

BEL CANTO FOUNDATION

2012 ITALIAN OPERA CONTEST

\$50,000 in prizes will be awarded

Grand Prize ~ \$10,000.00 Cash Award

(Each Contestant will receive a monetary prize!)

EARLY APPLICATION ENCOURAGED FROM DECEMBER 1, 2011

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2012

NO APPLICATION FEE REQUIRED

DOWNLOAD APPLICATION FROM WWW.BELCANTOFOUNDATION.ORG

2012 CONTEST DATES

Live Auditions:	Juniors (17-18)	Tuesday, January 24, 2012
	Students (19-24)	Wednesday, January 25 & Thursday, January 26, 2012
	Young Artists (25-30)	Saturday, January 28 & Sunday, January 29, 2012
Contest Evenings:	Preliminaries:	February 12 & 19, March 4 & 11, 2012
	Semi-Finals:	March 18 & April 14, 2012
	Grand Prize Final:	April 21, 2012

ALL CONTEST AUDITIONS & EVENINGS ARE HELD AT

MONASTERO'S
RISTORANTE & BANQUETS

3935 WEST DEVON AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60659

DIRECTIONS TO MONASTERO'S RISTORANTE

FROM THE NORTH SUBURBS:

Take the "Edens Expressway/94 to Chicago". Exit at Touhy East. At the end of the bridge, turn right onto Cicero/Skokie Blvd. Head south 2 miles to Devon Avenue. Turn left onto Devon and head east 1 mile. Monastero's is on your right, just east of Crawford/Pulaski.

FROM EVANSTON:

Take Emerson or Dempster or Main Street west to McCormick Blvd. Turn Left onto McCormick; head south until you reach Devon Avenue. Turn right onto Devon; head west about one mile. Monastero's is on your left, just before you reach Crawford/Pulaski.

FROM DOWNTOWN CHICAGO:

Take "90/94 To Milwaukee." Follow 94/Edens Expressway where it splits off from 90/Kennedy. Exit at Peterson Avenue East. Head east on Peterson for about one mile. Turn left onto Pulaski; head north to the next light: Devon Avenue. Turn right on Devon, and Monastero's is on your right.

FROM WEST SUBURBS:

Take 294 North to 90/Kennedy East to Chicago. Exit at Nagle; turn left onto Nagle at the end of the exit ramp. Follow Nagle north until the street ends at Devon Avenue. Turn right onto Devon and head east 3 miles. Monastero's is 1/2 block east of Crawford/Pulaski on your right.

FROM THE LOOP Via El:

Bus and Train service is unavailable directly to the Restaurant. However, you can take the El to Bryn Mawr and transfer to the bus going to Peterson & Pulaski. Walk North on Pulaski three blocks to Devon, turn right and Monastero's is on your right.

BEL CANTO
FOUNDATION

3935 WEST DEVON AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60659

TEL 773.588.3622
BELCANTOFTN@AOL.COM

2012 BEL CANTO OPERA CONTEST

TO BE HELD AT MONASTERO'S RISTORANTE, 3935 WEST DEVON AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60659 TEL 773-588-3622

ELIGIBILITY

1. THE BEL CANTO AUDITIONS ARE OPEN TO SINGERS RESIDING IN ILLINOIS, INDIANA, AND WISCONSIN.
2. AGE IS DETERMINED AS OF LIVE AUDITIONS:
--YOUNG ARTIST DIVISION: AGES 25 THROUGH 30 YEARS AS OF JANUARY 28, 2012
--STUDENT DIVISION: AGES 19 THROUGH 24 YEARS AS OF JANUARY 25, 2012
--JUNIOR DIVISION: AGES 17 THROUGH 18 YEARS AS OF JANUARY 24, 2012

SINGERS IN JUNIOR DIVISION WILL BE JUDGED ONLY IN THE LIVE AUDITIONS AND THOSE SELECTED WILL RECEIVE A \$150.00 AWARD AT A LIVE PERFORMANCE DURING THE CONTEST NIGHTS AT MONASTERO'S RISTORANTE.

