

2005-2006 NYIOP FAQs

WHY SHOULD I SING FOR THE NYIOP'S?

We offer the only opportunity to sing for many European opera companies in the United States. If you wanted to audition for these international opera houses prior to the NYIOP Auditions, you would have to go to Europe and attempt to set up auditions separately for each house, while covering the enormous costs of travel and housing. We are putting them together and bringing them directly to you.

WHY IS THERE AN AUDITION FEE?

In order to get so many highly placed and reputable companies to send their top-level representatives we cover the costs of their trip to New York City, including airfare and hotel. Needless to say, these costs are not inconsequential. Therefore we must charge an audition fee. However, if you compare the costs to a trip to Europe, it will seem miniscule in comparison. Our fee is less than just the flight to Europe would cost, before you ever left the airport. You will spend literally pennies on the dollar of what you would ultimately spend on an audition tour.

ARE THE AUDITIONERS ACTUALLY CASTING?

YES! The NYIOP Auditions have already netted more than 60 contract offers to date and that number keeps growing with every session. Many lives have been changed through our process. When a house confirms attendance, they must agree to send a casting level representative and must verify that they have roles and contracts to fill in the immediate and upcoming seasons. In addition, most of the opera companies attending the auditions have made the NYIOP Auditions a part of their regular audition season.

WILL I NEED TO BRING MY OWN ACCOMPANIST?

We do not cover the cost of audition pianists. However, NYIOP will provide a list of very accomplished pianists from New York City that have agreed to provide audition accompaniment at a special rate that is below current New York City standards for NYIOP participants. Of course, you are welcome to bring your own pianist if you wish.

WHAT IF I NEED TO CANCEL MY AUDITION?

Due to the large number of cancellations at the last minute and the unwillingness of singers on the waiting list to sing on a few hours notice, we have been forced to adopt a stringent cancellation policy.

- ▶ *Any singer canceling 48 hours prior to the first day of auditions, will be assessed a \$100.00 processing and cancellation fee. The remainder of the fee will be returned to the singer, no later than 2 weeks after the final audition date, for the session they are canceling.*
- ▶ *Any singer canceling less than 48 hours prior to the first day of auditions will receive \$100.00 of their audition fee returned to them, no later than 2 weeks after the final audition date, for the session they are canceling.*

We understand that this policy is quite stern, but we have spent a great deal of energy, time and money trying to provide you the very best opportunity possible. It is unfair to all involved when there are last-minute cancellations and during the final days before a session, we simply do not have time to find other singers that would have been happy to sing if given adequate notice.

I AM NOT MANAGED. CAN I STILL AUDITION?

The NYIOP Auditions are open to all singers; managed and unmanaged. Please be advised that as of the 2005-2006 season, every singer presented in a NYIOP Session will have to sing a preliminary audition for his or her participation in any given session. This will insure that the NYIOP's maintain the highest standard of artists presented at the auditions. If you have previously sang a NYIOP audition, we will consider your application accordingly, but we reserve the right to request to hear you at a preliminary audition. The preliminary audition fee is \$150.00. If accepted, the preliminary fee will be applied to your audition fee.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER THE AUDITION?

After the auditions, the representatives from the opera houses will contact singers directly or via their management if they wish to make a contract offer or engage in further discussion.