Spring 2017

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in applying to serve on the Tempo Board of Directors for the 2017/2018 season. Minnesota Opera is an innovative opera company and Tempo is an important, vibrant part of it. Members live the Tempo mission of building the next generation of opera-goers. There is much to learn from serving on the Tempo Board, many interesting people to meet, and amazing opportunities to be a part of one of the leading young professional groups in the Twin Cities.

Potential Directors will be interviewed by members of the Board’s nomination committee in May 2017. Newly appointed Directors will begin their terms in July 2017, with an initial orientation scheduled for July 11. Beginning in August, regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month.

To apply for a position on the Board of Directors, please e-mail the completed application and an up-to-date resume to tempo@mnopera.org. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, May 9. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Again, thank you for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Rhonda Skoby Kristin Matejcek   
Tempo Board Chair Audience Engagement Manager, Minnesota Opera  
tempo@mnopera.org [kmatejcek@mnopera.org](mailto:kmatejcek@mnopera.org)

**Tempo Board of Directors Application**

Name: Date:

**How did you become interested in Tempo and how long have you been a Tempo member?**

**Why are you interested in serving on the Tempo Board of Directors? What do you hope to get out of this volunteer experience?**

**What Tempo events have you attended? Please briefly discuss your favorite, including what made that a stand-out event. What would you like to see in future Tempo events?**

**Do you have any personal or professional relationships with any employee or board member of Tempo or Minnesota Opera?**

**What other non-profits or young professional groups do you volunteer with, and in what capacity?**

**Please identify your three strongest skills from the list below—or identify other qualities and skills that you would bring to Tempo—and briefly describe your experience in these three areas.**

|  |
| --- |
| Budgeting /Financial Acumen |
| Business Management |
| Collaboration |
| Event Planning |
| Fundraising |
| Graphic Design |
| Leadership Ability |
| Marketing |
| Networking |
| Organization |
| Public Relations |
| Public Speaking /Presentations |
| Research |
| Sales/Solicitation |
| Social Media |
| Strategic Planning |
| Technology |
| Training & Development |
| Writing |

Are you able to meet the expectations outlined in the attached board commitment form, including availability for monthly Board meetings, committee work, event attendance and opera performances? \_\_ Yes \_\_ No

Please indicate your availability to interview on the following dates, between the hours of 6pm and 8pm

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017 \_\_ Yes \_\_ No  
Thursday, May 25, 2017 \_\_ Yes \_\_ No**

Orientation for new Board members is scheduled for July 11, 2017 from 6-8pm and Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, from 6-8pm, beginning August 8, 2017. Please reserve this time on your calendar.

Thank you for your interest! Please submit this completed application and your resume to [tempo@mnopera.org](mailto:tempo@mnopera.org) no later than Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

**Director Commitment Form**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I understand my responsibilities as a Minnesota Opera Tempo Board Member are:

* To attend all Board meetings
* To follow through on special requests of the Tempo Board
* To respect and meet Tempo deadlines
* To get to know my fellow board members and educate myself about Tempo and Minnesota Opera
* To be a Tempo member in good standing (cost of an annual membership is $50)
* To attend the majority of Tempo events, approximately 5-10 each season
* To assist the organization when help is needed for special events and to promote Tempo
* To be a positive ambassador for Minnesota Opera and Tempo
* To assist in building the Tempo membership by actively recruiting members
* To make an annual donation (in any gift amount) to the Minnesota Opera Annual Fund
* To meet other financial commitments involved in holding a seat on Board of Directors (for example, periodically provide refreshments for board meetings, purchase event tickets, etc.)
* To actively recruit candidates for open seats on the Tempo Board of Directors

I accept the above commitment and understand my role and responsibilities as a member of the Tempo Board of Directors.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mission**

**Tempo seeks to build the next generation of opera-goers**

**Vision**

Our vision is that a new vibrant community of opera goers in their 20s and 30s comes to love the art form of opera and Minnesota Opera.  The new generation will help to support the Opera in the years and decades to come.  The new generation will support both artistic vision and innovation, contribute to financial stability, and create a community of attendees that excites other Minnesotans to appreciate, attend, and support the Opera.

We seek to provide the next generation of opera goers a community of other opera goers that makes them feel personally involved in the art form and creates lasting relationships to the Opera and to other Tempo members.  The next generation of opera goers will be educated on the history of opera and contemporary changes in the art form.  They will seek continued education about opera in order to make their Opera experiences and interactions more fulfilling and rewarding.  The next generation of opera goers will understand the necessity to support the Opera in a myriad of ways in order to secure the future of the Opera, sustain the art form, and provide future generations an exciting array of operatic experiences.

In order to build the next generation, we recognize and will accomplish a number of required activities.  We will provide an entrance point or initial contact for new members to become aware of the Opera.  We will break down barriers and myths that prevent people from attending the Opera.  We will help create an operatic experience that is memorable, comfortable, accessible, fulfilling, and entertaining.  We will show the next generation of opera goers the potential growth opportunities, both personally and socially, that are available through the Opera.  We will excite the next generation of opera goers to see the infinite possibilities and ways that the Opera can help to build a stronger community at large.

**Focus Area Descriptions**

**Audience Development**

Tempo seeks to recruit and retain Tempo members and focuses on marketing the Tempo brand to bolster Tempo’s visibility within the community. We work to increase attendance to Tempo events and encourage full-season Tempo subscriptions. In order to retain current members, we seek to cultivate loyalty to Tempo and a desire to renew yearly membership. Tempo works to create and build community partnerships with identified organizations, and collaborates with other young professionals groups in the Twin Cities to introduce new individuals to the operatic art form through our events and personal networking.

**Programming**

Tempo plans and hosts multiple events each season, with the goals of attracting new members and retention of and deepening relationships with current members. Whenever possible, we seek to strategically align Tempo with other arts organizations and events to expose new audiences to Minnesota Opera. Tempo is dedicated to enriching members’ capacity for operatic appreciation and facilitating quality networking among individuals who share a passion for the arts.