

ART. 1

a) The Competition is open to all young people who on 1st January 2020 are under **32 years** of age for sopranos and tenors, or **34 years** of age for mezzo-sopranos, contraltos, baritones and basses, providing that they are citizens of the Countries of the European Union (EU), or of the EFTA Countries or citizens of the Countries candidate to accede to the European Union, potential candidates or Countries which can apply to European cultural programmes (Creative Europe) at the date 30.04.2019:

- Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland;

- Albania, Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Georgia, Ukraine, Tunisia, Armenia and Kosovo (under UN Security Council Resolution No. 1244).

b) For singers who are citizens of non-EU Countries, or of Countries which are not listed in this article, there will be auditions outside the competition on 1st and 2nd March 2020. Other possible dates for auditions will be determined during 2020 by the Institution's Management. For further information and for the procedure to participate in the extra auditions, please visit the website: **www.tls-belli.it**.

c) The same economic conditions of the winners are also valid for the singers that will be chosen for the auditions outside the competition in proportion to their work, unless they are awarded other special prizes. Nevertheless, the Institution will define their possible study period, role and participation in the Opera Seasons 2020 and 2021. The decisions of the Institution's Management are irrevocable.

ART. 2

Applications, drawn up by filling in the application form available on **www.tls-belli.it**, shall be sent to the following email addresses: **segreteria.artistica@tls-belli.it** or **segreteria@tls-belli.it**. The application form can also be addressed to: **Istituzione Teatro Lirico Sperimentale di Spoleto "Adriano Belli" – Piazza G. Bovio, 1 - 06049 Spoleto (PG) Italy**.

If you send it by e-mail, the Institution will not be responsible for a possible non-reception. The applicant will have to write his/her full name, address, voice range and citizenship. The following documents shall be included:

a) A copy of the passport or identity card valid for expatriation;

b) A copy of the certificate attesting accomplished studies, issued by a Conservatory, a high school or music school. If the studies were accomplished at a private school or with a teacher, the headmaster or the teacher have to issue on his/her responsibility a declaration stating the student's qualification and level of suitability;

c) Applicant's statement in writing that he/she has never played a main role during the opera season of important Opera Houses;

- d) Applicant's statement in writing of any general studies they have completed, or any profession or occupation practised;
- e) Authorization for the Istituzione Teatro Lirico Sperimentale di Spoleto "A. Belli", in accordance with the European Data Protection Regulation 679/2016, to handle the personal data supplied in order to participate in the Competition. These data will be used exclusively for the purposes of administration of this Competition. (The holder of these data is the Istituzione Teatro Lirico Sperimentale di Spoleto "A. Belli");
- f) 1 passport photograph; 1 full length photograph;
- g) List of the excerpts to be presented (the list could be send after sending the application form but in any case within the application deadline of the 13th February 2020).

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS is Thursday 13th February 2020.

Candidates must bring to the audition a valid identification document with a photograph, providing citizenship as per art. 1.

ART. 3

The Institution:

a) will not accept applications that do not include all the documents specified in Art. 2 above, nor those posted after the final deadline of February 13th 2020. **The postmark will be proof of the posting date;**

b) reserves the right to request proof of authenticity of certificates and declarations.

The application forms sent by e-mail, as set out in art. 2, **will have to be presented in original to the Istituzione Teatro Lirico Sperimentale before the audition.**

ART. 4

The official auditions of the "European Community" Competition will take place at the Teatro Nuovo in Spoleto in Piazzale B. Gigli from 26th to 29th February 2020. All applicants must be present at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday 26th February 2020 at the Teatro Nuovo in Spoleto, without any further notice. The order of appearance will be chosen by ballot at 11.00 a.m. on 26th February 2020 at the Teatro Nuovo. For the auditions out of Competition, refer to Art. 1 points b) and c). No travel or living expenses will be refunded to participants.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS – EXAMINATIONS

ART. 5

The Board of Examiners, appointed by the Institution and approved by the "Direzione Generale Spettacolo dal Vivo, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali e per il Turismo" of the Italian Republic, will consist of the following members:

a) the Institutions' Artistic and Didactic Director or other expert appointed by the Institution;

b) experts chosen among singers, singing teachers, artistic directors of important opera theatres, music critics and musicologists, musical and theatre organizers. One representative of the “Direzione Generale Spettacolo dal Vivo, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali e per il Turismo” of Italy may also be invited to participate in the audition as an observer.

ART. 6

The competition is divided into three parts:

Part One - Preliminaries

The applicant must present two excerpts from repertory operas, at his/her own choice **except for the opera referred to in letter b) below.**

Applicants obtaining an average of **6 marks out of 10** will pass to the semifinals.

Part Two - Semifinals

The applicant must present three other excerpts from repertory operas at his/her own choice, **except for the opera referred to in letter b) below.**

Applicants obtaining an average of **7.5 marks out of 10** will pass to the **Finals.**

For the Preliminaries and Semifinals, the Board of Examiners will decide whether to listen to the whole program or to a part of it.

Part three - Finals

The applicant must:

- a) perform some excerpts chosen by the Board of Examiners from those presented for the preliminaries and semifinals;
- b) show through knowledge of an **opera** and be able to perform any excerpt of it, including recitatives and “insieme” pieces. The applicant must also demonstrate to know its age, nature, composer and must be able to talk about the features of the main characters.
- c) Interview.

Applicants obtaining an average mark of at least **8 out of 10** will be declared winners.

ART. 7

Accompanying pianists will be available for the participants. However, if the applicants prefer, a pianist of their own choice, at their own expenses, can accompany them.

