

Opera Workshop

The Opera Workshop program at Tennessee State University is a training medium for young singers and musical theatre performers. The performers are almost exclusively undergraduates and so receive opportunities that are often reserved for graduate students at other universities. Opera solos, ensembles scenes, one-acts and full-length productions are prepared and performed.

Opera Workshop classes emphasize the fundamentals of stage technique, movement and acting for the singer.

Since its inception in 2005, Opera Workshop performances have included *La Serva Padrona*, *Trial by Jury*, *Highway One! USA*, *The Mikado*, *I Love You/You're Perfect/Now Change*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, scenes from *Porgy and Bess*, and scenes from *The Sound of Music*.

The Fantasticks, a musical with music by Harvey Schmidt and lyrics by Tom Jones, is the spring production for the 2011-2012 school year. The show's original off-Broadway production ran a total of 42 years and 17,162 performances, making it the world's longest-running musical.

The Opera Workshop is directed by Hannah Baisley and music directed by Darryl Glenn Nettles. Students serve in many design and leadership roles. Involvement in the Opera Workshop is open to all TSU students by audition.