

SUMMER YOUTH INTENSIVE 2014



Photo: COC

PACKAGE CONTENTS

- Welcome and Contact
- Schedule and Programming
- Final Showcase
- Arrival and Departure Procedures
- Expectations and Attendance
- Lunchtime and Leaving the Premises
- Supplementary Forms
- Reminders



WELCOME

Welcome to the COC's Summer Youth Intensive (SYI)! As a participant in this program, you will be immersed in the world of opera for one week. You will work in the COC's rehearsal spaces with professional artists, honing your skills in various areas of this multifaceted art form. You will explore music, movement, drama, production and design. You will focus on your individual skills in areas such as voice, design, and stage direction as well as your ability to work together as a team. Family and friends will have a chance to see a special presentation of your work on the last day of the program.

Please take time to read this handbook and refer to it during the program. It should be able to answer most of your questions, but if you have more, we're always happy to hear from you! Please contact us at any time if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback about our programming at any time.

With best wishes,
The COC Education and Outreach Team



CONTACT

During the program, we can be contacted Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 416-705-5472 or at education@coc.ca. At other times, please call 416-306-2307.

Messages will be answered as promptly as possible during the day. Please make sure that callers include their name and phone number as well as the participant's full name. In case of an emergency, contact the COC switchboard at 416-363-6671 and ask to have the education department paged.



SCHEDULE

Week 1 of SYI will run from Monday, July 7 to Saturday, July 12, 2014, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Week 2 of SYI will run from Monday, July 14 to Saturday, July 19, 2014, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**MORNING
PROGRAMMING**

GROUP SCENE STUDY

Collaboration and teamwork is essential in opera, which is why mornings begin with group scene studies and focus on excerpts. Participants convene with a director, music director, and accompanist to do vocal warm-ups and exercises and then focus on preparing for their Saturday afternoon performance.

In Week One, youth will learn the music and staging for selected chorus numbers from operas from the COC's 2014/2015 season. Explore the drama and grandeur of beloved, well-known, European operas of various periods and styles!

In Week Two, youth will learn the music and staging for selected numbers from an opera written especially for young voices. Experience the fresh and moving musical innovations of a more contemporary composer! Participants who have previously attended Summer Youth Intensive (in Week One or in previous years) will be given the opportunity to rehearse an additional, focused small group or solo scene.



**AFTERNOON
PROGRAMMING**

MASTERCLASSES

In the afternoons, youth drive their own learning and participate in two masterclasses (1.5 hours each) of their choice.

WEEK 1

Vocal I – Technique: Come prepared to perform an aria or art song in front of a supportive group of peers and receive some positive and constructive feedback on how to improve your vocal technique. This masterclass will also include discussions on how to make the most of your practice time and tips on how to prepare for auditions.

Vocal II – Dramatic Interpretation: Take your performance to the next level in this workshop which focuses on character development, motivation, movement and musical expression. Working under the guidance of a director, participants go beyond the technical aspects of their singing and discover the dramatic side of opera. Youth will receive feedback on individual performances as well as participate in group exercises to develop their acting skills.

Stage Combat: While a fight scene looks like a fast and furious battle, it really involves an incredible amount of discipline and control from the actors. Get ready to learn the basic techniques and principals of safe stage combat and choreograph a fight scene with your peers.

Production: Find out what it really takes to work in the COC's production department by learning from the experts! You'll spend time behind the scenes in the costume, wig, and props departments at the COC and complete hands-on projects each day.

WEEK 2

Vocal I – Technique: Come prepared to perform an aria or art song in front of a supportive group of peers and receive some positive and constructive feedback on how to improve your vocal technique. This masterclass will also include discussions on how to make the most of your practice time and tips on how to prepare for auditions.

Special Small Group Scene and Solo Work: Have you attended Summer Youth Intensive before, either in Week One or in previous years? If the answer is, “Yes,” you can sign up to rehearse an additional scene and/or solo that will be featured in the Saturday afternoon performance.

