



The Atlanta Opera Workshop Library

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

“So You’re in Charge of the School Play” Taking on the school play can feel overwhelming. This session offers practical strategies for selecting an age-appropriate show, casting confidently, and guiding students through a positive rehearsal process. We’ll also cover tips for working with parent volunteers, managing basic design needs, advertising, budgeting, working with school administration, and building a supportive production environment that celebrates young performers.

Arts Integration: Music as a Tool in the Classroom Discover how music can enrich learning across subjects and strengthen classroom culture. In this interactive session, participants collaborate with a certified theatre educator to explore practical strategies for partnering with colleagues to integrate fine arts and academic standards. Two workshop pathways—using **music as an academic extension tool** and incorporating musical **moments to support routines and behavior**—offer actionable steps to bring the power of music into everyday teaching.

Composition and Devising for the Fine Arts Classroom Designed for upper grade music educators, learn how to lead students in applying what they’ve learned in a specific unit/semester to create original songs. These are great options for educators looking for interdisciplinary collaborations with ELA or social studies teachers. See below for our four workshop pathways:

- **Genre/Style Specific:** Exploring a certain style or genre of music
- **Musical Era Specific:** Cover fine arts history standards through original compositions in a specific musical era
- **“Stories in Song: Exploring Literary Musical Adaptations” and/or “Shakespeare in Song: Exploring Shakespearean Musical Adaptations”:** Learn the basics in guiding students through expanded versions of our classic classroom workshops.

Page to Stage Intensive Bring stories to life with this hands-on intensive designed for elementary educators eager to guide students from the page to the stage through language, music, dance, drama, and visual arts. Atlanta Opera teaching artists will share example programming and lead participants through creative writing, composition, and devising techniques inspired by books, fables, and stories. Together, participants will collaborate to design a customized page-to-stage unit that sparks imagination and supports literacy and arts learning in their classrooms.

Intro to Technical Theatre Designed for arts educators with limited technical experience, participants get hands on tutorials on the basics of technical theatre. Learn from professional technicians in a supportive and welcoming environment where you can apply your knowledge to your program in actionable ways.

Extension Pathway: Intro to Technical Theatre Education Best suit for educators that cover technical theatre and/or careers in the arts standards, apply your technical theatre knowledge to your curriculum with our tools to build and teach a full tech theatre curriculum to your performing arts students. Participants will leave with student-friendly guides and methods for mounting their own productions, while also learning strategies to recruit, train, and inspire young technicians and designers—making the production process both educational and collaborative.

CLASSROOM WORKSHOPS OVERVIEW

Early Learning Workshops

- Adaptive Opera Storytime
- Page to Stage Picture Books: *Color Monster*, *Rainbow Fish*, and *The Curious Cardinal*
- Page to Stage Fables and Fairy Tales
- Musical Story Dramas

Elementary Level Workshops

- Adaptive Opera Storytime
- Page to Stage (All Texts)
- Music Moves our Community
- Pourquoi on Pitch
- Musical Story Dramas
- Matter Cycle Song Cycles
- The Science of Sound
- “Can You Build It?” Technical Theatre, Engineering, and Math
- Stories in Song
- Musical Story Dramas

Secondary Level Workshops

- Page to Stage (All Texts)
- Music Moves our Community
- The Science of Sound
- “Can You Build It?” Technical Theatre, Engineering, and Math
- Math Sings
- Georgia Sings
- Pourquoi on Pitch
- Intro to Text Analysis
- Shakespeare in Song
- Stories in Song
- Tapestry

Emerging Artist Workshops

- Revitalizing Your Audition Package
- Vocal Health Techniques
- Technical Theatre Spotlight Workshops

For All Ages

- Opera 101 /Adaptive Opera 101
- Performance/Group Evaluation Prep
- Conversations with the Masters
- Creative Career Pathways
- The Puppeteer’s Toolbox
- Poetry and Music

Literacy/ELA

- Adaptive Opera Storytime
- Page to Stage
- Pourquoi on Pitch
- Poetry and Music
- Intro to Text Analysis
- Stories in Song
- Shakespeare in Song
- Musical Story Dramas
- Tapestry

STEAM

- Math Sings
- Matter Cycle Song Cycle
- The Science of Sound
- “Can You Build It?” Technical Theatre, Engineering, and Math
- Technical Theatre Spotlight Workshops
- Vocal Health Techniques
- The Puppeteer’s Toolbox
- Musical Story Dramas

