

BROOKLYN ART SONG SOCIETY

Young Artist Program

Season Two · 2027–2028

A program for early-career singers and pianists,
combining hands-on performance training with entrepreneurial experience.

[APPLY HERE →](#)

APPLICATIONS OPEN MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026

brooklynartsongsociety.org · brooklynartsongsociety@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION

The Brooklyn Art Song Society (BASS) will launch the second season of its Young Artist Program in Fall 2027. Over its 16 seasons, BASS has become one of America's leading institutions for art song. As part of its mission to preserve and promote the art song tradition for today's audiences and future generations, BASS has established an internationally recognized program for early-career professional singers and pianists.

The Young Artist Program will:

- Provide participants with a unique, hands-on learning experience in art song and entrepreneurship
- Strengthen the field by training the next generation of exceptional art song performers
- Support BASS through understudy and work-study contributions

How It Works

Each season, BASS will select a roster of early-career singers and pianists through a rigorous and competitive application and audition process. Selected artists will serve as understudies for BASS's seasonal repertoire, learning the music and remaining on call in case of performer cancellations.

Program highlights include:

- Attendance at rehearsals
- Coaching and mentorship from BASS artists
- Outreach performances in partnership with Heights and Hills Senior Services
- Additional performance opportunities through masterclasses, house concerts, and spotlight recitals

Each Young Artist can also opt in to receive a monthly work-study stipend (\$300) and contribute to administrative tasks such as:

- Box office support
- Preparing texts and translations
- Stage management

The work-study component is designed to provide entrepreneurial training alongside performance experience.

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon, Aug 17, 2026	Applications open with Early Bird application fee
Mon, Sep 11, 2026	Early Bird application fee deadline
Mon, Oct 23, 2026	Final application deadline
Mon, Nov 16, 2026	Preliminary round results announced
Fri, Nov 20, 2026	Deadline to accept audition invitation
Sat, Nov 21, 2026	Alternate candidates notified of potential openings
Fri, Nov 27, 2026	Deadline for alternates to accept audition invitation
Mon–Thu, Jan 11–14, 2027	Audition Week
Mon, Feb 1, 2027	Audition results announced
Mon, Feb 15, 2027	Deadline to accept admittance offer
Tue, Feb 16, 2027	Alternate candidates notified of potential openings
Fri, Feb 19, 2027	Deadline for alternates to accept admittance offer
Wed, Oct 6, 2027 – Sun, Jun 10, 2028	Program duration

Full Calendar of Held Dates — 2027–2028 Program

BASS's Young Artist Program is a year-long commitment. All participants for the 2027–2028 season must reserve the following dates for possible program commitments:

Program I — Orientation	Wed, Oct 6 – Sun, Oct 10, 2027
Program II	Wed, Nov 10 – Sun, Nov 14, 2027
Program III	Wed, Dec 8 – Sun, Dec 12, 2027
Program IV	Wed, Jan 5 – Sun, Jan 9, 2028
Program V	Wed, Feb 9 – Sun, Feb 13, 2028
Program VI	Wed, Mar 8 – Sun, Mar 12, 2028
Program VII	Wed, Apr 5 – Sun, Apr 9, 2028
Program VIII	Wed, May 10 – Sun, May 14, 2028
Program IX — Final Recital	Wed, Jun 7 – Sun, Jun 11, 2028

Additional times will be scheduled for performance opportunities as needed throughout the year, in coordination with participants' schedules.

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

While there are no specific age restrictions, all candidates must, at the time of application, be in the final year of a master's program, completing coursework for a doctorate, or have completed their formal education. The program is intended for emerging professional artists — not those still engaged in general training or those with established careers.

Candidates must be available to be in Brooklyn for one week each month leading up to every BASS program (October through June); see the complete calendar above. While residency in the New York City area is not required, resources to assist with travel and housing for those living elsewhere will be very limited. Candidates are free to pursue other opportunities outside of these designated times.

International students are welcome to apply; it is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that their current visa status permits participation.

BASS is currently accepting applications for the following voice types: Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, Bass-Baritone, and Piano. At this time, applications are not being accepted for Countertenors or Bass voices, due to current repertoire needs.

Core Values

Candidates will be evaluated according to the core values of the BASS Young Artist Program:

Excellence	Exceptional technical ability, precision, musicianship, and attention to detail in performance.
Individuality	A unique voice, used to communicate a distinct musical perspective directly to an audience.
Professionalism	An outstanding work ethic, personal habits of discipline, congeniality, and flexibility when working with colleagues.
Versatility	Excellence across a diverse array of musical styles, with deep musical curiosity and openness.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Form — Each applicant must provide:

Basic Information

- Name
- Date of birth
- Voice type
- Contact information

Background Materials

- Performance résumé or CV
- A complete list of performed art song repertoire
- A brief essay (maximum 250 words) that: summarizes your experience with art song; explains your particular interest in the repertoire; and discusses why art song is an important art form in today's society

Letters of Recommendation

Each candidate must provide two references. Applicants provide contact information only in the application — references will be contacted by BASS at a later date.

Recorded Materials

Each candidate must submit video recordings of three songs, following the repertoire requirements below. For repertoire guidance, consult the [Recommended Audition Repertoire List](#), or contact brooklynartsongsociety@gmail.com to confirm the appropriateness of repertoire not on the list.

- Song 1 — A German Lied
- Song 2 — A French mélodie
- Song 3 — A song by a living composer (English language preferred)

Recording Submission Guidelines

- Submit recordings as links to YouTube or Vimeo only
- Links must not be password-protected and must remain accessible for at least three months
- Submit one song per link — do not upload longer recordings with time stamps or cues
- Recordings must have been made within the past year (previous applicants may reuse recorded materials if they feel it best represents them)
- A single-camera format is preferred, except for live recital streams
- All performances must feature a live collaborator — pre-recorded accompaniments are not permitted
- Each video description must include performer name, title of the work, and date of performance

Application Fee

The application fee is \$20, with an early-bird discounted fee of \$10 for applications submitted before Monday, September 11, 2027. This fee covers the administrative costs of the application and audition process, ensuring a fair and equitable evaluation of each candidate.

Payment must be submitted via the [donate page](#) on the BASS website before the application is submitted. Applications submitted without payment will not be considered. All application fees are non-refundable.

LIVE AUDITION PROCESS

Each candidate will present five songs meeting the criteria below. Candidates may perform their complete program in any order they choose. The entire program must run 20 minutes or less (including pauses) — the panel may need to stop candidates who exceed this time.

Required repertoire:

- One German Lied
- One French mélodie
- One song in English written before 1980
- One song by a living composer (any language)
- One song in a language other than German, French, or English

Note for Pianists

All five selections must be in keys appropriate for a single singer, as pianists will be assigned one vocalist for their audition. Soprano or Baritone repertoire is strongly preferred. For repertoire guidance, consult the [Recommended Audition Repertoire List](#), or contact brooklynartsongsociety@gmail.com.

Collaborator Information

Each candidate granted a live audition will be assigned a pianist or singer from the BASS roster to collaborate with. Candidates will receive a one-hour rehearsal in the days leading up to the audition; this rehearsal is considered an integral part of the audition process.

YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Michael Brofman — Program Director
- Dominic Armstrong — University of South Carolina
- Michael Kelly
- Joel Harder — Manhattan School of Music
- Kate Maroney — Mannes
- Amy Owens — Santa Fe Opera
- Jennifer Zetlan — Mannes

Questions about the Young Artist Program, repertoire, or applications may be directed to brooklynartsongsociety@gmail.com. Ready to apply? [Apply here](#).