THE 7TH SHIZUOKA INTERNATIONAL OPERA COMPETITION 2014, Shizuoka, Japan

2014, Shizuoka, Japan

A member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions (WFIMC)

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

7ÈME CONCOURS INTERNATIONAL DE L'OPERA DE SHIZUOKA

2014, Shizuoka, Japon

Membre de la Federation Mondiale des Concours Internationaux de Musique (FMCIM)

GUIDE DE CANDIDATURE
Organized by: Shizuoka Prefectural Government, Shizuoka Prefectural Board of Education, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka University of Art and Culture, and the Executive Committee of the Shizuoka International Opera Competition

Promoted by: Hamamatsu Cultural Foundation and HAMAMATSU VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU


In Cooperation with: KAWAI, MOSTLY CLASSIC, ONGAKU NO TOMO SHA CORP., Roland and YAMAHA
Guide for Applicants

1 Name
The 7th Shizuoka International Opera Competition

2 Aim of the Competition
Commencing in 1996, the 50th year after the death of Tamaki MIURA, the Shizuoka International Opera Competition is held every three years to commemorate the world-famous prima donna, known for her ties to this prefecture. The Shizuoka International Opera Competition aims to discover young talented musicians and give a boost to their careers in the field of vocal music. It also hopes to contribute to the worldwide promotion of Shizuoka's culture through international cultural exchange.

Tamaki MIURA is regarded as the very first Japanese soprano to achieve world renown. She played the title role in the opera, Madama Butterfly, and the number of her performances around the world reached more than 2,000. Tamaki was praised by the composer, Puccini. Puccini stated his admiration for her, "It was as if I had composed Madama Butterfly solely for Madama MIURA." Tamaki's parents and husband were Shizuoka natives and she herself had once lived in Shizuoka.

3 Host Organization (Alphabetical order, title omitted)
The Executive Committee of the Shizuoka International Opera Competition

Chairperson
KAWAKATSU Heita (Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture)

Honorary Advisors
ITO Kyoko (Professor Emeritus at Kunichi College of Music)
NAKAYA Takaji (Chairperson of Shizuoka Prefectural Assembly)

Director of Board
MORIYAMA Seiji (Vice Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture)

Vice Directors of Board
KIMURA Toshimitsu (Professor at Toho Gakuen School of Music)
SUZUKI Yasutomo (Mayor of Hamamatsu City)

Board Members
ABE Toru (Superintendent of Shizuoka Prefectural Board of Education)
ITO Shuji (Chairperson of Hamamatsu Cultural Foundation)
KAWAI Hirotaka (President of KAWAI Musical Instruments Mfg. Co., Ltd.)
MIYAZAWA Masami (Chairperson of Planning, Culture and Tourism Committee, Shizuoka Prefectural Assembly)
NAKATA Takuya (President of YAMAHA Corporation)
SAEGUSA Shigeaki (Director of the Art and Culture Research Center, Shizuoka University of Art and Culture)
SHIMOYAMA Koji (Director of Culture and Tourism Department of Shizuoka Prefecture)
SUZUKI Sumiko (President of Shizuoka Prefectural Association for Cultural Affairs)
TAMURA Takako (Deputy Director of Shizuoka Culture Foundation)

Auditors
OTSU Yoshitaka (President of SHIZUGIN LEASE Co., Ltd.)
SUGIYAMA Shigetoshi (Executive Director of Shizuoka Association for International Relations)

<Committee of Project Planning & Management>
Members
BANBA Chihiro (Opera singer)
IHARA Naoko (Professor Emeritus at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts)
KIMURA Toshimitsu (Professor at Toho Gakuen School of Music)
KISHI Suminobu (Opera Scholar)
MIZUGUCHI Satoshi (Professor at Okayama University of Arts Graduate School)
MORIYAMA Seiji (Vice Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture)
OKABE Shuji (Executive Director of Operations and Financial Affairs, New National Theatre, Tokyo)
ONITA Masahiko (Professor at Showa University of Music)
ONO Kazuhide (Principal Conductor at Opéra National de Lyon)
SUZUKI Yasutomo (Mayor of Hamamatsu City)