Social Studies/Civics

- Music Moves our Community
- Georgia Sings
- Tapestry
- Musical Story Dramas

Fine Arts

- Performance/Group Evaluation Prep
- Poetry and Music
- Intro to Text Analysis
- Shakespeare in Song
- Technical Theatre Spotlight Workshops
- Vocal Health Techniques
- The Puppeteer’s Toolbox
- Opera 101/ Adaptive Opera 101
- Conversations with the Masters
- Creative Career Pathways
- Tapestry
- Revitalizing your Audition Package

CTAE

- Conversations with the Masters
- Creative Career Pathways
- Revitalizing your Audition Package
- Musical Story Dramas

CLASSROOM WORKSHOPS

Opera 101 Join us as we break the boundaries and stereotypes of opera, showcasing that this artform is for EVERYONE! Our Opera 101 workshops provide an exciting, active, and comprehensive overview of opera through a musical, artistic, social, literary, and historical lens.

Adapted Opera Storytime/Opera 101 Series Our current Opera Storytime Program is rooted in interdisciplinary techniques to promote literacy, SEL, and language goals through a fine arts lens. Inspired by this program, we are introducing early learners and special education small group Storytime sessions. These workshops will be specifically tailored to your group's goals, access needs, and space specifications. **We are looking for groups to trial this workshop! If you are interested, please contact us directly at education@atlantaopera.org**

- **Early Learners:** Best suited for young people four years old and younger
- **Special Education:** Adaptable for all age groups and access needs to be both developmentally responsive and age appropriate

The Puppeteer's Toolbox The Atlanta Opera is famous for puppetry in all its forms! Groups explore both classic and emerging forms of puppetry (bunraku, tabletop, hand puppetry, found object, and shadow puppetry) and get hands on experience in three styles of their choice.

Creative Career Pathways This intensive course covers the practical elements of launching a career in the arts. Participants learn from current opera professionals about all the different technical, artistic, and administrative career pathways in the field. This is one of our most adaptable workshops for different age groups, based on CTAE and fine arts standards for learners of all backgrounds!

Group Evaluation Prep Is your performance group preparing for LGPE, All-State, One Act, or another group evaluation? Let us bring a new set of eyes (and ears!) to your classroom as we help you prepare for the big day! Partner with our teaching professionals that have experience in adjudicating, directing, and performing across the country for a mock performance and active feedback session. This is not just for choral groups, but theatre and instrumental performers as well!

Poetry and Music Students collaborate with teaching artists to become librettists and lyricists, exploring how opera and creative writing go hand in hand. Based on the Georgia poetic techniques standards of your target grade level, students create original music with poems (either student written or classic poems studied in music or ELA) as lyrics.

Page to Stage Bring stories to life with Page to Stage, where certified teaching artists work with students transform books, fables, and stories into original mini performances, exploring characters, emotions, and storytelling through drama, creative writing, and song. This collaborative experience strengthens literacy skills while building confidence, creativity, and a deeper connection between reading and the performing arts. Example Session Pathways include:

- **Fables and Fairy Tales:** *The Little Red Hen/La Gallinita Roja, The Three Little Pigs, Cinderella, Anansi*
- **Iconic Chapter Books:** *James in the Giant Peach, Esperanza Sings, Charlotte's Web*
- **Early Learning/Picture Books:** *Color Monster, Rainbow Fish, The Curious Cardinal, Chrysanthemum, Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon, The Bad Seed*

Technical Theatre Spotlight Workshops This active workshop dives into fine arts and CTAE learning goals, inviting participants to peek behind the curtain to learn from technical theatre experts. Designed to adapt to any age range or experience level, our spotlight workshops feature hands on activities that explore the selected technical practice.

- **Example Spotlights Include:** Lighting Design, Prop Design, Costume Design, Hair and Makeup Design, and Stage Management

Stories in Song This workshop invites students to discover how classic stories are transformed through the art of opera. Guided by teaching artists from The Atlanta Opera, students will examine how composers and librettists adapt beloved literary works—translating character, mood, and dramatic tension into music. Stepping into the roles of composers, lyricists, and stage directors, participants will collaborate to create their own short musical scenes, exploring how storytelling, text, and sound combine to shape meaning on stage.

- **RELATED PATHWAY: Shakespeare in Song: Exploring Literary Musical Adaptations** Students will examine operas based on Shakespearean plays and discover how composers use melody, rhythm, and harmony to express emotion and character, blending text and music to bring Shakespeare's world to life in new and imaginative ways.

