

2023 Merola Membership Benefits

YOUTH (under 18) \$25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special youth publication • Invitation to a special celebration with Merola artists
DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP (Out of State) \$25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subscription to Merola's e-newsletter • Advance notice and registration period for all Merola events • Access to all Digital Membership Events
BASIC \$50–\$99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subscription to Merola's newsletter • Advance notice and registration period for all Merola events • Two seats at the Bring-a-Friend Master Class • Special member pre-order period for Merola productions
FOUNDER \$100–\$299	All Basic benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two seats at the Merola Auditions for the General Director • Voting membership and invitation to attend the Annual Meeting[†]
BENEFACTOR \$300–\$599	All Founder benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation for two to Day at Merola • Invitation for two to Meet the Merolini* • Two seats at one additional Master Class
BRONZE CIRCLE \$600–\$999	All Benefactor benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two seats at one additional Master Class • Invitation to the Schwabacher Recital auditions • Donor listing in Merola programs
SILVER CIRCLE \$1,000–\$2,499	All Bronze Circle benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donor listing in San Francisco Opera programs • Two seats at one additional Master Class • One gift youth or digital membership
GOLD CIRCLE \$2,500–\$4,999	All Silver Circle benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to San Francisco Opera's Meet the Adlers event • Invitation to one select summer working rehearsal • Two complimentary box seats at the Merola Grand Finale** • Invitation to a virtual Alumni Chat
PLATINUM CIRCLE \$5,000–\$9,999	All Gold Circle benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to one additional select summer working rehearsal • Two box seats at the Merola Auditions for the General Director
DIAMOND CIRCLE \$10,000–\$14,999	All Platinum Circle benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal concierge service • Two premium level tickets to all Merola events** • Upgraded front-row box seating for two at the Merola Grand Finale
PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE \$15,000–\$24,999	All Diamond Circle benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private lunch or dinner with Merola Leadership and a Merola artist** • Two spaces at a Signature Event***
CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE \$25,000+	All President's Circle benefits plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance in your home*** with a Merola artist or invitation to an additional Signature Event** • Reserved Seating at Master Classes (by request)

* Subject to additional fee or ticket purchase price.

** According to IRS regulations, acceptance of items of value, including complimentary tickets, may reduce the tax deductible value of your donation. Please consult with your tax advisor for further information about accepting items of value.

*** Requires a piano.

† Voting benefit requires a minimum gift of \$250

Frequently Asked Questions about Merola Membership

I contribute every year to the San Francisco Opera; doesn't that support Merola too?

No. While Merola operates in close collaboration with San Francisco Opera, it is an independent nonprofit organization. Governed by a separate board of directors, Merola is responsible for its own long-term financial stability and fundraising, and is grateful to the hundreds of loyal individual and institutional donors who support the program. We encourage you to support both organizations, but your gift to San Francisco Opera does not make you eligible for Merola Member Benefits.

I just gave a gift a few months ago. Why am I being asked again?

Our Merola membership year runs from January 1–December 31. Toward the end of the year, we ask our members to make a gift to renew their membership. We also stay in touch throughout the year to let everyone know of other opportunities to support Merola.

When do I find out about Merola events for next summer?

In the spring, Merola sends all members a Merola Benefits Guide that lists all master classes and events available at each level of membership. Please read the booklet carefully to find out how to register for summer events. Merola occasionally presents events during our off-season. To ensure you receive the latest information and schedules, please sign up for our e-newsletter by emailing info@merola.org or visiting merola.org/enewsletter.

Am I eligible for benefits before my pledge is paid in full?

As soon as Merola receives a signed pledge, you are eligible for benefits at your level. Merola asks that you fulfill your membership pledge by September 30 (the end of Merola's fiscal year).

How can I get friends involved in Merola?

You can bring them with you to a class or function (including our Bring-a-Friend event), you can provide us with their contact information and we will be happy to send them membership details, or you can buy them a gift membership.

What is a Signature Event?

Signature Events are special evenings of music or conversation in private homes with Merola alumni or other opera luminaries.

What is the tax deductibility of my gift?

Merola is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. The following chart shows the value of goods and services received at different levels. If you choose not to receive benefits, the full amount of your donation may remain tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor for more information. Your gift acknowledgment letter will give you more details.

Gifts \$1–\$2,499

Full donation is tax deductible as allowed by law.

Gifts \$2,500–\$9,999

Donation less \$100 is tax deductible as allowed by law.

Gifts \$10,000–\$14,999

Donation less \$790 is tax deductible as allowed by law.

Gifts \$15,000–\$24,999

Donation less \$1,190 is tax deductible as allowed by law.

Gifts \$25,000+

Donation less \$1,590 is tax deductible as allowed by law.

If you have further questions or concerns, please call the Merola office at (415) 936-2311 or email info@merola.org, and we will be happy to assist you.

Support the future of opera!

Widely regarded as the foremost opera training program for aspiring singers, coaches, and stage directors, the Merola Opera Program has served for over 65 years as a proving ground for hundreds of artists. Many Merola alumni are now among the most recognized names in the opera world. This summer the program offers 29 young artists the rare opportunity of studying, coaching and participating in master classes with established professionals for twelve weeks. Participants also perform in opera productions, recitals, and concerts. The Merola Opera Program is a financially independent organization with a separate 501(c)3 which operates in close collaboration with the San Francisco Opera Center and San Francisco Opera. All 2023 performances and events will be conducted with the highest regard for the health and safety of our artists and audiences.

NOTES

- Benefits are subject to change at any time.
- ALL Merola events require preregistration and are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Due to the popularity of some events, Merola apologizes in advance if we are unable to fulfill your request.
- Complete instructions for reserving and/or ordering seats or event passes will be included in the 2023 Merola Benefits Guide to be mailed to all members in May 2023.
- Production tickets go on sale in Spring 2023.



MEROLA
OPERA PROGRAM