



Many thanks for your inquiry regarding MN Opera's 2016-17 chorus auditions. We look forward to hearing you in person! Please find below some helpful information regarding your upcoming audition.

1. Audition times are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Please try to offer Nickolas Sanches ([nsanches@mnoopera.org](mailto:nsanches@mnoopera.org)) as large a range of possible audition dates and times from the listed options as you can, so that he can try to accommodate everyone's availability when putting together the schedule. In the event that you cannot be heard during the listed timeframe, it may be possible to be heard at another time of the panel's convenience and discretion.
2. Please prepare at least one complete aria from an opera of your choice in the original language which shows off the best of your instrument and talents. It should be performed from memory. The panel may or may not request to hear a second aria if they have further questions about your voice, but only having one aria prepared will not count against you. Standard art song literature which allows you to present your voice in a dramatic/theatrical light is also acceptable. If you have specific questions regarding repertoire, please inquire directly to [rainsley@mnoopera.org](mailto:rainsley@mnoopera.org).
3. The panel may ask you to vocalize briefly to explore your range/registers, and may also elect to ask you to sight-sing a few phrases of a simple piece of choral music.
4. Please bring an up-to-date résumé, a recent headshot/photo, and either bring the attached completed audition form to the audition, or arrive in time to fill one in before you are called.
5. Please arrive a few minutes early and check in with the audition monitor upon arrival; they will check that all your materials are in order, direct you to warm-up spaces and rest rooms, and alert you of schedule updates.
6. You are responsible for providing and compensating your own accompanist: **please note that MN Opera does not provide an accompanist for these auditions.** A contact sheet of local accompanists who are all experienced in the standard operatic repertoire is provided; their individual fees per audition and/or prior rehearsal may vary. Some may also be willing to coach with you in advance of the audition.
7. There will be practice rooms available for you to warm-up briefly before your audition, although space will be limited by other singers and activities within the building. Please try to arrive at least partially warmed up.
8. Please do NOT park in the official MN Opera parking lot – these spaces are all reserved for staff, and you will be towed if you use them. Street parking can be usually be found in the surrounding area, and public parking lots are available across the street.
9. Although the panel will try hard to stay on time, it is possible that auditions may occasionally run a little behind schedule; please try to allow some flexibility on that side of your audition time. If you need to leave by a specific time and things seem to be running late, please alert the audition monitor promptly so that we can try to get you to your next appointment in a timely fashion.
10. The panel will be listening for qualities valuable within an opera chorus, including consistent tone quality and production, a solid, reliable vocal technique, accurate rhythm and pitch, good musicianship and phrasing, the ability to perform idiomatically and expressively in the standard operatic languages, likely contribution to the sound of the group, stage presence, and dramatic skills.