3. APPLICANTS MUST HAVE A VOICE WITH OPERATIC POTENTIAL, MUST NOT BE UNDER PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT OR HAVE MADE A PROFESSIONAL DEBUT WITH ANY MAJOR OPERA COMPANY IN A LEADING ROLE.
4. FORMER GRAND PRIZE WINNERS AND TWO-TIME FINALISTS IN THE SAME VOCAL DIVISION ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.
5. SINGERS CHOSEN FOR THE 2012 BEL CANTO OPERA NIGHTS MUST APPEAR ON THEIR ASSIGNED EVENINGS. THE SCHEDULING COMMITTEE WILL ENDEAVOR TO OBSERVE SINGERS' CONFLICT DATES IF NOTIFIED AT THE LIVE AUDITIONS.
6. ALL SINGERS MUST PROVIDE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS AS ALL COMMUNICATION WILL BE BY E-MAIL.

APPLICATION

1. A COMPLETED BEL CANTO FOUNDATION APPLICATION FORM, LIVE AUDITIONS SCHEDULE SHEET AND OPERA EVENING SCHEDULE SHEET ARE REQUIRED. FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT WWW.BELCANTOFOUNDATION.ORG.
2. A COPY OF THE APPLICANT'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE, PASSPORT, OR DRIVER'S LICENCE WITH LEGIBLE DATE OF BIRTH MUST BE INCLUDED.
3. APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM DECEMBER 1, 2011. DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED BY THE BEL CANTO FOUNDATION IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2012. MAIL TO: BEL CANTO FOUNDATION, 3935 WEST DEVON AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60659. EARLY APPLICATION ENCOURAGED!

REPERTOIRE

1. YOUNG ARTIST DIVISION: **REPERTOIRE MUST BE MEMORIZED FOR LIVE AUDITIONS!**
--THREE ARIAS FROM OPERAS WRITTEN IN ITALIAN BY COMPOSERS FROM CONTEST ARIA LIST. **Mozart is not accepted in the Young Artist Division.**
--TWO ITALIAN ROMANTIC SONGS, WRITTEN BY COMPOSERS LISTED ON THE CONTEST SONG LIST.
2. STUDENT DIVISION: **REPERTOIRE MUST BE MEMORIZED FOR LIVE AUDITIONS!**
--TWO ARIAS FROM OPERAS WRITTEN IN ITALIAN BY COMPOSERS FROM CONTEST ARIA LIST. (ARIAS IN ITALIAN BY MOZART ARE ACCEPTABLE.)
--TWO ITALIAN ROMANTIC SONGS, WRITTEN BY COMPOSERS LISTED ON THE CONTEST SONG LIST.
3. JUNIOR DIVISION: **REPERTOIRE MUST BE MEMORIZED FOR LIVE AUDITIONS!**
--TWO ITALIAN SONGS OR ARIAS OF CONTRASTING STYLE BY COMPOSERS FROM CONTEST LISTS. (ARIAS & SONGS IN ITALIAN BY MOZART ACCEPTABLE.)
4. SONGS AND ARIAS SHOULD BE CHOSEN CAREFULLY FOR BALANCE AND VARIETY OF MOOD, STYLE, AND TEMPO.

AUDITION DATES

(For Live Auditions & all contest evenings, a professional accompanist will be provided for all singers. Singers may not bring own accompanist.)

1. LIVE AUDITIONS: SINGERS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY E-MAIL OF AUDITION TIME BY JANUARY 22, 2012 & WILL BE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE PROMPTLY. ALL AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD AT MONASTERO'S RISTORANTE.
--JUNIOR DIVISION: TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2012 4:00-8:00PM.
--STUDENT DIVISION: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 & THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2011 4:00-8:00PM.
--YOUNG ARTIST DIVISION: SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 & SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2011 1:00-5:00PM.

Please keep the following dates free from other commitments, or specify any conflicts on the application or at the live audition. Singers unable to attend at least one of the semi-finals and the final evening are ineligible for the Bel Canto Opera Contest. Singers chosen from each division will compete on one of the preliminary evenings and will be notified as to their individual schedule by e-mail.

