
The Patricia H. Reid Orchestral Fellowships

Opera Australia invites outstanding early career string musicians to be part of the Patricia H. Reid Orchestral Fellowships in 2026

The Program

The Patricia H. Reid Orchestral Fellowships assist emerging musicians further their career in music performance. This world-class program equips the next generation of Australian string musicians with vital professional skills and provides a pathway into orchestral careers.

In 2026, Opera Australia is offering Fellowships in violin, viola, cello and double bass. Fellows will receive a \$26,000 bursary (inclusive of superannuation) for a minimum 100 calls comprising rehearsals and performances.

Fellows join the Opera Australia Orchestra in rehearsals and performances of mainstage opera and ballet with Australia's leading performing arts companies over a 12-month period. This immersive experience allows young string players to develop and refine the skills required to perform at a professional level and builds repertoire knowledge in this specialised field. Over the course of the year, Fellows receive mentoring from principal players of the Opera Australia Orchestra and development in audition technique, performance preparation, chamber music and sustainable careers.

The Fellowship program is generously supported by the Patricia H. Reid Endowment Foundation.

Eligibility

- Must be an Australian or New Zealand citizen, or Australian permanent resident
- Must be available for the 12-month schedule of performance activity in its entirety between late December 2026 and December 2027 inclusive
- Must reside in Sydney on a full-time basis
- 18 years and older by 1 January 2026
- Have completed high school studies
- Early career musician

Audition dates and requirements

Auditions will be held in Sydney for all candidates on **Friday, 5 September 2025**.
Set repertoire and excerpts will be issued to candidates on receipt of application.

Applications

Interested musicians can submit the following information online:

1. Application form
2. Curriculum Vitae including contact details for one referee (maximum 2 pages)
3. Proof of Australian or New Zealand citizenship, or Australian permanent residency
4. 100 words on why you wish to be a Patricia H. Reid Fellow with the Opera Australia Orchestra

Applications close **Friday 8 August 2025**.

Late applications will not be considered.

[Apply here](#)

Enquiries

Andrew Collins

Deputy Orchestra Manager

Telephone 02 9318 8262

E-mail orchestra.auditions@opera.org.au

Visit <https://opera.org.au/about/the-patricia-h-reid-orchestral-fellowships/>