

*2024 Thirtieth Annual*

***Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition  
for Michigan High School Students***

Sponsored by the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan in cooperation with the Italian American Club of Livonia Charitable Foundation, the Italian American Cultural Society of Clinton Township, Detroit Opera, Dante Alighieri Society of Michigan, and under the auspices of the Italian Consulate of Detroit.

***Entry Form***

(Please type or print)

School: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name/Address/Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of student's High School Music Teacher) (Email)

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Brief Biographical Sketch: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Vocal Selections: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(Title)

(Composer)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(Title)

(Composer)

I do hereby certify that the voice recording submitted herewith is my own voice and that I have never performed professionally. I hereby authorize the unrestricted use of the submitted recordings by the sponsors as set forth in the rules of the competition and I acknowledge that the submitted recordings become the property of the sponsors. **The deadline for entries is February 18, 2023.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's signature) (Parent/Legal Guardian's signature if student is under age 18 years)

Please email the two MP3 files to **verdiopera@comcast.net** and mail this completed form together with the school's cover letter signed by the Principal and a \$25.00 entry fee check made payable to: **Verdi Opera Theatre/H.S. Vocal Competition**, to:

Mr. John Zaretti, Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, P.O. Box 871592, Canton, MI 48187  
verdiopera@comcast.net - (734) 552-4236

***Thank you for participating, and good luck!!***

# *The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan*

*In cooperation with the Italian American Club of Livonia Charitable Foundation, the Italian American Cultural Society of Clinton Township, the Dante Alighieri Society of Michigan, and Michigan Opera Theatre announces*

2024

## THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL ITALIAN SONGS AND ARIAS VOCAL COMPETITION FOR MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

<b>PRIZES:</b>	<b>First Prize:</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>Second Prize:</b>	<b>\$500</b>
	<b>Third Prize:</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>Fourth to Tenth Prizes:</b>	<b>\$100</b>

*Major funding for the Concert of the Finalists prizes is generously provided by the Italian American Club of Livonia Charitable Foundation. Additional funding is provided by Robert DiGiovanni and Judith Steeh.*

### RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. The competition is open to all full time high school students between the ages of 14 and 19 currently attending High School in the state of Michigan. Candidates cannot have previously performed as a professional artist.
2. Selection of the finalists for the competition will be completed in early March 2024. All participants will be notified of results in writing by March 20, 2022. The final competition will be in the form of a live concert with piano accompaniment, to be held at the Italian American Cultural Center, 43843 Romeo Plank Rd., Clinton Twp., MI 48038, phone: (586)228-3030, on **Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**
3. Candidates must submit recordings of their singing two different Italian classical art songs or opera arias of their choice. The MP3 files must be sent as attachments to [verdiopera@comcast.net](mailto:verdiopera@comcast.net). **The principal must provide a letter on school stationery stating that the candidate is a full time student in good standing, and that the recordings are the candidate's own singing.** The candidate assumes all the responsibility connected with his/her participation in this competition.
4. The entry fee to participate in the competition is \$25.00 payable by check made out to "Verdi Opera/H.S. Vocal Competition." The completed application together with the letter from the school's Principal and the entry fee check must be sent to: **Mr. John Zaretti, Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, High School Vocal Competition, P.O. Box 871592, Canton, MI 48187.** Telephone: John Zaretti (734) 552-4236, or e-mail: [verdiopera@comcast.net](mailto:verdiopera@comcast.net). Entries must be postmarked no later than **February 17, 2024**. There is no limit to the number of participants in the competition from each high school. The entry MP3 recordings become property of the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan and may be used at the Verdi Opera's discretion. There will be no refund of the entry fee nor will the MP3 recordings be returned.
5. Appointed judges will select (10) finalists from the MP3 recordings received. **(Please submit good quality recordings).** The finalists will be invited and must agree to perform in the final concert competition (Concert of the Finalists) to be held before a live audience at the Italian American Club of Livonia. At the final concert each finalist will be required to sing live, on stage, the two selections originally submitted on the MP3. No prize will be awarded to any selected finalist who does not participate in the concert.
6. Candidates may choose any classical art song or opera aria in the vast repertoire of Italian music spanning from Renaissance times to the present **(See attached sample lists of songs or arias submitted and performed by students in the annals of our competition).** The songs and arias must be sung in Italian and at the final concert must be sung from memory. A professional piano accompanist will be available, upon request, for a \$50.00 fee. Finalists are required to submit in advance their music in the proper key for the accompanist or may choose to bring their own piano accompanist, at their own expense.
7. The order of appearance of the competitors at the final concert will be established by a random drawing of numbers assigned to each competitor. Competitors will be informed about their starting order in the concert on the day of the final.
8. Winners will be announced and the prizes will be awarded at the end of the Concert of The Finalists.
9. The judges nominated for the final concert will select from the ten finalists the order of finish for the first, second, and third prize winners. No student will be awarded the First Prize more than once. The decisions of the judges are final.
10. Good luck to all. Most important, have fun and enjoy the music making!!