

Insight Report – August 2021

US Opera Company Responses to
“Pledge for Racial Equity and Systemic Change in Opera”
and Next Steps

**BLACK OPERA
ALLIANCE**

**TR
ARTS**

Tue, August 24, 2021



BLACK OPERA
ALLIANCE

2021

BLACK OPERA ALLIANCE

MISSION

THE MISSION OF THE BLACK OPERA ALLIANCE IS TO EMPOWER BLACK CLASSICAL ARTISTS AND ADMINISTRATORS BY EXPOSING SYSTEMS OF RACIAL INEQUITY AND UNDER-REPRESENTATION OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA IN ALL FACETS OF THE INDUSTRY AND CHALLENGING INSTITUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT DRASTIC REFORM.

OUR MISSION



WE ANSWERED THE CALL

HOW WE STARTED

BOA WAS FOUNDED IN THE MIDST OF THE CURRENT PANDEMIC OUT OF A NEED FOR SUPPORT AND ACTION IN A TIME WHEN OPERA PROFESSIONALS AROUND THE WORLD ARE OUT OF WORK AND THE BLACK POPULATION IS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY COVID-19 AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIP. AMIDST THE PROTESTS OF THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT, BLACK OPERA PROFESSIONALS AND OTHERS WHO SUPPORT EQUITY HAVE DECIDED THAT THE TIME FOR CHANGE IS NOW.

THE ALLIANCE

THE ALLIANCE INTENDS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS MISSION THROUGH ACTIVISM, UTILIZING SOCIAL MEDIA, ADVOCACY FOR BLACK PROFESSIONALS IN OPERA BOARD ROOMS, AND WORKING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE THAT BLACK PROFESSIONALS HAVE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCCESS IN OPERA. SOME STRATEGIES WILL ALSO INCLUDE PROVIDING COMMUNITY, MENTORSHIP, AS WELL AS SUPPORTING RESOURCE SHARING, SUCH AS ACCESS TO RECORDING TECHNOLOGY, RÉSUMÉ DEVELOPMENT, AUDITION TECHNIQUES, AND CAREER STRATEGIES FOR YOUNG SINGERS. FUNDS RAISED WILL ENABLE THESE SUBSIDIES.

HOW WE ANSWERED THE CALL

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

1

SIGN THE PLEDGE

blackoperaalliance.
org/pledge

2

**DONATE TO OUR
CAUSE**

blackoperaalliance.org
/donate

3

**BECOME AN
ALLY**

Instagram
@blackoperaalliance

Facebook
@BlackOperaAlliance

The Pledge

Sign Today.

**Pledge for Racial Equity and
Systemic Change in Opera.**

Eight Ongoing Commitments

The background is a solid teal color. In the center-right area, there are several overlapping gear icons of varying sizes, rendered in a lighter shade of teal. On the left side, there is a thin vertical white line.

Data-Driven
CONSULTING

ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP



Tracking progress US opera companies are making towards the eight areas of commitment



