

# THE MOZ-Art

Summer Program

Jump into the Musical, the  
Opera, and the Zarzuela!



*Excellence in performance  
and education*

## The MOZ-Art Program at-a-Glance

Discover The MOZ-Art Program, an immersive seven-week summer camp designed to ignite the passion for opera in young minds. With a commitment to excellence, the program offers more than 200 hours of comprehensive instruction, allowing students aged 9 through 17 to delve into the world of full operatic performance.

At the heart of this transformative experience lies a full operatic production, the last of which

was "Frau Haydn in Trouble," a recently composed comic opera tailored for youthful voices (2023). Crafted with singable lines for children, this opera not only serves as a platform for performance but also as an educational journey into the intricate facets of a production. From the original text to the libretto, the work of the composer, director, conductor, and lighting designer, participants

are immersed in every aspect of the creative process.

Guided by accomplished teaching artists, students receive rigorous instruction in singing, musicianship, diction, audition techniques, and elements of acting, while guests share invaluable insights on study techniques, auditioning, career planning, performance anxiety, and vocal hygiene. This comprehensive approach enables students to grasp the higher-order skills and discipline demanded by a production, emphasizing the collaborative nature of success within a performing arts ensemble.

Aligned with the National Standards for Arts Education, this enriching arts integration project focuses on skills such as "understanding and applying techniques and processes," "applying knowledge of structures and

functions," and "making connections among different disciplines." Participants not only watch exemplary performances but also engage in critical assessments of their own work, fostering a reflective mindset, goal setting, and the development of lifelong learning habits.

Beyond artistic development, the MOZ-Art Program prioritizes social-emotional growth through carefully curated classes, coaching sessions, and mentorship programs. Teachers diligently monitor both technical and emotional progress, maintaining open lines of communication with parents through constant updates from the camp director and faculty. This holistic approach ensures that participants not only excel in their artistic endeavors but also develop into well-rounded individuals poised for success in both the arts and in life.

## Educational Approach

The MOZ-Art program reflects the mission of The Opera Atelier to advance the art of opera through performance and education. The organization provides an inclusive creative platform where audiences and artists of different generations inspire each other.

The atelier serves as the sanctum of an artist, a space where a master artist alongside a





collective of assistants, students, and apprentices collaboratively engage in the creation of art, their efforts guided by the wisdom, expertise, and fervor of a mentor who possesses a profound understanding and unwavering passion for the realm of artistic expression.

Within the model of the Renaissance Atelier, the craft is learned through completing progressively more complex tasks. Tasks are planned according to complementary topics in a holistic way and adapted to age and level. Students are encouraged to construct meaning through engaging with the materials within the spiral curriculum. Learning modalities and approaches alternate so that all students can grasp the knowledge and skills. Our educational approach is constructivist rather than prescriptive. The Socratic method, the

pedagogical contributions of Piaget and Freire, the theory of multiple intelligences, and the ideas of universal design are some of the principles underpinning our educational practices. From Lacanian psychoanalytic theory, we have adopted the idea of *desire* as the motivator, i.e., we will learn that which we desire to learn. No amount of conscription will accomplish the desired result without the volition of the individual student- something sometimes left out in the “*one size fits all*” educational approaches. Educational activities within the MOZ-Art Program are informed by the National and Florida standards of learning, with connections to other disciplines, including Math and Sciences, as for instance, in the study of the physical elements of sound.

When tackling scales, the alphabet of musical material, for example, we do not rely on rote memorization. Rather, after students are exposed to a variety of scales from different cultures, the study of western music scales is started, based on their pattern or formula. Students construct scales using educational materials that allow for different representations, going from the concrete to the abstract.

For example, in an activity twelve students each representing a particular note of the chromatic scale, learn to organize themselves in sequences, according to the scale, combining whole and half steps. When students learn to represent scales as mathematical sets, they begin to understand

relationships between scales that share many tones, as different from the ones that share fewer tones. This helps in understanding modulations. Only after having mastered the sequence of tones and learning to play them on the piano, does the more abstract representation of writing on the staff and key signatures is arrived at. The study of intervals and the rudiments of harmony are derived from the preliminary study of scales.





