

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition Applications Available

Applications and CDs are now being accepted for  
Annapolis Opera Company's 28th Annual Vocal Competition

#### KEY DATES:

February 21, 2016	Applications close at midnight
February 29, 2016	Noon deadline for receipt of CDs
March 4, 2016	Preliminary Round CD Review
March 11, 2016	Semi-finalists notified
April 23, 2016	Semi-finals Round
April 24, 2016	Finals Concert

"Our Vocal Competition," said General Manager Kathy Swekel, "has become one of the most renowned in the region. It's a wonderful opportunity for both the competitors, who can win awards for further study, and the audience, who get to hear these fine singers early in their careers." This year we're pleased to welcome, in her 5<sup>th</sup> year as a Finals judge, Joan Dorneman, Assistant conductor of the Metropolitan Opera and founder and director of the International Vocal Arts Institute (IVAI).

**Prizes:** All Finalists will receive a monetary prize, ranging from \$500 to \$3,500 and will be considered for future Annapolis Opera performances.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be at least 20 and no more than 35 years of age as of April 1, 2016 and be residents, students or employed in Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Virginia or West Virginia or students attending Westminster Choir College or Rutgers at New Brunswick.

**To apply,** complete the online application form located on [www.annapolisopera.org](http://www.annapolisopera.org) - Events, 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Vocal Competition and send, for the preliminary round, a CD containing a minimum of three (3) arias. Repertoire on the CD need not be the same as for the Semi-Finals and Finals.

The Semi-and Final rounds require five memorized arias in contrasting styles and varied as to tempo and range in at least three (3) different languages, one must be in English. Arias must be no more than five (5) minutes in length. No changes in repertoire can be made after the application is submitted. Annapolis Opera will provide the accompanist for both the Semi-Finals Round and the Finals Concert.

**Fee:** A thirty dollar (\$30.00) non-refundable application fee is required. Payment should be made during the application process via PayPal - Visa/Master Card or PayPal account.

CDs should be labeled with applicant name, contact information, and aria titles. Mail, to be received in the opera office no later than noon on February 29, 2016, to:

Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition  
Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts  
801 Chase Street, Suite 304A  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Preliminary Round judges will review CDs identified only by application number and voice type and select those applicants to be invited to sing in the Semi-Finals. Semi-finals judges will select eight (8) finalists and two (2) alternates to compete in the Finals Concert. Both Semi-Finals and Finals will be at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts in Annapolis, Maryland, and both are open to the public and are free, thanks to the generosity of The Helena Foundation, Jim and Sylvia Earl.

Annapolis Opera Company has provided professionally staged operas and concerts for the mid-Atlantic region for 43 years. The Opera's mission is to present artistically excellent professional opera productions, educational programs and other opera-related events, featuring emerging artists.

More information on the Annapolis Opera is available at [www.annapolisopera.org](http://www.annapolisopera.org).