Thank you for your interest in the UMKC Conservatory / Lyric Opera of Kansas City Young Artist Program.

This program is designed for the exceptional young singer with true operatic career potential. Young Artists may be cast in various productions at both the Lyric Opera of Kansas City and the Conservatory. The program integrates professional performance experience with educational training. The Young Artists must be enrolled in either a Master’s, Performance Certificate, Artist Certificate, or Doctoral degree programs in vocal performance at UMKC. Participation lasts two years, and consists of two nine-month contracts, August to May. Four Young Artist positions are supported, one for each voice type. 2011-2013 positions are for one Tenor and one Bass/Baritone.

The Lyric Opera of Kansas City is an AGMA contract and awards the following:
- Role assignments for the two seasons are at the discretion of Artistic Director Ward Holmquist including participation in Lyric Express, an educational outreach ensemble.
- The second year of the program, Young Artists are eligible to be considered for the $5,000 Kaplan Prize.

The UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance awards the following:
- A stipend of $8,000 the first year and $6,000 the second year.
- Tuition waiver for six in-state credit hours per semester.
- Tuition waiver for ten non-resident credit hours per semester

The Young Artists are also active in the opera program at UMKC, and may be required to participate in one or both main-stage productions, depending on the needs of the program.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

All application materials must be received prior to the close of business on December 1, 2010. This is not a postmark date. Late applications will not be reviewed or advanced.

Application to UMKC and the Conservatory of Music and Dance:
Young Artists can only be accepted into the program after they have been admitted by the University and the Conservatory. That process is as follows:

US Applicants, Access and Submit
- UMKC general application
- Official transcripts of all previous college level work
- $35 application fee
- GRE is not required

International Applicants, Access and Submit
- UMKC International Application (click on prospective student)
- Official transcripts and translations of all pertinent school course work
- $50 application fee
- TOEFL test score
- Certified Statement of Financial Responsibility (see international application for details)

All Applicants
- Complete and Submit the Conservatory Supplemental Application for Admission and Audition; be sure to complete the Young Artist portion and GTA/Fellowship portion.
- Send a high quality pre-screening recording (CD or DVD) to be received (not postmarked) by December 1st. Recorded repertoire must include 4 pieces of contrasting styles and languages, one of which must be in English. All recordings become the property of UMKC and will not be returned. Do not send masters.
- Send sealed letters of recommendation; must be received by December 1, 2010.
- Send educational and performance experience resume
AUDITION INFORMATION:

The Young Artist program encompasses both an academic and professional arm. Applicants must audition for the UMKC Conservatory and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

1. Successful pre-screening applicants will be granted a preliminary round audition at the UMKC Conservatory on February 5, 2011. This audition is for acceptance into a graduate voice program, as well as the preliminary round for the apprentice positions. While the UMKC audition will only be 5-10 minutes in length, master’s level applicants must have 20 minutes of prepared repertoire, and doctoral level applicants are required 30 minutes of prepared repertoire. Finalists for the Young Artist program will be chosen by the UMKC voice faculty. (See voice repertoire list for suggested literature.)

2. Finalists will travel to the Lyric Opera of Kansas City later that day and will audition for Ward Holmquist, Artistic Director of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and for Marciem Bazell, Director of Opera at UMKC.

An accompanist will be provided at both locations.

All application materials must be received by the close of business on December 1, 2010. Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed or advanced.

Application Checklist:
- File completed UMKC application and processing fee
- File completed Conservatory Supplemental Application including apprentice and GTA application sections
- Submit pre-screening recording, to be received by the close of business on December 1, 2010
- Submit sealed letters of recommendation, to be received by the close of business on December 1, 2010
- Submit resume of educational background and performance experience, to be received by the close of business on December 1, 2010
- Mailed materials must be sent to:

  UMKC/LOKC Young Artist Program
  c/o Lee Fowler, Jr.
  University of Missouri-Kansas City
  Conservatory of Music and Dance / Grant Hall
  5227 Holmes St.
  Kansas City, MO 64110

Please direct any questions regarding the Young Artist Program to Marciem Bazell, and questions regarding the audition/application process to Lee Fowler.

Marciem Bazell  Lee Fowler
Director of Opera  Conservatory Recruitment
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