



## 2024 Application Guidelines High School Vocal Competition

### February 3, 2024

*Held at Opera Central, Preis Hall, 2145 First Avenue South, St. Petersburg FL 33712*

Mail 1 application, 2. Photo, 3 check for \$35 made out to “St. Petersburg Opera Guild” to Kenneth Kesty SPO, 1395 Brightwaters Blvd NE, St. Petersburg FL 33704 by January 15, 2024. You can also Email application to [k2kesty@gmail.com](mailto:k2kesty@gmail.com)

1. Contestants must be a resident of **Pinellas, Polk or Hillsborough** county or study with a teacher in those counties.
2. Previous first place winners are not eligible.
3. Please submit a photo of yourself
4. Prepare three selections: a. one aria from an opera or operetta or a selection from classical style Broadway theater repertoire. B. two art songs. One must be in **Italian**.
5. The first 25 applications received before January 15, 2024 will be accepted.
6. Time sheets and further instruction for the February 3, 2024 competition will be sent to you after January 15, 2024.
7. **The top three singers will sing at the St. Petersburg Opera Guild Luncheon to be held at the St. Petersburg Country Club, 2000 Country Club Way South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712 March 22, 2024**
8. Winners must arrive at **11:00 AM**. The luncheon starts at 11:30 AM.
9. Prize Money **FIRST PRIZE \$750 SECOND PRIZE \$500 THIRD PRIZE \$400 will be divided in two segments.** The first half will be given at the competition and the remainder at the luncheon. Performing at the luncheon is part of the prize.

10. SPOG promotes classical singing. No belting will be allowed. Classical style Broadway theater selections are permitted.

## **Competition Repertoire**

11. Applicants must be prepared to present **3 musical compositions** from standard literature representing different styles and periods. **Two of these selections must be art songs.** One art song must be in **Italian.** **The third selection** may be either a classical style Broadway theater song or an aria from an opera or operetta. Operatic arias must be age appropriate. Major arias will not be approved for high school repertoire. All selections must be **memorized.**

## **Judging Criteria**

12. There will be three judges adjudicating on beauty of voice, technical skill, accuracy, and presentation.

## **Preparation of Music**

13. Provide one copy of printed music that is clear for each song. The printed music should be in a binder, double-sided and well marked. Bring the music with you the day of the competition. Do not send ahead.

## **Competition Procedure**

13. Competition begins **10:00 AM at Opera Central.** Winners will be announced at **2:30 PM.** Each singer is allotted 7 minutes. All singers will perform two pieces- the first selected by the singer, the second selected by the judges. After all contestants have sung there will be a short break while the judges deliberate. To be eligible for prizes all competitors must be present until all prizes are awarded.
14. **The competition is free of charge and open to the public.**

## **Literature to help select Repertoire**

Twenty-Four Italian Arias (Hal Leonard), Joan Boytim's First Book series, Folk Songs for Solo Singers ed. Jay Althouse, Expressive Singing Anthology (Van Christy ed.) Pathways of Song, Classic Italian Songs for School and Study, Italian Arias of the Baroque and Classical Periods the La Flora Collection