

THE ATLANTA OPERA

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APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE ATLANTA OPERA'S 2023 96-HOUR OPERA PROJECT

ATLANTA –December 12, 2022 – The Atlanta Opera has announced that applications are now open for the second annual 96-Hour Opera Project, a composition competition and showcase featuring teams of composers and librettists from historically underrepresented communities. Participating teams will travel to Atlanta having previously completed and submitted new works based on one historical theme

from this season's story partner, The Atlanta History Center. They will travel to Atlanta on June 8 and spend four days (June 9-12, 2023) collaborating with singers, pianists and creatives, rehearsing and fine tuning these works in advance of the final showcase on June 12 at the historic Morehouse College, which will be open to the public to attend.

Travel, housing, singers, pianists, and space will be provided for each composer/librettist team. The winning team will split a \$10,000 prize, which will serve as the first installment on a commission to write a chamber opera for a future season at the Atlanta Opera. All other participating artists are guaranteed a \$1,000 honorarium.

Judges will be announced at a later date.

The inaugural 96-Hour Opera Project highlighted six incredible teams from across the globe, each presenting their own unique story of Atlanta area history through opera. The winning duo, composer Marcus Norris and librettist Adamma Ebo, blew audience and judges away with *Go On With That Wind*, using dark humor to imagine the reactions of a Morehouse Glee Club singer who had been invited to sing at a party celebrating the 1939 premier of "Gone With The Wind". This first edition of the competition was also the subject of a 3-part docu-series produced by The Atlanta Opera Film Studio and Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) which aired on GPB stations across the state and streamed nationally on stream.atlantaopera.org and www.gpb.org.

Applications are now open and available at www.atlantaopera.org/competition. There is no application fee.

About The Atlanta Opera

The Atlanta Opera's mission is to build the major international opera company that Atlanta deserves, while reimagining what opera can be. Founded in 1979, the company works with world-renowned singers, conductors, directors, and designers who seek to enhance the art form. Under the leadership of internationally recognized stage director and Carl W. Knobloch, Jr. General & Artistic Director Tomer Zvulun, The Atlanta Opera expanded from three to four mainstage productions at Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre and launched the acclaimed Discoveries series.

In recent years, the company has been named among the "Best of 2015" by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, has been nominated for a 2016 International Opera Award, and won ArtsATL's 2019 Luminary Award for Community Engagement in recognition of its successful Veterans Program in partnership with the Home Depot Foundation. In addition, The Atlanta Opera was featured in a 2018 Harvard Business School case study about successful organizational growth, and Zvulun presented a TEDx Talk at Emory University titled "The Ambidextrous Opera Company, or Opera in the Age of iPhones."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, The Atlanta Opera was one of the only companies in the world to create a full, alternative season, consisting of no less than 40 live performances in two different outdoor venues, including a revolutionary custom-designed circus tent. The fundraising goal was tripled, and four new productions were created, each of which employed 150 cast, crew and staff. The critically acclaimed productions and concerts were streamed in HD in the newly created streaming platform

“Spotlight Media,” allowing The Atlanta Opera to reach a global audience. National media coverage of the “pandemic season” included features in the Wall Street Journal and PBS Newshour. For more information, visit www.atlantaopera.org.