ART. 8

The Board of Examiners is valid when the majority of the members is present. It will draw up the list and will declare winners those applicants who have obtained an average mark of at least 8 out of 10. The Board of Examiners will also have the option to grade as “**eligible**” those applicants who, according to the examiners, could be engaged as per **art. 14.**

ART. 9 Prize for the winning Artist in accordance with Art. 7, Law n. 93/92 by NUOVOIMAIE

A prize for the winning Artist in the first place in accordance with Art. 7, Italian Law n. 93/92 of a total amount of 15.000,00 euros has been set up by “NUOVOIMAIE”, in favour of the Competition’s winning Artist who will achieve the highest score as expressed in this notice. The cash prize will be supplied in accordance with the Art. n. 9 of the “Recording Project Competition Announcement art. 7 Italian Law 93/92 –Audio area 2019 edition” of NUOVOIMAIE and in particular with the point 9.5. *“To each of the winning Artists or subsidized Prize Competitions, in accordance with what established by art. 9.1, “NUOVOIMAIE” will issue a notice asking to indicate the suitable person to whom dispense the prize, in order to promote a tour, as in to promote the artist’s own play/performance/exhibitions. This communication must be done by - and no later-than 30 days. This subject must be a legal professional, aiming to the organisation of performances, established and operating before 31st December 2018; People members of the Board of Judges or working for the organisation of the competition are not allowed to take part to it. The cash price for the subject organizer of performances will be object of specific resolution of the Board of director.”.*

PREPARATORY DEBUT OPERA SEASON

ART. 10

The winners will attend the 2020 and 2021 five-month Preparatory Courses. The Course could also include transfers for studying purposes and for specialization in Italy and abroad. The Course will include lessons on theory, acting, stage movement, singing, group exercises and preparation of several operas. The Course will be held in Spoleto at the “Villa Redenta” estate, at the “Complesso di San Nicolò”, at “Teatro Caio Melisso”, at “Teatro Nuovo” and/or in Rome or in other places. Those applicants considered “eligible” could be called to attend the last two months of the 2020 Preparatory Course.

ART. 11

The attendance at the Preparatory Course and the participation in the didactic activities as well as in those which are aimed at the direct preparation of the representations of the Opera Season or in other activities set by the Institution is compulsory and free of charge. The winners of the Competition will be also awarded the annual total amount of Euros **5.000,00** gross in 2020 and in 2021. This annual sum will be divided into three Euros **700,00** monthly scholarships. The winners will also benefit from a two-month agreement of Euros **1.450,00** per month.

This agreement is made for the period linked, also temporarily, to the activities of direct preparation of the operas and for the period of the Opera Season. If the activities will be extended beyond the five months expected, a sum of money proportional to the amount of the monthly scholarship will be allocated in case of extra didactic activity or a sum of money proportional to the amount of the above-mentioned monthly agreement. The right to the scholarship and to the agreement depends on the constant and fruitful attendance at the Preparatory Course and on the participation in the Debut Opera

Season and it will be proportional to the actual attendance, even though the singers cannot be absent neither in the rehearsal period for the stage setting nor in the performances rehearsals.

ART. 12

During the whole Course, the students may not be absent. In case, the Institution might allow brief permits for serious reasons or for documented necessity, after having asked for the Artistic-Didactic Director's advice. Students cannot be absent during opera rehearsals or performances.

ART. 13

The 2019 and 2020 Competition winners who have attended the Course will debut in the 74th Debut Opera Season that will take place in Spoleto, in other cities of Umbria or elsewhere and the Institution will stage it within 2020. Performing the roles decided by the Artistic-Didactic Director is compulsory. Other performances could take place in main Italian theatres, such as "Teatro La Fenice di Venezia", "Teatro dell'Opera di Roma", "Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino", "Teatro Comunale di Bologna" and "Arena Sferisterio di Macerata".

ART. 14

The Institution reserves the right to use for vacant roles those students considered "eligible" by the Board of Examiners of this Competition, or the winners of previous competitions of the "Teatro Lirico Sperimentale" or the winners of other competitions as long as they are citizens of a European Union country or of the following countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Armenia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Georgia, Ukraine, Tunisia or singers chosen in auditions especially organized by the Teatro Lirico Sperimentale. The same economic conditions of the winners are also valid for the chosen ones in proportion to their work, unless they are awarded other special prizes. Nevertheless, the Institution will define their possible study period, role and participation in the Opera Season. The decisions of the Institution's Management are irrevocable.

ART. 15

During the Preparatory Course and the Opera Season, the participants undertake to be available for concerts, opera performances, television or radio recordings (partial or complete), and for any other event organized by the Teatro Lirico Sperimentale in Italy and abroad, without any further remuneration. This didactic activity can be scheduled also outside the period of the Preparatory Course and of the Opera Season; in this case participants will receive an additional scholarship whose amount will be quantified afterwards by the Institution's Management.

ART. 16

The application to this Competition implies the acceptance of all provisions in this announcement and, therefore, obligation to fully comply with them.

ART. 17

The students who do not attend the course regularly, who do not apply themselves, or who seriously breach the regulations will be asked to leave the course, with consequent loss of any right or benefit. Students who do not fulfill Articles 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 will lose the right specified in this announcement and will have to refund any scholarships and prizes received, as well as paying compensation for damages.

ART. 18

Any measures taken by the Institution, or any decisions and resolutions of the Board of Examiners are irrevocable.

ART. 19

In case of disputes, only the Italian version of this announcement will have legal value. Any legal lawsuit will be submitted for settlement to the Court of Spoleto.