

# DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD COMPETITION FOR COLORADO SINGERS

## APPLICATION PAGE 1

Preliminary round **March 7** and Final round **March 21, 2026**

Calvary Baptist Church  
6500 E. Girard Avenue  
Denver, CO 80224

### **Send completed application to:**

Denver Lyric Opera Guild c/o Karen Bruggenthies  
4692 S. Field Street  
Denver, CO 80123  
OR  
bruggenthies@comcast.net

For questions email or call Karen Bruggenthies at 303/550-1863.

**Final Date for Applications:** Postmarked or sent via email by Friday, **January 9, 2026** (including letters of recommendation). No extensions. No exceptions!

### **Applicants must submit:**

1. Completed application form pages two and three, including all attachments.
2. Proof of age - copy of driver's license, birth certificate or passport. The age limit is: age 23 - 32 as of February 1, 2026; no age waivers are granted.
3. One 8 ½ x 11 photocopy of a head shot with your name and address on the back or may be attached to your on-line application.
4. Two signed and dated letters of recommendation from a vocal coach or teacher, written within the last year or equivalent type of recommendation. If you were a candidate in either of the past two years you need not send new letters of recommendation.
5. A \$55 non-refundable application fee, check or money order made out to DLOG; checks that do not clear will result in the applicant's disqualification. A credit card payment option through Stripe will be available on our website. Please check the DLOG website for further details ([denverlyricoperaguild.org](http://denverlyricoperaguild.org)).
6. A copy of your student ID or copy of employment contract if you are currently enrolled in an accredited Colorado college or university or an active member of an accredited Colorado opera company young artist program.

**OR**

Proof of Colorado residency if you are a permanent Colorado resident attending an accredited college or university outside of the state of Colorado or if you reside in the state of Colorado but are not currently attending a Colorado college or university. If you fall into either of these categories you must have established Colorado residency as of **August 31, 2025** to be eligible for the Competition. A Colorado driver's license, automobile registration, voter registration, or other appropriate documentation may be submitted as proof of residency.

7. Non-citizens of the USA must show proof of one-year residency or proof of enrollment in a Colorado college or university. If you are a student, please include a copy of your student ID.

### **Additional Considerations**

- 📌 Incomplete or illegible applications will not be considered.
- 📌 Any misrepresentation on the application will be cause for disqualification without benefit of appeal.
- 📌 Applicants who are accepted or rejected for the competition will be notified by January 23, 2026. If you are rejected, your application fee will be refunded.
- 📌 Former first place winners or three-time winners of one of the top 10 DLOG awards may not apply.
- 📌 Applicants must have a musical background, voice training and the ability to sing correctly in at least three languages.
- 📌 The Competition Committee reserves the right to limit the number of candidates by screening applicants based upon information supplied in the application. Applicants will be judged on their recommendations, their education, the roles they have learned and the arias they have selected. All decisions are at the sole discretion of the Competition Committee and are final.

**JUDGES:** We will engage three judges for each round of the Competition.

**MASTER CLASS:** A Master Class conducted by **Vera Calabria** will be held on February 28, 2026, location TBD.

THE DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD COMPETITION FOR COLORADO SINGERS

March 7 and March 21, 2026

APPLICATION PAGE 2

**PLEASE NOTE: Information must be typed and all questions must be completed.**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Category \_\_\_\_\_

Colorado Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip. \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of February 1, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

I am a student at \_\_\_\_\_

OR

I am a permanent resident of the state of Colorado. Date residency established. \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACH THE FOLLOWING:**

1. List of accredited music institutions, colleges or universities where you have studied. Give dates/degrees.
2. Name of current or most recent voice teacher and how long you have studied with that person.
3. List of any **COMPLETE** roles you have learned.
4. Any other facts you consider relevant (awards, special studies, etc.) Use a separate sheet of paper, if you prefer.

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you would like to participate in the Master Class to be conducted by world renowned stage director VERA LÚCIA CALÁBRIA ; Saturday, February 28, 2026. Date and location TBD.

**Submit application online at [www.denverlyricoperaguild.org](http://www.denverlyricoperaguild.org) or to:**

Karen Bruggenthies  
DLOG 2021 Competition for Colorado Singers Candidate Chair  
4692 S. Field Street  
Denver, CO 80123

or

[bruggenthies@comcast.net](mailto:bruggenthies@comcast.net)

### DENVER LYRIC OPERA GUILD COMPETITION APPLICATION PAGE 3

Print your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Category \_\_\_\_\_

List five operatic arias of contrasting styles in at least three languages that you will be prepared to sing.