Insight reports and webinars



Data collection

GOALS & INTENTIONS



Expectations



Timelines



Partnership with opera companies

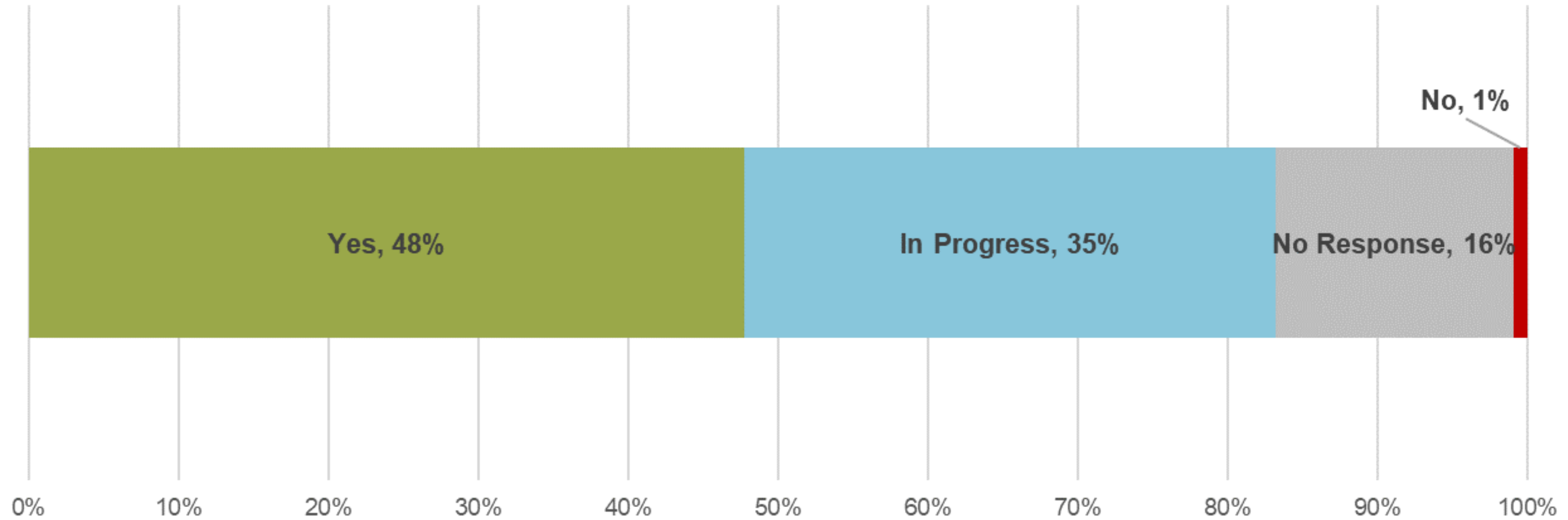
Pledge Status

SIGNED THE PLEDGE.