Within the music and interpretation studio area of The Opera Atelier, participants work primarily with teaching artists on solid technical, musical, and artistic development according to the highest standards, including the development of the voice, technical aspects, musicianship, interpretation development, diction and declamation applied to the specific repertory. The Singing and Interpretation Studio also counts on the support of professionals from

diverse fields who work with youngsters and their parents and guardians to support artistic growth through supplementary disciplines and integrated creativity coaching, always according to the unique requirements of each artist. As students progress through performance workshops and opportunities, they put into practice the skills and techniques that will allow them to pursue their individual artistic goals. Participants also receive private lessons that cover the healthy development of the voice, musicianship, interpretation, study techniques, and repertory.

Through all these elements, The Opera Atelier provides students with the essential elements to grow as musicians and artists.

## Academic Components

\*A hands-on Introduction to the musical, the opera, and the zarzuela

\*Musicianship, music notation, and theory

\*Musical study techniques

\*Vocal technique, solo, and choral singing

\*Elements of acting

\*Elements of virtual scenery

\*Elements of marketing for the arts

\*Enrichment activities through special guest classes, literacy, and visual arts activities



\*Rehearsals and final performance with the participants

\*Students will participate in a full opera production

\*Performance opportunities in Miami-Dade venues

## Our students



A diverse Miami-Dade body of students of different ages and diverse abilities

**Faculty:** Comprised of teaching artists with experience in different areas of knowledge and the arts.

# Achievements



The Opera Atelier has reached hundreds of children and youngsters throughout Miami Dade. Many of our students have continued their studies in specialized music schools, such as New World School of the Arts, the Miami Arts Charter School, the Miami Arts Studio, and in colleges and universities such as the Juilliard School, the Manhattan School of Music, New York University, the University of Miami Frost School of Music, the New World of Arts College Division, and the Florida International University.

As part of the MOZ-Art program, students have participated in full opera productions, such as:

- The not so Little Prince (2019), presented at Miracle Theater, Aventura Arts and Cultural Center, and the Seminole Theater.
- Bastien und Bastienne (2021, 2023), presented at the Seminole Theater, the Coral Gables Museum, and the Manuel Artime Theater,

- Frau Haydn in Trouble (2023), presented at Manuel Artime Theater and The Coral Gables Museum.
- Additionally, MOZ-Art program participants have taken part in recitals and presentations in venues throughout Miami-Dade.

The MOZ-Art Program has two dedicated video channels on Vimeo and YouTube, where performances videos are available.

**Community Outreach:** The MOZ-Art program involves the parents and families in the children's learning. Outreach activities have included community organizations, The Miami Dade Public Library, Public Schools, the Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation Department, as well as senior centers.

**Scholarships:** This unique opportunity is extended primarily to underprivileged public-school students of economically challenged families from neighborhoods such as: Little Havana, Allapattah, Homestead and Hialeah.

(\*) Full scholarships (SAS-C funded) for children with documented disabilities or from low-income families. Scholarships are available to Miami-Dade residents who qualify for free or reduced lunch or receive SNAP assistance. If the student qualifies for free or reduced lunch or receives SNAP assistance and you would like to request a camp scholarship, please email proof of eligibility to [info@theoperaatelier.com](mailto:info@theoperaatelier.com). For students enrolled in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, you may send a screenshot of the student information tab found in the student or parent portal. Proof of SNAP assistance is also acceptable. There is a limited number of full scholarships available. NOTE: Students on scholarship should maintain excellent attendance (no more than 2 unexcused absences), punctuality, discipline, and academic performance. Otherwise, they risk losing their scholarships, which could then be assigned to other students from the waiting list.

(\*) Partial scholarships granted by The Opera Atelier cover \$775 of the tuition. Families will be responsible for the remaining \$1000 tuition. The number of partial scholarships is limited. Scholarships are granted on a first-come, first-served basis, to those who apply and qualify.

Tuition: The MOZ-Art Program tuition is \$1,775. There is a \$50 non-refundable pre-registration fee and a fee of \$50 due upon admission.

