



Scholarship “Best of South-East”

2023/24 and 2024/25

In cooperation with: Steiermärkische Sparkasse – University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (KUG) – Oper Graz – Musikverein für Steiermark (Bank of Styria, University for Music and Performing Arts in Graz, Opera Graz, Styrian Music Society)

Goal of the Scholarship Programme

This programme offers the opportunity to the many talented candidates in the South-Eastern region of Europe to combine an international education and training with relevant professional experience. The scholarship holders receive a scholarship for four semesters (two years of study) at KUG and an internship in Graz.

Target Candidates

Students and graduates of Voice, Concert Singing and Opera Performance, who have the citizenship of one of the following countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Northern Macedonia.

Study Course

The scholarship holders are given the opportunity to complete a regular course of studies at KUG (Bachelor’s programme Voice, Master’s programme Voice, Master’s programme Concert Singing or Master’s programme Opera Performance).

Internship

The internship consists of an artistic and/or management training course in the second year of the scholarship programme. It will be defined on an individual basis and held at the Graz Opera House or the Musikverein für Steiermark.

Requirements

- Completion of an artistic study (Voice, Concert Singing or Opera Performance) at a tertiary education institution or a course of study that is already in the final third section of the appropriate curriculum (this corresponds to the 5th semester in a Bachelor's programme lasting 8 semesters).
- Citizenship of one of the following countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Northern Macedonia
- Above average evaluations in the relevant artistic subjects
- Knowledge of German language according to the appropriate KUG curricula:
 - BA Voice: B1 before the start of the third semester
 - MA Voice: B2 before the start of the third semester
 - MA Concert Singing: B2 before the start of the second semester
 - MA Opera Performance: B2 before the start of the third semester
- It is recommended that candidates acquire German language proficiency before beginning their studies in Graz
- Maximum age at time of application: 27 years
- For applicants who are already studying at an Austrian university, the following applies: Excluded from the programme are students or graduates from the above-mentioned regions who already had their center of life in Austria before beginning their studies.

Application Documents

- The completed application form. Please use capital letters only.
- Study Confirmation
- Diploma Supplement and Transcript of Records
- A recorded performance (DVD, MP3, MP4, WAV or YouTube-link) of three songs/arias from different historical periods. Candidates are required to perform at least one German Lied or one aria sung in German. Video recordings must show the applicant's entire body (long shot) and must be uncut and unedited.
- Detailed tabular Curriculum Vitae
- Personal statement/letter of motivation in essay form in German or English (max. 2 pages). Special attention must be paid to the applicant's main interests and motives
- Two letters of recommendation in German or English (one of them from a member of the rectorate of the university and one from the teacher of the artistic main subject). Students who are already enrolled at KUG only need one letter of recommendation from the main subject teacher.
- Copy of the identity page of the passport

Application deadline

15 March 2023

Selection Process

A first selection of suitable candidates will be made on the basis of the submitted recordings in consultation with suitable artistic personalities of KUG and Graz Opera. A preliminary selection result will be available after the audition at Graz Opera in May 2023.

Candidates who are not yet studying at KUG must pass the entrance examination as part of the selection process. Representatives of the Steiermärkische Sparkasse can also take part in the examination senate. The entrance exams will take place in June and July 2023. Afterwards the final result of the selection process will be available. The exact dates of the entrance exam and the audition at Graz Opera will be announced to the applicants during the selection process.

Scholarship Amount

The scholarship amounts EUR 9.000,- for each year of study. The scholarship holders must obtain the following items for themselves: student health insurance, residence permit and visa.

Hints

Exclusion from programme possible

Implementation of the events (supporting programme) if the situation allows

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