



9TH INTERNATIONAL SAN COLOMBANO COMPETITION

Piacenza, 22 - 25 October 2026

COMPETITION RULES

Opera section

Article 1

TARGETS

The competition is open to opera singers of all vocal registers and all nationalities who have reached the age of 18.

First and second prize winners of the last two editions of the San Colombano competition cannot enter the competition.

Article 2

PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded to the OPERA SECTION:

First Prize: Euro 1.000.00

Second Prize: Euro 800,00

Third Prize: Euro 500.00

Special prize for best performance of a Giuseppe Verdi aria: Euro 500.00

Special prize for best performance of a Gioacchino Rossini aria: Euro 500.00

ARTISTIC AWARDS Auditions, roles in operas, concerts

Concerts - Prize (concerts will take place in 2027):

Two singers will be selected for a paid concert (700,00 € per singer) at the Italian Institute in Stuttgart (Germany)

Concert offered by the Italian Institute in Stuttgart.

Failure to participate in the prize-concert on the date set by the organisation will result in the winner forfeiting the prize. In this case the prize-concert will be awarded to another singer at the choice of the artistic director of the competition.

Some singers may be chosen for paid concerts as part of the San Colombano Music Festival 2027.

Some participants may be recommended for roles in operas and concerts in the Sarzana Lirica 2027 e La Spezia Lirica Forum 2027.

The prizes will be paid by bank transfer within 60 days of the competition final and any transaction costs requested by the competitor's bank will be borne by the competitor.

Any taxes required by the Italian state will be borne by the competitor.

At the jury's discretion, some prizes may not be awarded.

Article 3

JURY

The Jury of the competition, appointed by the Associazione DeA Donne e Arte Piacenza - APS, will evaluate the singers during each stage of the competition, select those who will be admitted to the final and decide

the winners and the prize-winners of the 9° Concorso Internazionale San Colombano 2026. It will be made up of a President and Jurors of repute, chosen among personalities from the world of music. The jury will take its decisions in secret session, by a majority of the votes and will make them known to the candidates at the end of each of the three stages of the competition. In the event of a tie, the vote of the President of the Jury shall prevail.

The jury's decision is final. The organisation is relieved of all responsibility for any changes in the members of the jury due to extraordinary circumstances.

Article 4 **REGISTRATION**

The application form, completed in full and signed, must be sent by email no later than midnight on **12 October 2026** to the following email address: info@concorsosancolombano.it

The application form must contain the following documents:

- Application form completed in all its parts and signed
- artistic curriculum (preferably in Italian language)
- identity document or passport
- a recent photograph
- a list of **four arias from operas**
- a copy of the payment of the registration fee of Euro 70,00 to be paid by bank transfer to the account of:

DeA DONNE E ARTE PIACENZA - APS

BANCA DI PIACENZA, via Mazzini 20, Piacenza

IBAN: IT43H0515612600CC0000039522 - BIC/SWIFT: BCPCIT2P

Indicate in the reason for payment "**Iscrizione sezione lirica**" followed by the first and last name of the **candidate**. If you wish to pay by Paypal, the payment must be of euro 73,00 and can be made in the SUBSCRIBE section of the www.concorsosancolombano.it website.

For the candidate who intends to participate in both sections, opera and sacred, the registration fee will be Euro 120,00 by bank transfer or Euro 125,00 by Paypal indicating the reason for payment "**Iscrizione sezione lirica e sacra**" followed by the first and last name of the candidate.

Failure to pay by 12 October 2026 will result in the exclusion of the candidate from the Competition.

The entry fee is not refundable under any circumstances, except as provided for in point 7.

N.B.: It may be required to send PDF scores of the musical programme presented.

Article 5 **REHEARSALS**

At each stage of the competition the candidate must perform the arias from memory. Please note that it will not be possible to change the programme once it has been sent.

Eliminatory Round: 22 and 23 October 2026 at the auditorium of the Piacenza and Vigevano Foundation, via Sant'Eufemia 12, Piacenza (behind closed doors).

The convocation time for the Eliminatory Round will be decided by the competition secretariat and communicated to candidates by e-mail on 16 October 2026.

The candidate shall perform an aria of his/her choice from the programme submitted. The Jury may also ask the candidate to perform a second aria from the programme he has submitted.

The candidate must bring with him/her all the piano/song scores in printed version of the pieces indicated in the presented programme.

Once all the auditions for the preliminary round have been completed, the secretariat will email all participants to inform them of the names of the candidates who have been shortlisted and the time they are to attend the semi-final round.

Semi-final round: Sunday 25 October 2026 at the Teatro Giuseppe Verdi in Fiorenzuola d'Arda, via della Liberazione, Fiorenzuola d'Arda - Piacenza (behind closed doors).

The candidate shall perform one or more arias chosen by the Commission from those indicated on the application form.

At the end of the semi-final round the names of the candidates admitted to the final will be announced verbally.

Final Round: Sunday 25 October 2026 at 17,30 at the Teatro Giuseppe Verdi in Fiorenzuola d'Arda, via della Liberazione, Fiorenzuola d'Arda - Piacenza (open to the public).

The finalist candidates will perform **in concert dress**. At the end of the final rehearsal, the jury will decide the winners and the prizes and certificates will be presented.

The final concert of the competition, which is open to the public will be streamed on the competition's social media channels.

During the various stages of the rehearsals, the candidates will be accompanied on the piano by collaborators appointed by the competition organisers. However, each candidate may be accompanied, at his/her own expense, by own pianist.

There is no reimbursement of travel, board and lodging expenses.

For any information, please contact the competition secretariat:

+39 333 6023199 - info@concorsosancolombano.it

Article 6

AUDIO AND VIDEO FILMING

The Association DeA Donne e Arte Piacenza - APS reserves the right to film and record, without any time limit, all the stages of the Competition without owing anything to the participants who, by signing the application form, expressly agree to transfer free of charge to the Association DeA Donne e Arte Piacenza - APS any right of use of said recordings.

Article 7

CANCELLATION OF THE COMPETITION

If for reasons of force majeure the competition has to be cancelled, the registration fees will be refunded by bank transfer. Bank charges will be paid by the recipient.

Article 8

VALIDITY OF THE TEXT

The regulations of the San Colombano International Competition are published in two languages (Italian and English). Only the Italian text has official and legal validity.

The parties will submit all disputes arising from this competition or connected with it - including those relating to its interpretation, validity, effectiveness, execution and resolution - to mediation in accordance with the provisions of the Civil and Commercial Mediation Rules of the "Resolutia" organisation based in Piacenza.

The parties undertake to resort to mediation before starting any arbitration or judicial proceedings for which the Court of Piacenza is agreed.

In the event of disputes and for any controversy the Court of Piacenza shall have jurisdiction.