APPLICATION INFORMATION

All application materials must be received prior to the close of business on December 1, 2012. This is not a postmark date. Late applications will not be reviewed or advanced.

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. The 2013-2015 positions available are for Mezzo, Tenor, 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 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
  • $50 application fee
• Official transcripts and translations of all pertinent school course work
• TOEFL test score (minimum score of 80 ibt is required)
• Certified Statement of Financial Responsibility (see international application for details)

All Applicants
• Complete the Conservatory’s pre-screening online process via DecisionDesk at (http://www.decisiondesk.com/clients/umd/kc/apply/welcome/). You will need the UMKC Student ID number that is provided only after completing the UMKC application. This ID number may take up to 48 hours to generate, so APPLY early.
  • The DecisionDesk process requires an upload of your pre-screening audition performance, as well as your educational and performance experience resume.
  • Recorded repertoire must include 4 pieces of contrasting styles and languages, one of which must be in English. Send sealed letters of recommendation; must be received by December 1st.
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 2, 2013**. 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.

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**Application Checklist:**

- File completed UMKC application and processing fee
- File completed DecisionDesk Supplemental Application including apprentice and GTA application sections
- Submit pre-screening recording
- Submit sealed letters of recommendation
- Submit resume of educational background and performance experience
- Mailed materials must be sent to:

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

Marciem Bazell  
Director of Opera  
816-235-2898  
Fax: 816.235.5264  
bazellm@umkc.edu

Lee Fowler  
Conservatory Recruitment  
816-235-5209  
Fax: 816.235.5264  
fowlerlm@umkc.edu