIL ADDRESS _____

APPLICANT'S HOME PHONE _____

APPLICANT'S CELL PHONE _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S NAME _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S CELL PHONE _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S EMAIL _____

SCHOOL (FALL 2026) _____

GRADE (FALL 2026) _____

WHAT INSTRUMENTS DO YOU PLAY? _____

DO YOU READ MUSIC? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, TO WHAT DEGREE? ☐ WELL ☐ MODERATELY WELL ☐ ONLY SLIGHTLY

WHAT IS YOUR VOICE TYPE OR WHAT PART DO YOU SING IN CHORUS? _____

VOCAL RANGE (IF KNOWN) _____

HAVE YOU HAD ANY PREVIOUS PRIVATE VOCAL INSTRUCTION? ☐ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, WITH WHOM AND HOW LONG? _____

HAVE YOU STUDIED ANY FOREIGN LANGUAGES? ☐ YES ☐ NO

WHAT LANGUAGE AND FOR HOW LONG? _____

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: EXPERIENCE AND GOALS

LIST PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE:

WHAT GOALS DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH IN THE YOUNG VOICES PROGRAM?

PLEASE TELL US SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE US TO KNOW ABOUT YOU.

[illegible]



THE YOUNG VOICES OF THE SANTA FE OPERA APPLICATION

PARENTAL/GUARDIAN APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 4, 2026

I understand that _____ has applied to participate in the Santa Fe Opera's Young Voices Program and should they be accepted, they will agree to attend all lessons, studio classes, and performances, arrive on time, and participate in select enrichment activities. Students will be instructed by professionals. There is no fee for invited students to participate in this master level program.

Signature _____

APPLICANT'S AND PARENTAL / GUARDIAN PLEDGE

We affirm that all statements, personal data, and information provided on the application forms are true and accurate to the best of our knowledge. We understand that any misrepresentation or omission of material facts may result in the applicant being disqualified from the selection process or later dismissed from the Santa Fe Opera's Young Voices Program. We further agree that information about the applicant may be used for publicity purposes if they are selected for the Santa Fe Opera's Young Voices Program. If selected for the program, the applicant agrees to participate fully in all appropriate program activities and to follow all program rules and regulations. We further agree that the Santa Fe Opera Young Voices Program will be free to produce and distribute photographs, audio and video recordings and other materials that illustrate the activities of the students participating in the Young Voices Program. We understand that the applicant alone has the responsibility for seeing that the application forms are completed and submitted. We have reviewed the application and the information provided on the forms and have determined that the applicant has parental/guardian consent to complete the application process. We understand that the Santa Fe Opera's Young Voices Program is an out of school time program, and that if selected the applicant will attend the entire the program for a minimum of one year unless there is a family emergency.

WE HAVE READ THE ENTIRE PLEDGE ABOVE AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE PROVISIONS:

APPLICANT'S FULL NAME: (Please Print) _____

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME: _____ DATE _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____



THE YOUNG VOICES OF THE SANTA FE OPERA APPLICATION

TEACHER/MENTOR REFERENCES

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 4, 2026

Please list two teacher/mentor recommendations; at least one of which is a music or theater teacher or mentor. Include the best way to reach them.

TEACHER/MENTOR NAME (Printed): _____

SCHOOL OR COMPANY: _____

SCHOOL/COMPANY ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

TEACHER/MENTOR NAME (Printed): _____

SCHOOL OR COMPANY: _____

SCHOOL/COMPANY ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO

youngvoices@santafeopera.org

If you have questions regarding this form or the Young Voices Program please email at the address above.