2. PRELIMINARIES: FEBRUARY 12 & 19, MARCH 4 & 11, 2012. EACH EVENING, ONE SEMI-FINALIST WILL BE CHOSEN FROM EACH DIVISION.
3. SEMI-FINALS: MARCH 18 AND APRIL 14, 2012. EACH EVENING, TWO FINALISTS WILL BE SELECTED FROM EACH DIVISION.
4. FINALS: SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2012. FINALISTS WILL COMPETE FROM THE YOUNG ARTIST AND STUDENT DIVISIONS.

***** FORMAL ATTIRE IS REQUIRED AT ALL OPERA NIGHT COMPETITIONS WHICH WILL BE HELD IN A PRIVATE BANQUET ROOM BEFORE AN AUDIENCE: MEN MUST WEAR TUXEDOS; WOMEN MUST WEAR LONG GOWNS. *****

PRIZES AND AWARDS OF \$50,000 WILL BE AWARDED

- *GRAND PRIZE: \$10,000.00 CASH.
* ALL FINALISTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRAND PRIZE WHICH WILL BE AWARDED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGES.
1. STUDENT AND YOUNG ARTIST DIVISION AWARDS (EACH): 1ST PRIZE~\$2,500 2ND PRIZE~\$2,000 3RD PRIZE~\$1,500 4TH PRIZE~\$1,000
 2. BRAVO AWARDS ARE GIVEN TO NON-FINALISTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250 (JUNIOR DIVISION) OR \$500 (STUDENT / YOUNG ARTIST DIVISION), AND ARE ANNOUNCED THE FINAL CONTEST EVENING. EACH NON-FINALIST MAY ONLY RECEIVE ONE BRAVO AWARD IN ANY GIVEN YEAR AND MAY RECEIVE NO MORE THAN TWO BRAVO AWARDS WHILE IN A GIVEN VOCAL DIVISION. **These prizes will be awarded in person at the BRAVO AWARD EVENING on Sunday, May 20, 2012.**
 3. BELLA VOCE AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN TO A SELECT GROUP OF SINGERS IN THE STUDENT & YOUNG ARTIST DIVISIONS WHO ARE NOT CHOSEN TO COMPETE IN THE CONTEST EVENINGS. SINGERS WILL RECEIVE THEIR \$200.00 PRIZES, SPONSORED BY THE PAULS FOUNDATION, DURING A PERFORMANCE ON ONE OF THE CONTEST EVENINGS. BELLA VOCE WINNERS ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR BRAVO AWARDS.
 4. \$300.00 WILL BE AWARDED TO ALL SEMI-FINALISTS NOT ADVANCED TO THE FINALS.
 5. \$250.00 WILL BE AWARDED TO CONTESTANTS NOT ADVANCED TO SEMI-FINALS.

JUDGING

1. SINGERS WILL BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO VOICE QUALITY, CORRECT, CLEAR ITALIAN DICITION, APPROPRIATENESS OF SELECTIONS, MUSICALITY, STYLE, AND APPEARANCE.
2. JUDGES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE BEL CANTO FOUNDATION, AND THEIR DECISION WILL BE FINAL.

CONTEST REPERTOIRE LISTS

!!! CONTEST REPERTOIRE MUST BE WRITTEN BY COMPOSERS LISTED BELOW !!!

Note: Italian Art Songs are NOT Acceptable Repertoire

Composers of Operatic Arias

BELLINI	MASCAGNI
BOITO	MOZART
CATALANI	(JUNIOR & STUDENT DIVISION ONLY)
CILEA	PONCHIELLI
DONIZETTI	PUCCINI
GIORDANO	ROSSINI
LEONCAVALLO	VERDI