Production Design: What is involved in creating the look of an opera production? In this masterclass you’ll work with a professional designer to complete hands-on design projects and learn the process of production design from concept to creation.

Drama: Hone your acting chops to heighten the intensity and quality of your vocal performance. You’ll learn how to use body movement, gesture, and facial expression to communicate emotion and intent. This masterclass will help you refine your acting technique through a series of rigorous drama activities and exercises.



FINAL SHOWCASE

Further details about the timing of the Saturday afternoon showcase will be sent home in a welcome letter on the first day of the program.



ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

The program takes place at the Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre, which is located at 227 Front St. E. The drop-off point is located inside the Imperial Oil Opera Theatre doors, on the southwest corner of Berkeley Street and Front Street East.

On the first day of the program, a registration table will be set up just inside the Imperial Oil Opera Theatre doors. At this time, we will check participants in, verify their information and collect forms. Sometimes there is a lineup as we ensure all of our information is accurate and that all participants are safely signed in. We ask for your patience during sign-in on the first day of the program.

Late Arrivals: Participants may arrive as early as 9:15 a.m. For participants arriving late (after 10 a.m.), please enter by way of the administrative offices. To access the offices, enter through the doors with “227” marked clearly overhead (two doors west of the Imperial Oil Opera Theatre doors) and take the elevator to the second floor reception. Inform the receptionist that you are arriving for an education program. The education team will admit you into the program room.



Parking: There is no dedicated parking at the COC. There is paid street parking available directly in front of the Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Centre on Front Street. There is also paid street parking and a Green P parking lot just south of the centre on Berkeley Street.

Public Transit: If travelling by TTC, take the 504 King streetcar (eastbound) from either St. Andrew or King station to Sherbourne Street and then walk south on Sherbourne and turn left on Front Street. Walk east towards Berkeley. From Castle Frank station, take the 65 Parliament bus southbound and get off at Berkeley Street. The centre is located on the southwest corner of the intersection.

END OF DAY SIGN OUT

The day ends at 5 p.m. Participants with permission to leave the program unaccompanied are asked to sign out with a member of the program staff. Participants who have not been given permission to leave alone must be signed out by a parent or guardian. In the interest of safety, we will only allow the parents, guardians or designated persons named on the registration form to pick up and sign out participants. If any names are missing, please call the education department as soon as possible. Any person picking up a participant from the program will be asked for government-issued photo I.D. (e.g. driver's license, passport).

EXPECTATIONS AND ATTENDANCE

We expect each participant to:

- Arrive on time each day
- Participate in all activities
- Respect others and property
- Listen to and follow instructions
- Have fun!

Participants who are sick or for any reason will not be attending are asked to call the education department to report their absence. In the case of absences for which we do not have a reason on file, we will attempt to make contact with those identified as emergency contacts at home. This is to ensure the safety of all program participants.



**LUNCHTIME
AND LEAVING
THE PREMISES**

Please pack a nut-free lunch, snacks and a refillable water bottle. We request that participants refrain from bringing food items that contain nut ingredients (e.g. peanut butter sandwiches, peanut oil, almonds, etc.).

Participants with permission to leave the program unaccompanied may leave the premises for lunch. They must sign out with program staff.



**SUPPLEMENTARY
FORMS**

A Supplementary Form and a Health and Safety Form must be completed and submitted by the first day of the program. They will be available closer to the start date of the program.



REMINDERS

This program requires 100% commitment!

Please arrive on time.

We encourage you to wear comfortable clothing for the workshops.

There is filtered water on site. Please bring a refillable water bottle.

The COC is a scent-free environment.

For full program policies including photography/media policy, cancellations, refund policy, confidentiality, health/medical concerns, visit our website coc.ca/explore.



**CONTACT
INFORMATION**

BY MAIL

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BY TELEPHONE

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BY E-MAIL

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**STAY IN
TOUCH!**



@canadianopera
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/canadianopera



/canadianoperacompany

VISIT US AT coc.ca/Explore

E-MAIL US AT education@coc.ca