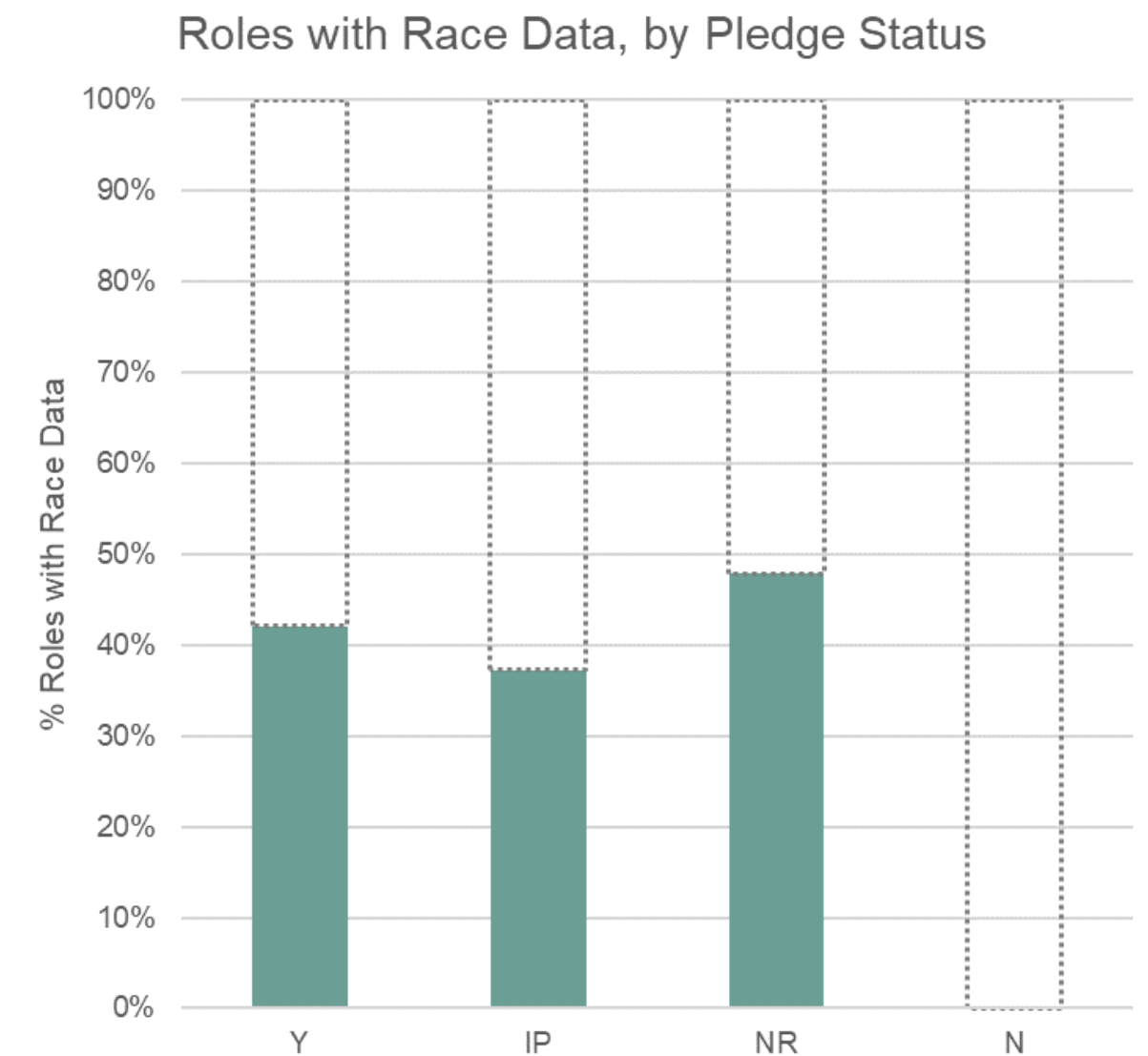
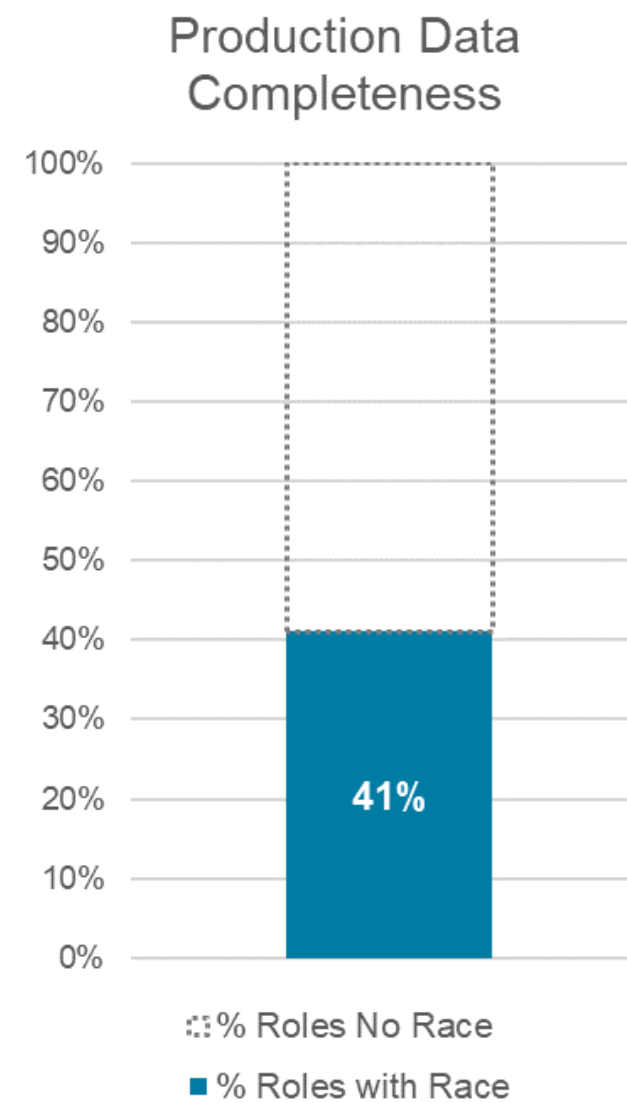
