

GALA OPERA COMPETITION

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Con il patrocinio del Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston

Under the patronage of the Consulate General of Italy in Boston

We are excited to announce that **The Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts** will be hosting a
Gala Opera Competition in Cambridge
on Sunday, January 24, 2027, at 7:00 p.m.

1ST PRIZE

\$1,000

2ND PRIZE

\$500

3RD PRIZE

\$300 (×3)

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be **Mr. Edward Tapper**, opera aficionado, teacher and proprietor of Boston's Orpheus Opera Shop on Commonwealth Avenue. Excellent piano accompaniment will be provided for each of the operatic selections.

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

AGE REQUIREMENTS

There are no age restrictions for participation in the competition.

VOICE TYPES

The competition is open to singers of all operatic voice types.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

Each candidate must submit a list of **three (3) arias** of their choice, selected exclusively from the repertoire of **Italian opera**.

COMPETITION ROUNDS

The competition consists of two rounds:

1. **Preliminary Selection** – conducted virtually, on the basis of an audio recording;
2. **Final Round** – held in person at the Dante Alighieri Society on Sunday, January 24, 2027.

PRELIMINARY SELECTION AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To participate in the Preliminary Selection, each candidate must submit an audio recording, in MP3 format, of **one (1) aria** of their choice, with a maximum duration of **five (5) minutes**, addressed to the Chair, Maestro Nicolas Giusti, at:

nicolasgiusti.music@gmail.com

The candidate must also submit the completed competition **application form**, together with proof of payment of the **\$30 application fee**, to:

admin@dantemass.org

The \$30 application fee may be refunded **only if the candidate withdraws from the competition no later than Sunday, January 17, 2027, 5:00 p.m.** After that date the fee is **non-refundable**, whether or not the candidate is admitted to the Final Round.

All required documentation must be received **no later than Friday, January 8, 2027.**

The names of the **fifteen (15) finalists** will be announced on **Monday, January 18, 2027.** Selected finalists must appear in person on Sunday, January 24, 2027.

FINAL ROUND *Sunday, January 24, 2027 · 7:00 p.m.*

Performance of the finalists, designation of the winners and award ceremony.

CHOICE OF THE ARIA

Each finalist will perform **one (1) aria** in the Final Round, **chosen by the Jury** from the three (3) arias submitted with their application. The Chair will personally inform each finalist of the aria selected, together with the announcement of the finalists on **Monday, January 18, 2027.**

Arias performed in the Final Round must not exceed five (5) minutes.

PIANIST REHEARSAL

Each finalist will be allotted **twelve (12) minutes** of rehearsal time with the pianist, between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 24, 2027, the day of the Final Round.

SHEET MUSIC FOR THE PIANIST

Finalists may send the scores of their **three (3) arias**, in **PDF format**, to the **official pianist** of the Competition. The name and email address of the pianist will be communicated to the fifteen (15) finalists as soon as possible.

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

All arias in the Final Round must be performed **from memory**, in the **original Italian language** and in the **original key**. **Transpositions are not permitted.**

ORDER OF PERFORMANCE

The order of performance for the Final Round will be determined by drawing lots, conducted by the Chair of the Jury shortly before the beginning of the Final Round.

ARRIVAL TIME

Candidates must be present at the competition venue at least **one (1) hour** prior to the scheduled start of the competition.

JURY

The Jury, chaired by **Maestro Nicolas Giusti**, will be composed of distinguished and recognized professionals in the field of opera and vocal music.

The decisions of the Jury are **final and not subject to appeal**. The Jury reserves the right not to award one or more prizes.

AUDIENCE AWARD – “VOTO POPOLARE”

During the Final evening, an **Audience Award** will be held: the audience will be invited to vote for their favorite finalist. Each member of the audience will receive a ballot listing all the finalists, together with a small pencil. The finalist who receives the most votes will be awarded as the winner of the **“Voto Popolare”**.



PHOTOGRAPHS AND RECORDINGS

The Final Round may be photographed and recorded (audio and video). By submitting the application form, each candidate **consents** to being photographed and recorded during the Competition, and to the use of these materials, without compensation, by the Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts and the Consulate General of Italy in Boston for institutional and promotional purposes, including websites, social media and the press.

NOTIFICATION AND CONTACTS

Upon admission to the Final Round, each finalist will be personally informed by the Chair of the aria **chosen by the Jury** from the three (3) arias submitted with their application. Please make sure your email address and telephone number on the application form are correct.

Music information: please email Maestro Nicolas Giusti at nicolasgiusti.music@gmail.com or text **617-955-3529** (text messages only).

For administrative matters, please call the Secretariat of the Dante Alighieri Society at **617-876-5160** or email admin@dantemass.org.