<Committee of Jury>
Chairperson
KIMURA Toshimitsu (Japan)
MEMBERS
BANBA Chihiro (Japan)
TERESA BERGANZA (Spain)
VINCENTO DE VIVO (Italy)
WERNER HINK (Austria)
IHARA Naoko (Japan)
MIZUGUCHI Satoshi (Japan)
CHERYL STUDER (U.S.A.)
GABRIELLA TUCCI (Italy)
BERND WEIKL (Germany)
YU Zizheng (China)

<Conductor and Orchestra (For the Final Round Only)>
Conductor
CHIEN Wen-Pin
Orchestra
Tokyo Symphony Orchestra

<Chief Coordinator>
HIROKI Hitoshi

<Contact>
The Secretariat for the Executive Committee of the Shizuoka International Opera Competition
Shizuoka University of Arts and Culture
2-1-1 Chuo, Naka-ku, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka 430-0829, JAPAN
E-mail opera@suac.ac.jp
Website http://www.suac.ac.jp/opera/

4 Dates
The 1st Round
November 8 (Sat) - November 10 (Mon), 2014
The 2nd Round
November 12 (Wed) - November 13 (Thu), 2014
The Final Round
November 16 (Sun), 2014
Results and Awards
November 16 (Sun), 2014
Concerts by Prizewinners
November 18 (Tue) and November 20 (Thu), 2014
5 Location
Act City Hamamatsu Main Hall (111-1 Itaya-machi, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka, Japan) and others

6 Application Qualifications
Age 33 or younger (Limited to applicants born on or after November 8, 1980.)

7 Application Rules
(1) Application materials: Please submit the following 7 items.
Application forms can be downloaded from the official website of Shizuoka International Opera Competition. (http://www.suao.ac.jp/Opera-en/)
1. Application Form (p.35A)
2. List of Pieces to Be Judged (p.36)
   - Observe the following guidelines when completing this section (see the attached example).
   - [1] There must be one <self-chosen aria> for the 1st round, four <proposed arias>, and one <self-chosen aria> for the final round. Each of these six arias must be different.
   - [4] The registered arias and aria(s) sung by <self-chosen role> must be sung in at least 2 different languages.
   - [5] Oratorios and concert arias cannot be accepted.
   - [6] The name of the composer, opera, aria, role and lyrics from where the performance starts must be written in the original language. The key and the time length must also be given.
   - [7] Pieces to be judged cannot be changed once they are submitted to the Secretariat.
3. Preliminary Audition Recording Certificate (p.33)
   - For more information on preliminary audition, refer to p.31
4. Photographs
   - Three glossy photographs taken within six months of the date of application (4cm×5cm, front view of head and shoulders, with your name printed on the back, one photo to be attached to Application Form)
   - Photographs may also be submitted in digital data format (at least 300 dpl, print name on label of CD-ROM).
   - Photographs should be free from copyright.
   - Photographs submitted are to appear in the official program and other advertisement media.
5. Identification
   - Copy of your passport or other official documentation that proves your name, nationality and date of birth
6. Recording for preliminary audition
   - MD recording (CD or Cassette tape also acceptable) of two arias for the preliminary audition
7. Piano scores for accompanist
   - Piano scores of one <self-chosen aria> for the 1st round and four <proposed arias> should be submitted. The piano scores are not required if contestants are accompanied by their own accompanist.

(2) Submission Methods
(a) Postal Application
   - Please mail the 7 items listed on the left to the Secretariat.
(b) Online Application
   - Application Form
   - List of Pieces to Be Judged
   - Preliminary Audition Recording Certificate
   - Photographs
   - Identification
   - Recording for the preliminary audition
   - Piano scores for accompanist
   - Visit official website (http://www.suao.ac.jp/Opera-en/) to fill out an online application.
   - Go to the screen in the online application and upload the files to the website or send the items to the address below by post.
   - Mail scores to the Secretariat.