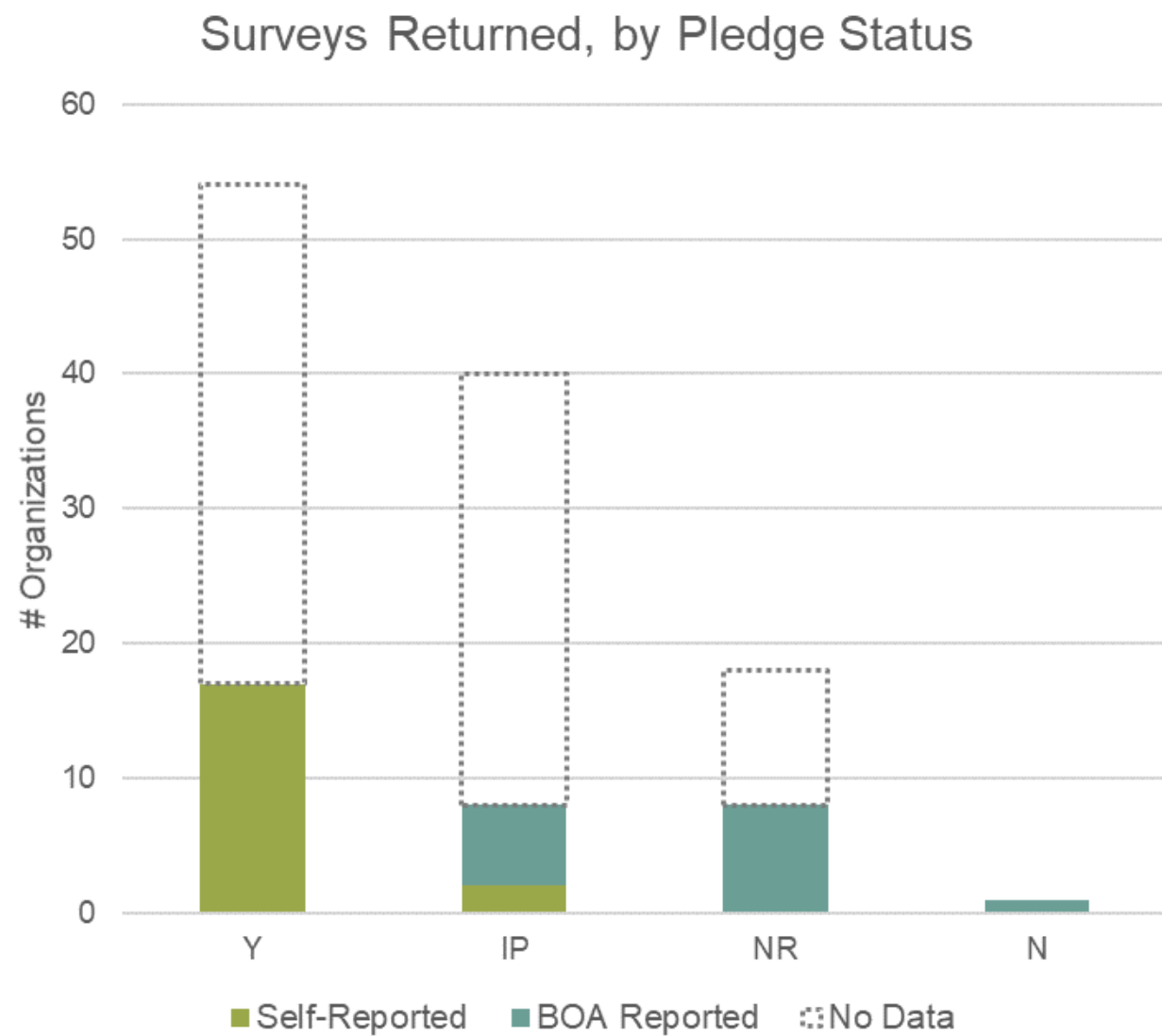
**EUGENE
OPERA**

