

MASTER *Class*

 OPERA Iowa
InfoPac

Presenting Sponsor
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With support from
IOWA ARTS COUNCIL 

Welcome!

The OPERA Iowa Masterclass is a unique opportunity for vocal students to perform their audition or solo/contest selections and gain useful feedback to strengthen their artistry. OPERA Iowa singers studied vocal performance and are eager to share their expertise regarding solid vocal technique, musical expression, musical detail and language. In addition, the OPERA Iowa music director can coach your students through their selections. Feedback from this Masterclass experience has been wildly positive!

Masterclasses can be fashioned and scheduled in any way to meet your complicated schedule.

We are so excited to visit your school and hear your talented young singers! If you have any questions as you and your students prepare for OPERA Iowa's visit, please feel free to contact Bridget Anderson at (515) 961-6221 or banderson@dmmo.org.

Before the Performance

BOOK YOUR PERFORMANCE DATE After you have read through this packet, begin the booking process by filling out the [Performance Request Form](#). DMMO staff will then reach out to confirm an available Masterclass date and add you to the tour schedule.

SIGN YOUR CONTRACT AND PAY YOUR DEPOSIT Shortly after booking your Masterclass date, you will receive a contract and invoice for deposit. Returning your signed contract and deposit will confirm your spot on our tour calendar.

ADVANCE SHEET We will send out Advance Sheets in January to collect specific information about your visit (this is previously the Info Sheet). This will include details for our technical staff so they know what to expect on arrival and how many students are attending.

FINAL PREPARATIONS DMMO staff will reach out about a week before your Masterclass to confirm final details. Please pay careful attention to this communication to update any last minute changes.

Workshop Day

SAMPLE SCHEDULE - 90 MINUTES OR LONGER BLOCK

LARGE GROUP FORMAT:

1. Arrive at school.
2. Meet with Vocal Music Director.
3. OPERA Iowa troupe members are introduced to the large choir.
4. Vocal Music Director has selected 6 to 8 soloists to sing in front of the choir and OPERA Iowa troupe. At the conclusion of each performance, critique and positive comments are given to each performer. Demonstrations may be given by OPERA Iowa singers.
5. Class ends—troupe departs.

SMALL GROUPS FORMAT:

1. Arrive at school.
2. Meet with Vocal Music Director.
3. OPERA Iowa troupe members are split into two groups and are taken to two different spaces.
4. Soloists are then assembled in each space, listen to each other and listen to the critique and positive comments given by the OPERA Iowa members.
5. Class ends—troupe departs.

Please note that the host will be responsible for providing a pianist for each Masterclass session. As you can see, the Masterclass is quite flexible and can be easily adjusted to fit into your schedule.

Following your visit, please fill out the evaluation form and return it to Des Moines Metro Opera so we may continue to fine tune and improve these workshops.

CHECKLIST

- On-site coordinator** (this may be you) to answer any questions.
- Performance space:**
 - An auditorium, theater, gym or cafeteria that is adequate for up to 5 singers and a piano.
 - Floor and/or chair seating for students/audience members.
- Additional spaces:**
 - An area that is secured where personal belongings can be stored (office or lockable room).
- A **tuned piano** for the performance.

After the Performance

You can help Des Moines Metro Opera by sending a few thank you letters, colorful drawings, postcards, or other interesting works of art to our leading corporate supporters. Sponsors have told us that letters of appreciation from students and teachers mean a great deal to them. We also include these examples when we apply for grants which support OPERA Iowa in the future. We love to see these in our office as well. The OPERA Iowa troupe members especially like to receive mail sent by the students they have met on the tour.

You can send your thank yous to Des Moines Metro Opera by mail or email, and we'll take care of the rest!

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After the Performance

BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR ARTS AND CULTURE IN IOWA!

Why? Because cultural programs like OPERA Iowa are important to the state of Iowa. Please send a letter to your local Representative, Congress member or Senator to invite them to support arts and culture in Iowa. Your input is invaluable to helping maintain the level of support Iowa currently invests into the arts. Past letters from grateful OPERA Iowa students were included within the U.S. Congressional Record as part of the National Endowment for the Arts' request for renewed funding.

To contact your Iowa State Representative or Senator to share your support of programs like OPERA Iowa, visit:

WEBSITE: www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators

To contact Iowa's elected leadership to encourage continued support of arts funding to programs like OPERA Iowa: www.legis.iowa.gov/contacts/federallinks

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Senator Joni Ernst

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