(3) Mail to
   - The Secretariat for the Executive Committee of the Shizuoka International Opera Competition
   - Shizuoka University of Art and Culture
   - 2-1-1 Chuo, Naka-ku, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka 430-0929, Japan

(4) Submission Period
   - January 1 (Wed) through April 30 (Wed), 2014.
   - Please note that all application materials MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 30, 2014.
   - Online Application will close April 30 (Wed), 2014 at 24:00 (JST).

(5) Notes
1. Submitted application materials will not be returned to the applicants.
2. Applications must be made individually. (One envelope must not contain application materials of more than one applicant.)
3. Applicants residing overseas are requested to mail the application materials early enough to allow them to arrive in the office by the deadline. Please note that mail may sometimes be delayed due to custom procedures.
4. Applicants are responsible for keeping copies of the Application Form and the List of Pieces to Be Judged.
5. Please notify us of any changes in your contact information or addresses.

8 Notification of Preliminary Audition Results
   - The results of the preliminary audition will be informed to all applicants by June 30 (Mon), 2014.

9 Application Fee
   - Applicants who have received the notification of acceptance as a result of the preliminary audition must wire an application fee of 20,000JPY to the designated bank account by August 4 (Mon), 2014. The details of the bank account shall be enclosed in the notification of acceptance. Any wiring fees charged by the bank must be paid by the applicant. The application fee is not refundable for any reason.

10 Visa Acquisition
   - Contestants who need to acquire a visa to enter Japan must apply for the visa at their nearest Japanese embassy.
   - If a certificate of invitation is required for the visa application, contestants must immediately notify the Secretariat of this need.
11 Piano Accompanists

The Secretariat will provide official competition accompanists. Contestants are allowed to bring their own accompanists.

12 Performance Schedule

The schedule of contestants' performances will be determined by random drawings.

1. The 1st and 2nd Rounds:
   Contestants' family names will be listed in alphabetical order. For each round, a starting letter will be drawn at random and the order of the contestants' performances will begin from the first family name beginning with that letter.
   Each contestant will be notified of his/her 1st round performance date along with the results of the preliminary audition.

2. The Final Round:
   Finalists themselves participate in the drawing in order to determine their performance schedule.

13 Rehearsals

1. Rehearsals with official accompanists:
   The 1st Round: Two 60-min. rehearsals are available for each contestant.
   The 2nd Round: One 90-min. rehearsal is available for each contestant.

   *Details of the rehearsal schedule will be determined and announced by the Secretariat.

2. Rehearsals for finalists:
   1. Piano rehearsals with the conductor are scheduled for November 14 (Fri).
   2. The orchestral rehearsals are scheduled in the Main Hall for November 15 (Sat).

3. Private Rehearsals:
   Each contestant will be provided a rehearsal room with a piano for 60 minutes a day, free of charge, starting two days prior to his/her first performance.

14 Adjudication

The Adjudication process of the competition adopts the judging committee's adjudication guidelines.

1. The 1st Round: [Piano accompaniment]
   The contestant shall perform one <self-chosen aria> and one <proposed aria>. The Judging committee specifies which <proposed aria> to be performed by the contestant on the day of the 1st round (total of 2 arias).
   *The time length required to perform the two arias must be within ten minutes. If the performance takes more than ten minutes, contestants should make his/her performance shorter by omitting some parts of the arias.
   *Contestants can decide the order of the two arias.

2. The 2nd Round: [Piano accompaniment]
   The contestant shall perform a part/part(s) of the <self-chosen role>. The Judging committee specifies which part(s) to be performed by the contestant from among the whole opera score after the 1st round. Contestants CANNOT choose which part(s) of the <self-chosen role> to perform.
   *If a part/part(s) involving a duet is assigned, the contestant shall perform his/her part only.

3. The Final Round: [Orchestra accompaniment]
   The contestant shall perform one <self-chosen aria> and one <proposed aria>. The Judging committee specifies which <proposed aria> is to be performed by the contestant after the 2nd round (total of two arias).
   *Contestants can decide the order of the two arias.
   *When it is impossible for the Secretariat to get hold of the orchestral scores for the <self-chosen aria> and the <proposed aria> to be performed in the Final Round, contestants may be asked beforehand to make a change in their repertoire.