BLACK OPERA ALLIANCE

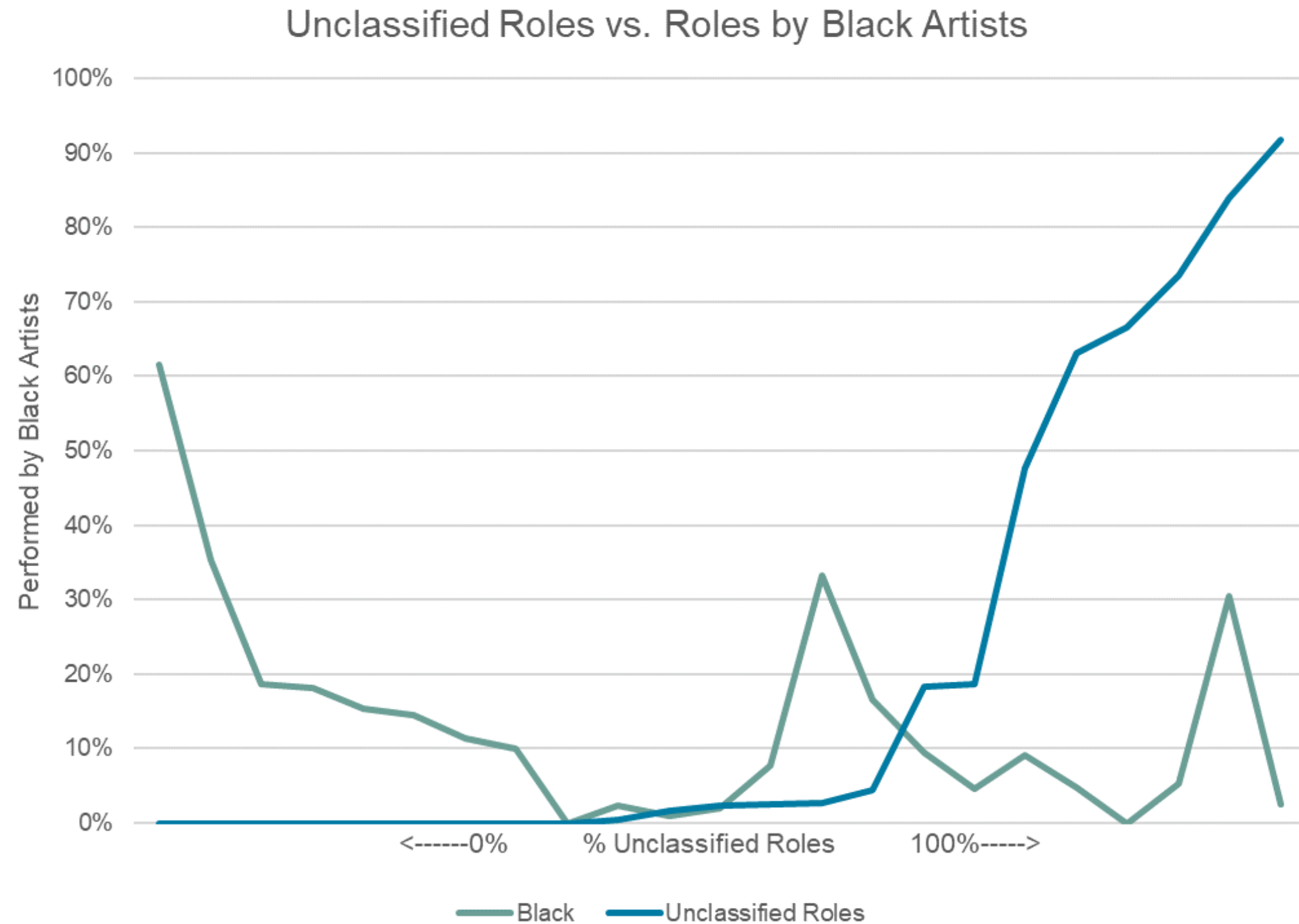
Pledge Status



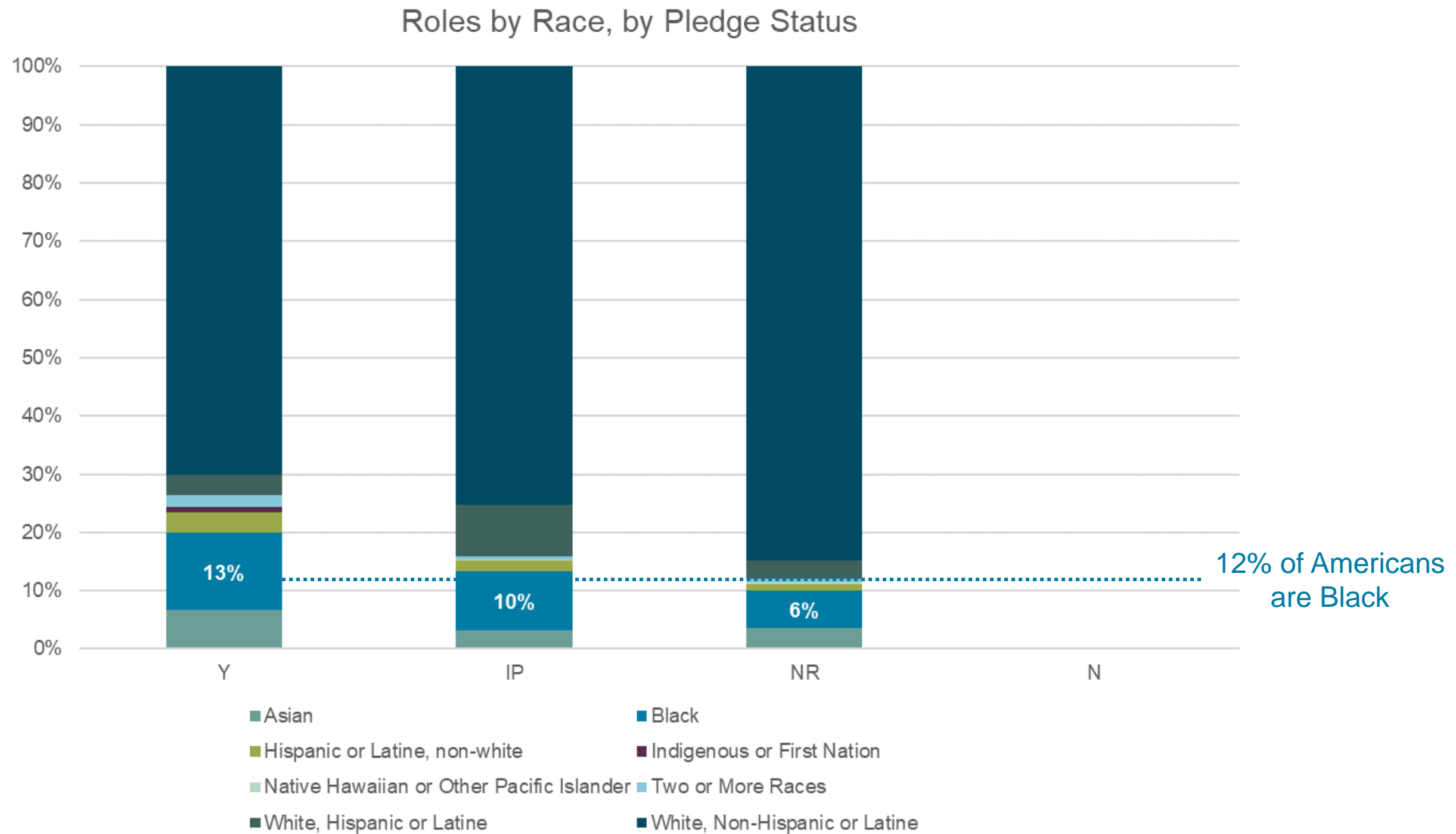
40% of Companies Returned Data



Bias in Returned Data

