

INTERNATIONAL OPERA COMPETITION GIUSEPPE DI STEFANO XXI EDITION

Trapani, May 13 – 16, 2026

The Luglio Musicale Trapanese Foundation, Teatro di Tradizione, in collaboration with the City of Trapani, within the scope of its institutional objectives of promotion, enhancement, and support of young talents in musical theatre, as well as with the aim of facilitating the professional start of young performers in the operatic repertoire and identifying new voices to be included in its artistic productions,

ANNOUNCES

the 21st Edition of the Giuseppe Di Stefano International Opera Competition.

Article 1

Eligibility Requirements and Objectives of the Competition

Young opera singers of any nationality born after January 1, 1989, are eligible to participate in the competition. The competition will take place in Trapani from May 13 to 16, 2026, according to the procedures and provisions established in the following articles of this announcement.

The objective of the competition is the identification of young opera singers for the purpose of awarding:

- the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Prizes;
- artistic assignments for the allocation of the following roles in the production of the opera I Capuleti e i Montecchi by Vincenzo Bellini:
 - Capellio (bass)
 - Giulietta (soprano)
 - Romeo (mezzo-soprano)
 - Tebaldo (tenor)
 - Lorenzo (bass)

all special prizes referred to in Art. 6 of this announcement. The production of the opera I Capuleti e i Montecchi by Vincenzo Bellini, for which the roles indicated in this announcement are being contested, is included in the program of the 78th Stagione Verbi d'Amore and will be performed at the Teatro Giuseppe Di Stefano between July 9 and 23, 2026.

Article 2

Venue of the Competition

The competition rounds will take place in Trapani at the Sala Grande of the Complesso Monumentale San Domenico, located at Salita San Domenico, 1.

Participants are required to present themselves at the Secretariat of the Foundation on the day and at the time communicated to them in advance.

For the execution of the rounds, the Luglio Musicale Trapanese Foundation will provide candidates with an official accompanist pianist; however, participants may, at their own expense, use the services of a trusted accompanist pianist, provided prior notice is given to the Secretariat.

Article 3

Registration Procedure and Required Documentation

Registration for the competition requires the payment of a participation fee of €90.00 (ninety/00), excluding any bank charges, which is non-refundable, except as provided in Art. 8 of this announcement. The registration procedure involves completing the admission application attached to this announcement and available on the official website: <https://www.lugliomusicale.it/it/bando-concorso-lirico-giuseppe-di-stefano/>. The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory attachments:

- a copy of a valid identity document (ID card or equivalent document);
- artistic curriculum vitae;
- proof of payment of the €90.00 registration fee made via bank transfer to the account of Ente Luglio Musicale Trapanese, IBAN IT66 Q030 6916 4001 0000 0062 476 – Banca Intesa San Paolo, Trapani branch;
- full-length photograph;
- declaration of consent for the processing of personal data.

Candidates who are citizens of non-EU countries must mandatorily present to the Secretariat, under penalty of exclusion, a valid entry permit for the territory of the Italian Republic, in accordance with current legislation. Complete applications must be received by May 4, 2026, via email at concorsodistefano@lugliomusicale.it. Applications received after the deadline and/or incomplete, missing one or more data or documents required by this announcement, will result in automatic disqualification from the competition.

Article 4

Repertoire and Structure of the Competition Rounds

All candidates must present, indicating it in the registration form, a total repertoire of six arias, performed in their original keys and languages, complete with recitative and cabaletta where applicable, of which at least three must be in Italian.

Candidates competing for the roles of Giulietta, Romeo, and Tebaldo must include in the presented repertoire the pieces indicated for each role:

- Giulietta:
 - *Eccomi in lieta vesta ... Oh! quante volte, oh quante!*
 - *Morte io non temo*
 - *Sì, fuggire, a noi non resta*
- Romeo:
 - *Se Romeo t'uccise un figlio... La tremenda ultrice spada*
 - *Deh tu, deh tu bell'anima!*
 - *Sì, fuggire, a noi non resta*
- Tebaldo:
 - *È serbata a questo acciaio*

Candidates for the roles of Capellio and Lorenzo must include in their repertoire at least one piece that presents technical, stylistic, and musical characteristics similar to those of the respective role.

