



Opera.ca seeks Letters of Interest For Participation in Creative Connections

Opera.ca is calling upon all Professional Company Members, currently working with, or thinking of working with, a composer/librettist team on a new opera to submit a Letter of Interest to participate in **Creative Connections**, a new opera creation project. (in collaboration with The Banff Centre and the Banff Opera Colloquium)

Description of Program

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS is an Opera.ca initiative and it is designed to support and develop relationships for and between producers and creative teams to foster team-building and shared learning in the sustained development of full length Canadian operas. It is funded by the George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation.

Opera.ca is asking for Letters of Interest from PCMs to submit a project and creative team (composer and librettist). Four composer/librettist/producer teams will be selected to participate in the program. **CREATIVE CONNECTIONS** is a three stage process:

1. Round Tables and Panel discussions related to new opera creation,
2. a one week workshop process in Banff in Summer 2009,
3. a final showcase presentation in February 2010 where excerpts from the full length works in progress will be performed with orchestra.

Cost

There is no program fee to participate, and a subsidy will be available for the one week workshop in Banff for composers and librettists. However, participants are required to fund their own travel to and from the Roundtables and the workshop week, as well as cover the Banff Opera Colloquium fee.

Eligibility

- Open to all Professional Company Members as of December 31, 2008.
- To be eligible, the lead applicant must be a Professional Company Member of Opera.ca and the composer and/or librettist must be citizens or permanent residents of Canada. Composer and librettists must apply through a lead Company.
- The program is suited for composers and librettists making the leap to mainstage opera.
- Projects can be either new works, or works in progress.

Commitment

The producers and creative teams will be involved in a practical program which will invest in the long term health of Canadian opera creation. Participants must be willing to commit to the full term of the project. (March 2010)

Participation in **CREATIVE CONNECTIONS** in no way affects COCF eligibility.

Banff Opera Colloquium

Participants in **CREATIVE CONNECTIONS** will meet in Banff with their composer/librettist teams at the Banff Opera Colloquium.

All Professional Company Members are invited to the Banff Opera Colloquium in August 2009, and will have the opportunity to bring with them, at their own expense and separate from the workshop, artists of interest (possible future composer/librettist teams, designers or directors) of their choice.

How to Apply – Letter of Interest

Professional Company Members are invited to submit a Letter of Interest, specifying the creative team and project for consideration in the Showcase at the COC.

Your Letter of Interest should include:

- Your company's production history, including new works,
- Bios of the composer, librettist and producer,
- A synopsis of your dramatic project.

Submissions will be accepted until **5pm EST January 30, 2009** to info@opera.ca, or by mail to 405-174 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, ON M5T 2C2.

Deadline and Important Dates

Deadline for Letter of Interest:	<u>January 30, 2009</u>
Part One-Round Table, Toronto:	February 21, 2009 tbc
Part Two-Banff Workshop & Colloquium:	August 14-17, 2009
Part Three-Showcase Presentation:	Toronto, February 2010