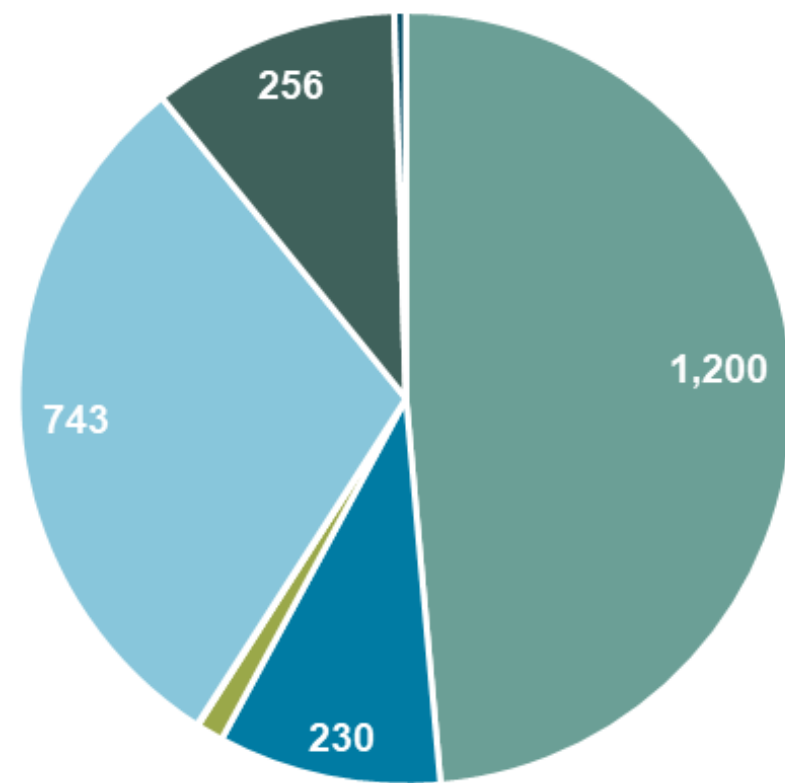


Incomplete Data Skews Proportions



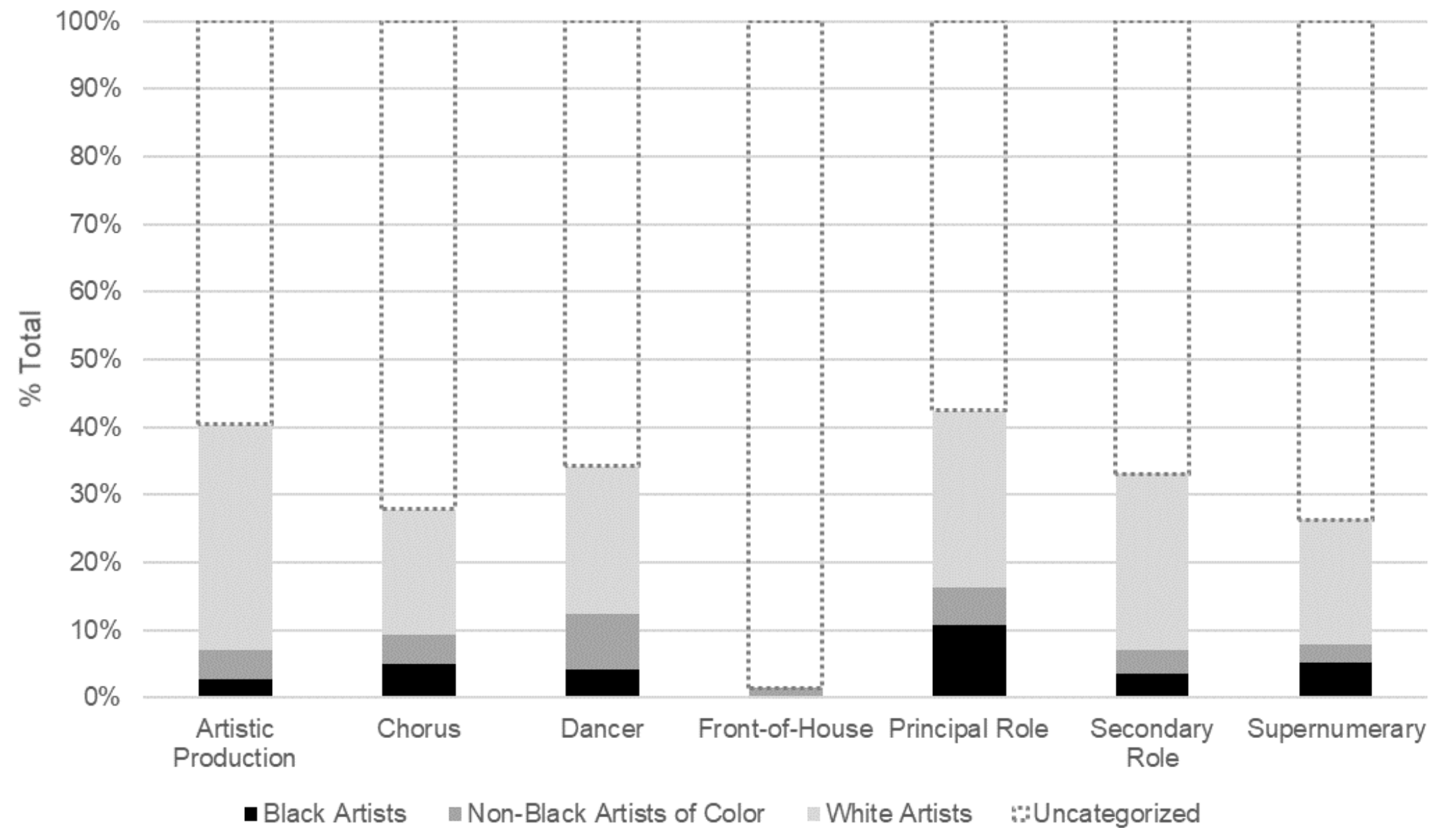
Production & Principal Roles

Categorized Opportunities