The competition will be structured in three rounds, according to the following program:

1. preliminary round: two pieces selected from the repertoire indicated in the registration form, excluding *Sì, fuggire, a noi non resta*; one chosen by the candidate and one chosen by the Jury.
2. semifinal round: two pieces selected from the repertoire indicated in the registration form, excluding *Sì, fuggire, a noi non resta* and not performed in the previous round; one chosen by the candidate and one chosen by the Jury.

3. final round: two pieces selected from the repertoire indicated in the registration form, chosen by the Jury; for the roles of Romeo and Giulietta, one of the two pieces will be the duet *Sì, fuggire, a noi non resta*.

Furthermore, for candidates being considered for the roles in the opera *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*, the Jury may verify, through an artistic interview, the candidate's complete knowledge of the role.

Article 5

Composition of the Jury and Evaluation Criteria

The Jury of the competition will be composed as follows:

- Anna Caterina Antonacci, President;
- Pietro Borgonovo;
- Elsa Galasio;
- Stefanna Kibalova;
- Massimo Pizzi Gasparon;
- Giacomo D'Angelo;
- Walter Roccaro.

At the end of the preliminary and semifinal rounds, the Jury will express its judgment indicating suitability or unsuitability for the next phase of the competition.

At the end of the final round, the judgment will be expressed in hundredths, calculated as the arithmetic mean of the scores of the individual Jury members, excluding the highest and lowest scores. For the purpose of awarding special prizes, a representative of each promoting institution will participate in the Jury's work exclusively for the final round.

The Artistic Director has the authority to make changes to the composition of the Jury in case of the unforeseen unavailability of previously appointed members. In the absence of the President, their functions will be performed by the Artistic Director.

Article 6

Awarding of Prizes and Artistic Assignments

At the conclusion of the final round, and based on the indisputable and final judgment of the Jury, the following will be awarded:

- the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Prizes;
- artistic assignments for the interpretation of the roles in the opera *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* by Vincenzo Bellini – 78th *Stagione Verbi d'Amore*, with the following compensations:
 - 1 assignment for the role of Capellio, €1,500;
 - 1 assignment for the role of Giulietta, €3,000;
 - 1 assignment for the role of Romeo, €3,000;
 - 1 assignment for the role of Tebaldo, €2,500;
 - 1 assignment for the role of Lorenzo, €1,500.

The following special prizes will also be awarded:

- *Francesco Braschi Special Mention Prize*: scholarship of €600.00 (six hundred/00) offered by the Kiwanis Club Trapani;
- *Associazione Amici della Musica di Alcamo Prize*: paid concert reserved for the two best Sicilian finalists (one male and one female);
- *DM Artist Management Prize*: representation and career development for one year, at no cost to the artist;
- *Press Prize*: awarded by a special Jury composed of Danilo Boaretto, Sabina Braschi, and Giuseppe Montemagno;
- *Rotary Club Trapani Birgi Mozia Prize*: scholarship of €600.00 (six hundred/00) offered by the same Club;
- *Sicily Music Festival & Competition Prize*: full scholarship for participation in the Sicily Music Festival 2027;

- *Sicily Music Festival & Competition Prize*: direct admission to the final of the Sicily Voice International Opera Competition;
- *Audience Prize*: scholarship of €250.00 (two hundred fifty/00), awarded to the contestant who receives the highest number of votes from the audience present at the final round.

Additional special prizes may be announced before the start of the final round. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Prizes may also be awarded ex aequo. All prizes and scholarships are intended gross of taxes. The Jury reserves the right not to award prizes if it considers that the candidates do not meet the required artistic standards.

Winners of the artistic assignments are required to accept the production plan established for the assignments, under penalty of forfeiting the awards.

Article 7

Recordings, Filming, and Release for Use

The Luglio Musicale Trapanese Foundation reserves the right to film and record all three phases of the competition (Preliminary, Semifinal, and Final), without any obligation to the participants of any kind. Participation in the competition constitutes consent for the use of images and audio recordings for possible radio, television, and internet broadcasts of performances carried out during the entire event, of the artistic assignments, and of prize concerts, and does not entail the payment of any rights or compensation of any kind for any reason or cause.

Article 8

Force Majeure Clause and Acceptance of the Regulations

The Luglio Musicale Trapanese Foundation reserves the right to cancel or postpone the competition in case of force majeure, in which case the registration fee will be refunded to the candidates.

By registering for the competition, each participant agrees to accept all the rules contained in these Regulations, as well as the procedures for the rounds and the judgment of the Jury.

THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

M^o Walter Calogero Roccaro

Trapani, 13/03/2026