Notice on Performance

(1) All performances must be presented from memory in the original key and language. The particular arias that are customarily sung in a different key and language may be exempted from the above-mentioned rule.

   [Ex]:
   Bartolomeo di Siviglia by Rossini
   Rosina's aria from Act 1
   Una voice poco fa (originally written in F major.)
   Martha by Floh THROUGH
   Lione's aria from Act 3
   M'appari, tut't'amor (originally written in German but customarily sung in Italian)

(2) The judging committee reserves the right to end contestants' performances in the case of critical/hazardous situations.

(3) Every stage of this competition is open to the public.

15 Prizes and Awards

The finalists who win the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes are defined as the official prize winners. Each remaining finalist will receive a prize of 400,000 Japanese yen.

1. Prizes:
   The 1st prize: ¥3,000,000
   The 2nd prize: ¥1,500,000
   The 3rd prize: ¥750,000
   Finalists' prize: ¥400,000

   *All prize amounts shall be subject to taxation in compliance with Japanese tax laws.
   *When the same prize is awarded to more than one finalist, the prize money may be equally divided among the prize winners and finalists.

2. MIURA Tamaki Special Prize:
   This prize is special scholarship for the purpose of promoting education, and will be granted to a talented and promising contestant from among Japanese nationals.

3. Special gifts:
   Special gifts donated by certain groups or individuals who agree with the mission of this competition may be given to finalists.

16 Concerts by Prizewinners

The winners of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes as well as the MIURA Tamaki Special Prize are required to appear in the prizewinners' concerts without further compensation.

1. Dates and locations:
   November 18 (Tue), 2014 (Shizuoka City)
   November 20 (Thu), 2014 (Tokyo)

2. Accommodation and travel expenses will be fully covered.

17 Financial Support for Traveling

The Secretariat shall provide travel support to the contestants as specified below. The amount depends on the contestant's country of residence when the notification of acceptance is received.

(1) Contestants residing outside of Japan:
   1. 30,000 JPY per contestant residing in the region of Asia
   2. 80,000 JPY per contestant residing outside of the region of Asia
For Japanese contestants residing overseas, half of the above mentioned amount will be provided.
The travel support shall be given after any necessary taxes are deducted according to the Japanese tax laws.

(2) Contestants residing in Japan:
No support will be provided.

(3) Time of Payment:
The applicable amounts of financial support will be given to contestants in person before the 1st round begins.

18 Full Accommodation Aid
As long as contestants stay at the accommodation facilities specified by the Secretariat, the room charge will be covered by the Secretariat based on the following guidelines.
(Please note that this aid will not be applied to contestants' own accompanists.)
(1) For contestants of the 1st round:
Two days prior to contestants' very first performance date through November 11 (Tue), 10:00 AM.
(2) For contestants of the 2nd round:
Two days prior to contestants' very first performance date through November 14 (Fri), 10:00 AM.
(3) For finalists:
Two days prior to contestants' very first performance date through November 17 (Mon), 10:00 AM.

19 Disclaimer of Liability
The Secretariat will make no liability or warranty for any type of physical, mental, emotional or material damage or loss caused by, or experienced by contestants during the period of the competition or in regard to anything related to the competition.

20 Miscellaneous
(1) Changes of Application Rules:
The host organization reserves the right to make additions, corrections or changes to the clauses in the application rules even after the publication of the official application guides.

(2) Copyrights:
The host organization reserves the right to use any recording or video made or photograph taken during the competition and the prizewinners’ concerts. No compensation will be granted to any contestant with respect to the use, sale or distribution of these materials in print, broadcasting, streaming or any other media formats.

(3) Governing Law:
Any problems arising from or related to these Guidelines shall be settled in accordance with the Japanese version of the Guidelines and the laws of Japan.

(4) Other:
In the case that a situation is not stated in the application guide, contestants are to submit to the decision of the host organization.