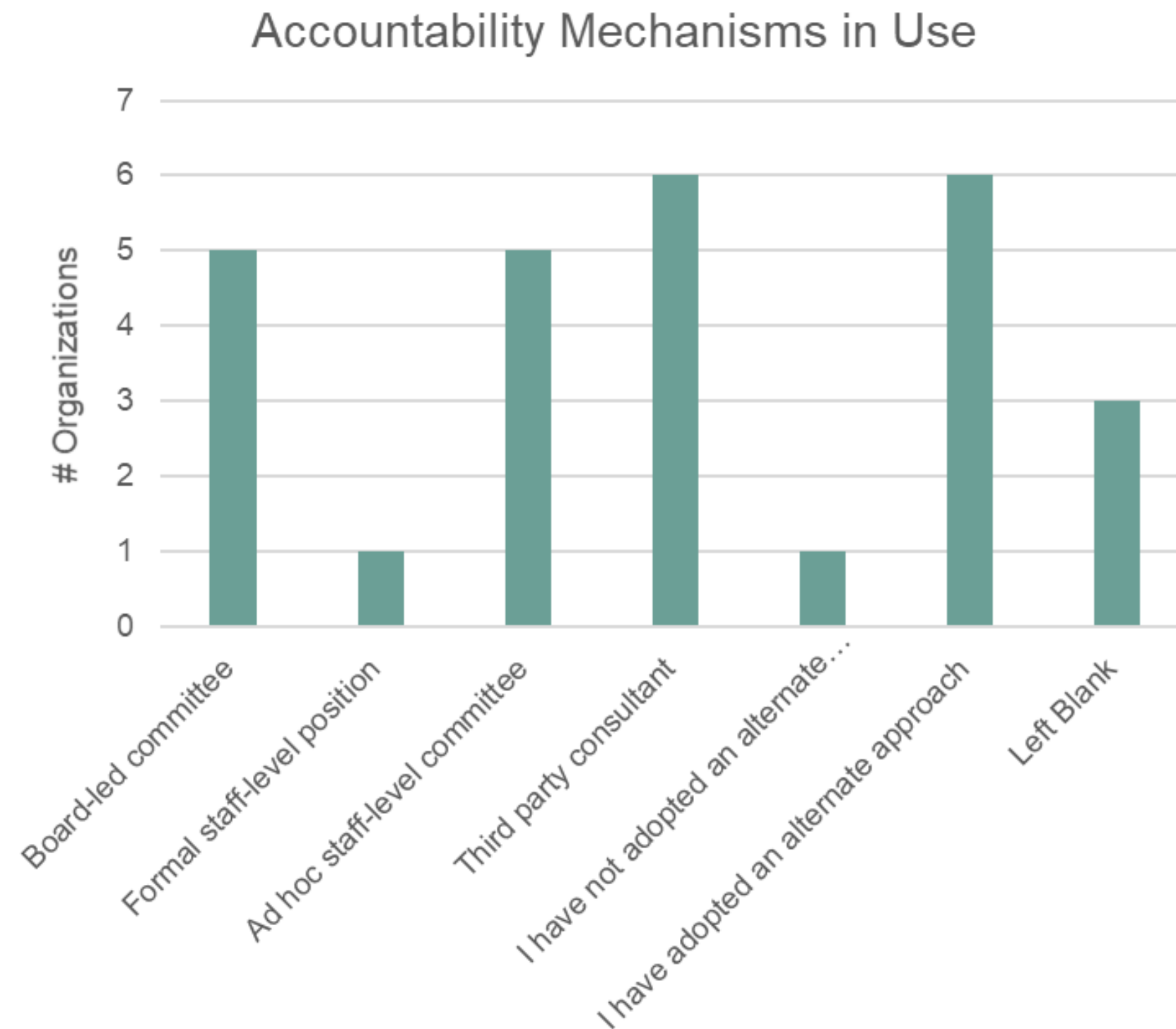


- Artistic Production
- Chorus
- Dancer
- Front-of-House
- Instrumentalist
- Principal Role
- Secondary Role
- Supernumerary