<u>COMPOSER</u>	<u>OPERA</u>	<u>ARIA</u>	<u>LANGUAGE</u>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Deadline for aria changes:** By noon on February 13, 2026. Submit changes to Linda Bjelland (lebjelland@gmail.com). Ask for confirmation.

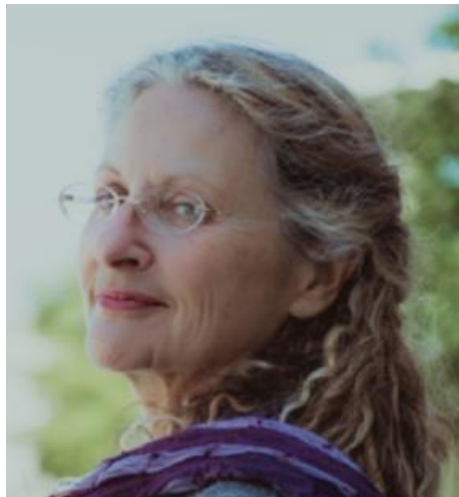
1. **As one of the top three winners, I agree to attend the Judges' Reception the evening of the Finals as the guest of Denver Lyric Opera Guild.**  
Other finalists are invited to attend but attendance is not mandatory.
2. **If I win one of the top ten prizes, I agree to perform at the April 7, 2026, DLOG "Opera on Tuesday" at Columbine Country Club. Award checks will be presented on April 7.**

An accompanist for the competition will be provided for all singers free of charge. Should a singer choose to utilize a different accompanist, any fee incurred will be the responsibility of the singer and not the Denver Lyric Opera Guild.

The above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I hereby accept all the conditions of the Competition as set forth in the application and agree to accept as final any and all decisions of the Competition Committee and the Judges.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

All materials submitted for the competition become the property of the Denver Lyric Opera Guild.  
Information obtained from DLOG is to be used for Competition purposes only. Any use of names, e-mails, addresses, etc. for purposes other than the DLOG Competition may be grounds for disqualification, solely at the discretion of the Competition Committee.



Stage director, dramatic coach, and arts administrator VERA LÚCIA CALÁBRIA has over 30 years of experience in opera and classical music. Born in Brazil, she began at the Bayerische Staatsoper Munich and later at San Francisco Opera as assistant to Jean-Pierre Ponnelle. Productions staged for San Francisco Opera include *Carmen*, *Cavalleria rusticana/Pagliacci*, *La forza del Destino*, *Der fliegende Holländer*, and *Falstaff*. Other credits include *Madama Butterfly* in Strasbourg and Cologne, *Manon* in Vienna, Munich, and at the Metropolitan Opera, *Parsifal* in Barcelona, *Falstaff* in Chicago, *Tosca* in Montpellier, *Tannhäuser* in Honolulu, and *Carmen* in Zurich, Cologne, Chicago, and Tel Aviv.

She now divides her time between stage productions and work with young singers as director and dramatic coach. Productions include *La Finta Giardinera* and *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges/L'Heure Espagnole* at UCLA, *Der fliegende Holländer*, *Idomeneo* and *Aida* at Los Angeles Opera, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at San Francisco Opera Center, and *Cavalleria/Pagliacci* at San Francisco Opera, *The Queen of Spades* at the Teatro Real, Madrid (Spain), *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at Opera Indianapolis, *La Canterina*, *Gigantes y Cabezudos*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Magic Flute*, and *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* at CSULA, *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, *Così fan tutte* and *Don Giovanni* at CSUF, *Der Rosenkavalier* at Israeli Opera, *Bluebeard's Castle / L'Heure Espagnole*, *The Bear / La Navarraise*, and *The Rape of Lucretia* at Yale University, *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the Shubert Theatre in New Haven, and all three of Mozart's da Ponte Operas at Rice University.

In addition to her work as stage director, she has conducted master classes and workshops on Commedia dell'Arte in opera at CSULA, UC Santa Barbara, and UCLA among others. Her work as dramatic coach on role interpretation took her to Israeli Opera and the Staatsoper Berlin's Young Artist Program, to Pepperdine University's Songfest, the Wagner Theatre Program in New York, to LA Opera's Domingo-Thornton Young Artist Program, and the Metropolitan Opera's Lindeman Young Artist Development Program. In 2014 she started working with a private studio focused on High School age singers, and these students have begun to excel in competitions. She was also a member of the CSU Fullerton faculty for 5 years, teaching Performance Technique and directing.