

Pocket Opera Project (P.O.P.)

Short Story Writing Competition for Students in Grades 4-8

Submission Deadline: September 18, 2026

Tell Your Story!

Are you a student in grades 4 through 8? We are looking for *your* stories to turn into short operas! Use your imagination or life experiences to come up with a story that is interesting and fascinating to you. The winning stories will be turned into “**pocket operas**” with the help of Binghamton University composers. The winning “pocket operas” will be performed by Tri-Cities Opera’s talented singers at “THE POCKET OPERA PROJECT” on May 8, 2027 at 3:00pm.

Writing Tips:

- Your story must have a beginning, middle, and end, and should be no longer than 10 minutes when you read it out loud. (Practice reading it aloud.)
- Your story must have at least 2 characters and no more than 4 characters. These characters must need something (such as money, love, recognition, or forgiveness) from each other. Be specific!
- There needs to be at least ONE big theatrical moment. What does this mean to you? What would you love to see on stage? Use your imagination!
- **This competition is for original stories written by humans only (no AI)!**

What to Submit:

- Your Short Story
- Contact information (Name & Phone Number) of a parent or legal guardian

Email Submissions to **education@tricitiesopera.org** by September 18, 2026, with “Short Story Submission - [Your Last Name, Your First Name]” in the Subject line.

By submitting materials to the Pocket Opera Project, Student Authors authorize Tri-Cities Opera Company, Inc. and Binghamton University to create derivative works from the submission material. While the original submission will remain the intellectual property of the Student Author, any works derived from the submission will be the property of Tri-Cities Opera Company, Inc. and the Creator(s) Of the Derivative Work (CODW). The Student author's submission and any derivative works may be published and shared in their entirety in perpetuity by Tri-Cities Opera Company, Inc., Binghamton University, CODW, and their successors without compensation to the Student Author. Student Author will be credited as follows: "Original story by (student author's first and last name)."