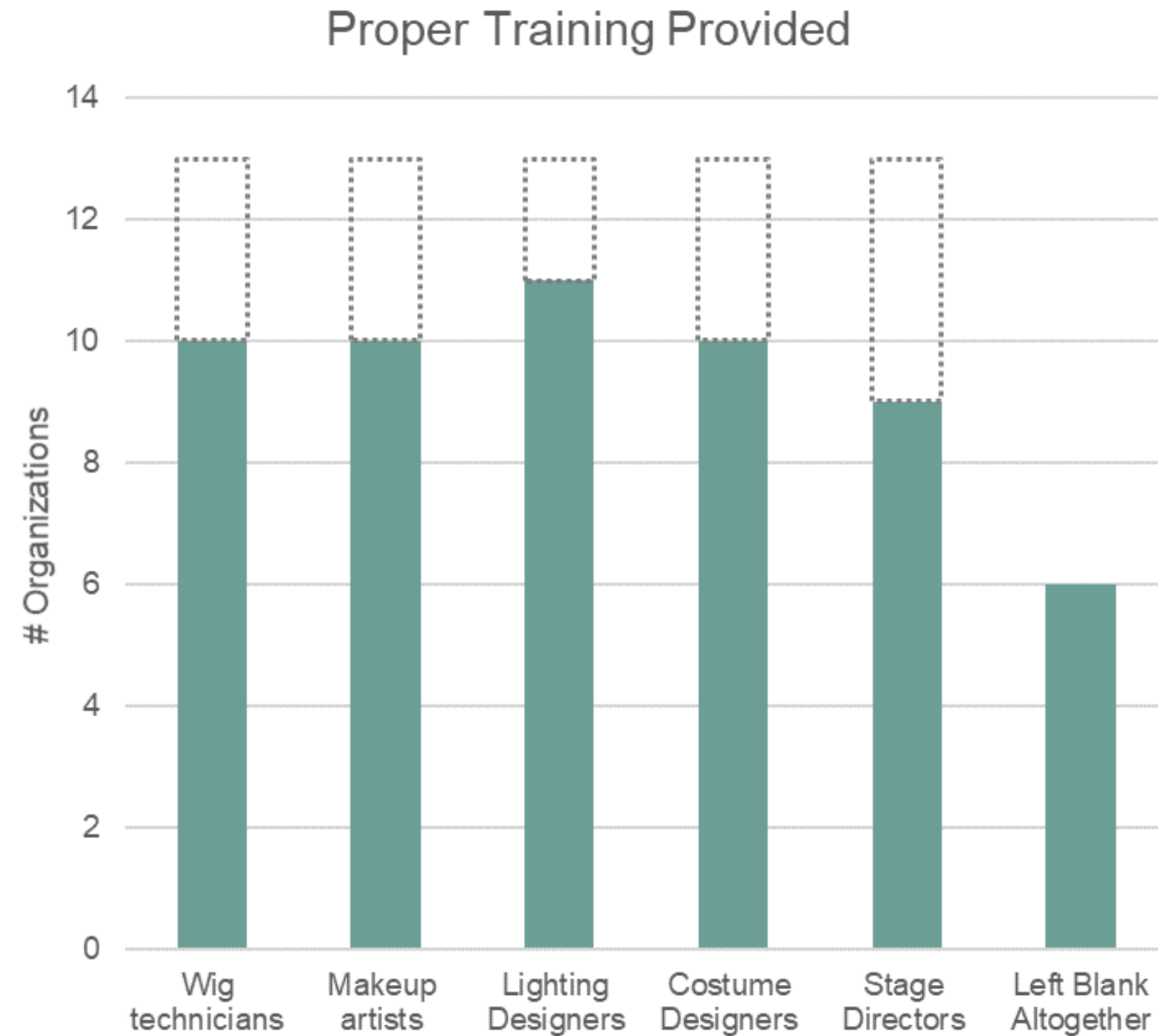
Role Categories, by Race



Racial Equity Accountability



Training Support Offered



In Progress

What comes next?

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Next Steps

Data Collection

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WORKBOOK REVIEW

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Can be completed by	Company or Production Manager, or designate				
2	Production Title	Role <i>(select from drop-down)</i>	Role, If Other	Role Type <i>(select from drop-down)</i>	Role Title	Artist Name
3	<i>The Lighthouse</i>	<i>Librettist</i>		<i>Artistic Production</i>	<i>Librettist</i>	<i>Peter Maxwell Davie:</i>
4	<i>The Lighthouse</i>	<i>Performer</i>		<i>Principal Role</i>	<i>Blazes (Officer 2)</i>	<i>Roberto Perlas Gome</i>
5						
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16						
17						
18						

Instructions

Organization

FY18 Productions

FY19 Productions

FY20 Productions



Questions?

BLACK OPERA ALLIANCE

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

EMAIL

info@blackoperaalliance.org

WEBSITE

www.blackoperaalliance.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

[@blackoperaalliance](https://www.instagram.com/blackoperaalliance)



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