

OPEN CALL: »Opera Bridge – From Early Career to European Stage«

Professional Career Development for Opera Singers

Musikkultur Rheinsberg gGmbH: Musikakademie & Kammeroper Schloss Rheinsberg and Opera Collective Ireland (OCI) invite opera singers to participate in a comprehensive training program as part of the Erasmus+ funded research project »Opera Bridge«. The program combines digital modules with practical training and teaches essential skills for sustainable career planning in the European opera sector. »Opera Bridge« specifically prepares emerging opera singers for the European job market and builds a bridge between artistic higher education and professional practice, recognising participants as experts of their own working reality who co-create the knowledge-building and learning process on equal footing.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The program targets emerging opera singers from Germany and Ireland who have completed at least a master's degree (or equivalent), have some professional operatic experience, and are still in the phase of professional orientation, without a permanent attachment to any particular organization.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

1. **Digital modules (spread over six months in two units each à 3h):**
 1. Long-term Career Planning: How can I build a sustainable opera career without overtaxing my voice, body, and mind? How can I find stability in a fast-paced work environment? (February 2026)
 2. Financial Planning & Social Insurance: How do country-specific payment systems, funding structures, and social insurance for freelance artists work? Where can I find help? (April 2026)
 3. Self-Marketing & Digital Presence: How to build a professional public profile, use digital channels for audience interaction, and how to communicate with event organizers and agencies? (June 2026)
2. **Practical On-Site Training (27.-29.7.2026, in Rheinsberg):**
 1. Camera Acting and On-camera Presence: Expression, framing, perspectives (with accompanist/coach as needed)
 2. Site- and Situation-specific Performance: From the sovereign audience interaction to the audition
3. **Showcase Concert (30.7.2026 in Rheinsberg):**
 1. Presentation of individual artistic profile
 2. Live performance in the Kammeroper Rheinsberg with recording for participants' portfolios, and final reflection

SPECIFIC FEATURES

- Working in German-Irish tandems to exchange different national perspectives
- Combined learning formats (digital workshops and in-person training)
- Optional regular weekly check-ins for individual support

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- Participation is free of charge (including travel, accommodation, and meals for the in-person training in Rheinsberg)
- Participation in all parts of the program is mandatory
- Performing in the showcase concert is only possible after participating in the workshops

PROJECT PARTNER

- Musikkultur Rheinsberg gGmbH: Kammerakademie & Kammeroper Schloss Rheinsberg (Germany), contact: Sina Schmidt, sina.schmidt@musikkultur-rheinsberg.de
- Opera Collective Ireland

APPLICATION

Applicants will be selected for participation after the submitted documents have been reviewed.

- Curriculum Vitae (max. 2 pages)
- Application form
- Video of motivation (max. 2 minutes), which demonstrates the interest in sustainable, long-term career planning in the opera profession
- Deadline: 4.1.2026
- Application via <https://musikakademie-rheinsberg.de/opera-bridge/>



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