



Bristol Opera Youth Chorus and Young Adults Chorus, 2025-26 Season

3rd November 2025

Bristol Opera is forming a youth chorus to take part in our April 2026 production of Smetana's comic opera, *The Bartered Bride*. We are also seeking participation of young adults in our main chorus.

Bristol Opera has a proud 100+ year history of performing grand opera in our city, fully staged and in costume. We continue to this day to present this spectacular art form, with its fabulous music-making, in a way which is accessible to contemporary audiences.

The youth chorus will perform alongside the established adult chorus in the main scenes of Acts I and III. As well as singing, there will be some dancing to be done, similar in style to country dancing. Instruction in singing, acting and dancing will be given at rehearsals.

Membership of the youth chorus is open to those in school year 10 and above. For those aged over 18, you may choose to join either the youth chorus, or the adult chorus, which appears additionally in Act II.

Bristol Opera has the relevant child safeguarding policies in place and details are available for inspection.

Rehearsals take place 7.30-9.30pm on Thursday evenings, in Bedminster, Bristol BS3. In the case of the youth chorus, attendance will be required on approximately two in every three Thursdays; that's to say, when the relevant scenes are being rehearsed. (The established dates up to December are given below.) In the case of the adult chorus, attendance is required every Thursday, except for unavoidable absences, which should be agreed in advance where possible.

Singers will be asked to undertake a short and informal audition with the Musical Director, to confirm which vocal range will suit you most. It is not necessary to bring a prepared song to sing, but you may do so if you wish. The audition does not need to be on your first evening with us, but should be held before confirming your place in the chorus.

The cost of membership of the youth chorus and/or as a student member of the adult chorus, is £40.50 for the period up to April 2026. It will be necessary to purchase a score for £8. Assistance with costs is available to low-income families; please enquire.

Rehearsals

Music rehearsals in November-December 2025 take place on Thursday evenings 7.30-9.30pm at Philip Street Chapel, Bristol BS3 4EA.

Thu 6 Nov – Act II (youth chorus not required)

Thu 13 Nov – Act III

Thu 27 Nov – Act I

Thu 4 Dec – Act II (youth chorus not required)

Thu 11 Dec – Act III

Music and staging rehearsals continue on Thursday evenings from January 2026, also at 7.30-9.30pm. Provisional dates are as follows. *NB These have yet to be finalised and may vary. The dates are presented as an indication of the overall commitment. The final schedule will be published as soon as possible.*

Thu 8, 15, 22 Jan – Act I

Thu 29 Jan; 5, 12 Feb – Act II (youth chorus not required)

Thu 19 Feb – Act I recap

Thu 26 Feb; 5 Mar – Act III

Thu 12 Mar – Act II recap (youth chorus not required)

Thu 19 Mar – Act I recap

Thu 26 Mar – All scenes

Sun 29 Mar, 2-5pm – Acts I & II Run

Thu 2 Apr – Act III Run

Thu 9 Apr – Full Run

Production week (provisional)

At Redland Hall Theatre, Redmaids' High School, Westbury-on-Trym

Sat 11 Apr – 4-6pm and 7-9pm Music rehearsal with orchestra

Sun 12 Apr – 6-9pm Theatre rehearsal

Mon 13 Apr – 6-9pm Technical rehearsal

Tue 14 Apr – 7pm Dress rehearsal

Wed 15 Apr – 7pm Performance/Preview

Thu 16 Apr – 7pm Performance

Fri 17 Apr – 7pm Performance

Sat 18 Apr – 7pm Performance

To join the youth chorus (or adult chorus)

Please enquire with the secretary of Bristol Opera, Mrs. Sue Tansey,

secretary@bristolopera.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Bristol Opera

www.bristolopera.co.uk