Composers of Italian Romantic Songs

ARDITI	DECURTIS	LEONCAVALLO	TIRINDELLI
BARBERIS	D'ESPOSITO	MARIO	TOSSELLI
BELLINI	DI CAPUA	PUCCINI	TOSTI
BIXIO	DI CHIARA	ROSSINI	VARESE
CARDILLO	DI CRESCENZO	SARTI	VERDI
CIOFFI	DONIZETTI	SCHIRA	
DENZA	FALVO	SECCHI	
DONAUDY	GASTALDON	TAGLIAFERRI	

BEL CANTO FOUNDATION

2012 AUDITION APPLICATION

PLEASE
PRINT
CLEARLY
IN INK

(This application may be duplicated)

NAME: _____ VOICE: _____

Check One Division: _____ YOUNG ARTIST (25-30) _____ STUDENT (19-24) _____ JUNIOR (17-18)

AGE: _____ BIRTHDATE: ____/____/____ SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____ - _____ - _____

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS: STREET: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____, _____

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS: STREET: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____, _____

*SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER and PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS are required for 1099 tax reporting of cash prizes

TELEPHONE: (____) _____ - _____ WORK/DAY NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____ CELL NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (mandatory): _____

- EDUCATION INFORMATION -

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: _____ DEGREE: _____

VOICE TEACHER(S), COACH(ES): _____

PERFORMING EXPERIENCE, HONORS AND AWARDS: _____

REPERTOIRE FOR AUDITION - (must be memorized for live audition)

TITLE **OPERA** **COMPOSER**

ARIA 1. _____

ARIA 2. _____

ARIA 3. _____

(aria 3 is for Young Artists only)

SONG 1. _____

SONG 2. _____

I hereby agree to follow all rules and regulations as established by the Bel Canto Foundation and to appear on the dates assigned for all auditions. If selected, I agree to appear in formal dress (men in tuxedos; women in long gowns) in the Opera Nights as assigned by the Bel Canto Foundation, and to accept the decision of the judges as final. I realize that I may be disqualified by failure to comply with any and all audition requirements as printed in the 2012 brochure.

SIGNATURE: _____ TODAY'S DATE: ____/____/____

Please mail the following documents to BEL CANTO FOUNDATION, 3935 W. DEVON AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60659 no earlier than DECEMBER 1, 2011 and no later than FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2012. Early application is encouraged! Be sure to include in mailing:

#1) This Application #2) Contest Evening Schedule Sheet #3) Copy of Birth Certificate, Passport, or Legible Driver's License and #4) Live Audition Schedule Sheet

(Applications must be complete to be accepted for consideration!)



2012 CONTEST EVENING SCHEDULE SHEET

PLEASE
PRINT
CLEARLY
IN INK

E-MAIL: CONTESTADMIN@BELCANTOFOUNDATION.ORG

NAME: _____ VOICE: _____

Check One Division: _____ YOUNG ARTIST (23-30) _____ STUDENT (19-24) _____ JUNIOR (17-18)

TELEPHONE: (____) _____ - _____ WORK/DAY NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____ CELL NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (mandatory): _____

The following information will help us in scheduling the contest evenings. Please complete this sheet and mail it along with your completed APPLICATION, LIVE AUDITION SCHEDULE SHEET, and PROOF OF AGE to BEL CANTO FOUNDATION, 3935 WEST DEVON AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60659

Please indicate if you can or cannot appear for each of the dates below. Check only ONE column per evening. In order to be eligible for competition, you must be available to perform on at least one of the semi-final evenings and must be available for the final evening.

IF I AM CHOSEN TO COMPETE IN THE 2012 BEL CANTO OPERA COMPETITION:

		YES, I CAN PERFORM	NO, I HAVE A CONFLICT
PRELIMINARY EVENINGS:	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012	_____	_____
	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2012	_____	_____
	SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2012	_____	_____
	SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2012	_____	_____
SEMI-FINAL EVENINGS:	SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2012	_____	_____
	SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2012	_____	_____

*YOU MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SEMI-FINAL EVENINGS

FINAL EVENING: SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2012 **STUDENT & YOUNG ARTIST CONTESTANTS MUST BE AVAILABLE ON THIS EVENING IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTEST**

SIGNATURE: _____ TODAY'S DATE: ____/____/____