Music Moves our Community Designed to support elementary-aged learners, students create short songs to inspire community action. Previous musical moments surrounded cleaning up litter, identifying community helpers, and adopting animals.

CLASSROOM WORKSHOPS

Masterclasses Learn from acclaimed opera singers from the comfort of your classroom! Masterclasses are tailored to fit your specific goals and age range, but commonly feature a Q+A, opera career discussion/lesson, a mini performance from the clinician, and vocal clinic opportunities. Previous Atlanta Opera masterclasses have featured Morris Robinson (Bass), Indra Thomas (soprano), Sara Gartland (soprano), and Kearstin Piper Brown (Soprano).

Georgia Sings Students explore examples of Georgia-specific operatic works (ie: *Steele Roots*) and create musical moments surrounding places of personal or community significance.

Matter Cycle Song Cycles What would photosynthesis sound like as a song? What if primary and secondary succession were actually dramatic love stories? Bring science to life in your classroom as all elements of matter cycles are explored through an artistic lens. Designed as an extension to Georgia Earth Science, Life Science, and Chemistry standards, participants work with teaching artists trained in both arts and science education to deepen their understanding of matter cycles.

- **Examples:** Water Cycle, Phases of the Moon, Rock Cycle, Animal Life Cycle

Math Sings: Fibonacci Sequence Songs Inspired by The Kennedy Center Arts Integration Frameworks, this workshop invites high school learners to explore how iconic mathematical principles (Fibonacci sequence of numbers, the concept of recursion, pattern, Phi, and the Golden Ratio) can aid in the creation of original musical phrases. After reviewing the target math goals, participants will work with a certified teaching artist to view math concepts as artistic possibilities.

- **OTHER STEAM WORKSHOPS INCLUDE: “The Science of Sound” and “Can You Build It? Technical Theatre, Engineering, and Math”**

Intro to Text Analysis: Opera Lip Synch Extravaganza Participants explore the power of storytelling through music and language. Working in groups, students are given a short opera excerpt in its original language and a brief synopsis, then create a lip synch performance based on tone, emotion, and musical cues. After performing, they compare their interpretations with the English translation, discovering how text analysis deepens understanding and enhances expressive performance across any language.

Conversations with the Masters This workshop invites participants to learn from up-and-coming Atlanta Opera singers directly. Typically offered in a panel format, Conversations with the Masters can feature an in-depth group discussion about the performance industry, a Q+A, and a mini performance from the singers.

Pourquoi on Pitch: Create Your Own Musical Myths In this engaging classroom workshop, trained teaching artists from The Atlanta Opera guide elementary students in discovering how music and storytelling intersect through the rich tradition of pourquoi tales—stories that explain why things are the way they are. Guided by historical and cultural traditions of storytelling, students will explore creative writing and collaborative composition as they devise their own original myths. The workshop culminates in bringing these stories to life through music, text, and performance, fostering imagination, literacy, and a love for storytelling.

Tapestry: Explore and Create Spirituals Our crowd-favorite workshop, brought to life by Alilaw Boykin, explores the origins of African American Spirituals as well as the musical and literary elements that comprise them. This interactive journey features a live performance, storytelling, and culminates with participants creating their own modern-day spirituals.

Revitalizing your Audition Package Do you want to audition for a collegiate, community, or professional vocal program? Led by seasoned opera professionals, this workshop aims to demystify the audition process for early career artists (high school seniors and above). Participants will gain practical experience and feedback on all on all aspects of an audition package: repertoire lists, resumes, headshots, pre-screening videos, and interviews.

- **Audition Intensive** Take our Audition Package Workshop a step forward by adding on an additional mock audition session, where participants can get real time critique and experience in a simulated audition setting.

Vocal Health Techniques Singers are athletes and need to train as such! In this workshop, participants work with professional singers and vocal coaches to build a better understanding of vocal health and endurance. Explore holistic warm up routines that not only warm up the voice, but strength it, and dive into the science behind maintaining a healthy voice.

Musical Story Dramas Teaching Artists guide students through an immersive adventure through age/developmentally-appropriate picture books that can feature target goals set by the classroom teacher. Great for play-based curriculums like **Frog Street** or **OWL**. Example books include:

- **Our Class is a Family:** Aids in classroom culture development; features composing a class theme song
- **Gibberish:** Aids in culturally responsive classroom culture development; features exploring different communication styles and SEL skills
- **Thematic Story Books:** Supports classrooms that have specific thematic weeks (ie- seasons, big vs little, holidays, changes, bugs, friendship, construction, etc)