



**Calling All Triple Threats:  
Lyric Opera of Chicago to hold ensemble auditions  
for dancer/singer/actors for Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story***

January 28 and 29, 2019

**CHICAGO (12/17/2018)** – Lyric Opera of Chicago will hold auditions for dancer/singer/actors for the 2018-19 Season production of Leonard Bernstein's musical theater masterpiece *West Side Story*. Directed by **Francesca Zambello**, this new co-production is shared by Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera, and the Glimmerglass Festival. **James Lowe** is the conductor and the original Jerome Robbins' choreography will be recreated by **Julio Monge**. **Eric Sean Fogel** is the associate director. The production design is contemporary, with sets

by **Peter J. Davison**, costumes by **Jessica Jahn** and lighting by **Mark McCullough**.

Weekly rates for ensemble performers are subject to the collective bargaining agreement with the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) and are set at \$1,176.50/week in the 2018-19 Season. The rehearsal and performance period for ***West Side Story*** is Monday, April 8 through Sunday, June 2, 2019. There is the possibility of a short one-week extension of the performance period through Sunday, June 9, 2019. Ensemble members may also be cast as understudies for some principal and small, named roles.

**All artists seen at these calls must belong to AGMA or Actors' Equity Association** (Equity Membership Candidates (EMCs) will not be considered at the ensemble auditions). **You may be asked to submit proof of union membership at your audition.**

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### **DANCER/SINGER/ACTORS**

Specifically looking for young, energetic artists who are strong singers and athletic dancers. Classical dance background a plus. **All ethnicities welcome, artists of color strongly encouraged.**

For dance calls, men should bring sneakers and knee pads, and women should bring heels and flats and (if possible) a rehearsal skirt. Please arrive warmed up and ready to dance.

Artists should prepare an entire song of their choosing from classic musical theater or the Great American Songbook, and also prepare a 16-32 bar cut. Bring sheet music in the correct key; an accompanist will be provided. Come prepared to sing; there will not be space for you to warm up.

### **The schedule for auditions is as follows:**

**Monday, January 28, 2019**

**AGMA/Equity      Men - Preliminary Dance Auditions**

10:00am - 1:00pm Audition

Check-in at 9:15am

**AGMA/Equity      Women - Preliminary Dance Auditions**

2:00pm - 5:00pm Audition

Check-in at 1:15pm

**AGMA/Equity**      **Men and Women - Preliminary Singing Auditions**  
5:00pm - 8:00pm Audition  
Check-in times assigned after dance call

**Tuesday, January 29, 2019**

**AGMA/Equity**      **Callbacks - Men and Women**  
**Sing and read for Jets**  
10:00am - 1:00pm Audition

**AGMA/Equity**      **Callbacks - Men and Women**  
**Dancing/reading/singing as needed for Jets/Sharks**  
3:00pm - 5:00pm Audition

The deadline for submission is Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 5:00pm CST.

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For more information about this production, and to submit for these auditions, please email your résumé and photo to [choraud@lyricopera.org](mailto:choraud@lyricopera.org); please indicate whether you belong to AGMA and/or Actor's Equity.

Auditions are by invitation only and will be awarded based on review of your complete submitted materials. They will be held at Lyric Opera of Chicago, 40 North Wacker Drive, Chicago.

**Walk-ins will not be seen.**

Artists at Lyric Opera of Chicago are represented by the American Guild of Musical Artists. Should you be hired for *West Side Story* you will be required to join this union, if you are not already a member.

**From: Lisa Middleton, Vice President, Marketing & Communications**

Gretchen Meyerhoefer  
Music Administration Associate  
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Lyric Opera of Chicago's mission is to express and promote the life-changing, transformational, revelatory power of great opera. Lyric exists to provide a broad, deep, and relevant cultural service to Chicago and the nation, and to advance the development of the art form.

Founded in 1954, Lyric is dedicated to producing and performing consistently thrilling, entertaining, and thought-provoking opera with a balanced repertoire of core classics, lesser-known masterpieces, and new works; to creating an innovative and wide-ranging program of community engagement and educational activities; and to developing exceptional emerging operatic talent.

Under the leadership of general director, president & CEO Anthony Freud, music director Sir Andrew Davis, and creative consultant Renée Fleming, Lyric strives to become The Great North American Opera Company for the 21st century: a globally significant arts organization embodying the core values of excellence, relevance, and fiscal responsibility.

To learn more about Lyric's current season, go to [lyricopera.org](http://lyricopera.org). You can also join the conversation with @LyricOpera on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. #Lyric1819 #LongLivePassion

Photo: Lynn Lane/Houston Grand Opera

Lyric premiere of Bernstein's *West Side Story* generously made possible by **Lead Sponsor The Negaunee Foundation** and cosponsors an **Anonymous Donor, Randy L. and Melvin R. Berlin, Robert S. and Susan E. Morrison, Mrs. Herbert A. Vance and Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance**, and **Northern Trust**. Major in-kind audio support provided by **Shure Incorporated**.

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