Online NATS Student Auditions/Singing Festival
2020 FALL Music Theater-CCM
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
RULES

Entry Videos Due: October 14th at 11:59 pm

1st Place Awards Concert Livestream Event: Saturday, November 14, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

INTRODUCTION:

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, our local SFBAC Fall Student Auditions will be held online via YouTube entry. Teachers will be able to adjudicate from their homes viewing student entries on YouTube between November 1-7. Adjudicating will take place via Auditionware. We have also added a *BRAND NEW CATEGORY* for student composers called ORIGINAL SONGWRITING, which is open to singers of all ages.

Purpose of Student Auditions

The annual San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of NATS Student Auditions offers to our membership's students:

- Motivation toward vocal and musical growth
- Encouragement toward the preparation of appropriate repertoire for many genres of music
- An opportunity to sing before qualified and impartial judges and to receive constructive criticism of their performance
- An opportunity to have outstanding musical talent and vocal achievement recognized by teachers and peers

Entry Categories

Students may enter in three categories -- Music Theater, CCM (Contemporary/Commercial Music), and ***Original Songwriting(a brand new category)***. Student categories are divided by the following criteria: year in school, number of years of study, and age. There are categories for Children, Youth, High School, Collegiate/Adult, Independent Studio and Avocational. All students may enter any category "for comments only" by indicating this in their online registration.

STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT PROOF OF AGE VIA AUDITIONWARE

- Categories are determined by the age of the entrant as of November 14, 2020.
- All entrants must present "proof of age" via Auditionware.
- **Acceptable forms of identification are: Driver's License, DMV ID Card, Passport, Birth Certificate NOTE: Student School Identification cards are <u>NOT</u> acceptable.**

REGISTRATION FEES

Fees vary according to the number of categories entered, as follows:

One Category $40 Two Categories: $60 Three Categories: $80

This fee includes the $2 processing fee added for each category entered to cover the cost of our online registration system as well as the pianist's fee. All fees are paid at the time of online registration. Student fees are non-refundable .

AUDITION RULES & GUIDELINES

1. To qualify to enter the Student Auditions, the sponsoring teacher must be a member in good standing with both National NATS, and with our local SFBAC chapter. If a student has been studying with a sponsoring teacher fewer than eight (8) months, the name of the former teacher must be listed on the registration application and will be listed in any public announcements regarding that student. Note: The second teacher does not have to be a SFBAC-NATS member.
2. Online registration will run from **September 14, 2020 at 12:01am through October 14, 2020 at 11:59pm.** Late applications will not be accepted. Please go to: ***natsauditions.com*** to complete your registration.
3. Each performer is allowed 8 minutes or 12 minutes depending on their category.
4. To honor the National NATS guidelines regarding copyright laws, photocopies are not permitted. Exceptions are:
    a. Music that is out of print, but still under copyright law, with permission from the publisher.
    b. Sheet music or books for which the copyright has expired, but available in CD (e.g., CD Sheet Music) format.
    c. Performers must be prepared to present proof of ownership. Sheet music must be purchased legally from an online vendor. Such music should have either a separate page or receipt proving that the performer has purchased such OR a copyright notice at the bottom of the music that includes the performer's name. **The name of the student or the parent must appear on the receipt or on the downloaded page. Scores with the teacher's name on the page or receipt will not be accepted.**
    d. Music printed from approved public domain websites. Performers should take particular care when accessing these sites as some do not guarantee all works are indeed in the public domain. Copyrights of 1922 or before are in the public domain. Print out the citation page from these websites stating that the copyright of your download is 1922 or before. Current approved online public domain sites are:
        i. www.imslp.org
        ii. www.sheetmusicarchive.net
        iii. www.jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/handle/1774.2/2085

5. **Singers must perform the repertoire submitted in their online registration.** Repertoire selections cannot be changed after the registration deadline. For example, if three songs are entered in a category requiring two or three songs, one cannot be dropped after registration. Repertoire changes constitute grounds for disqualification for the awards in that category. Students will revert to "comments only" status, and no fees will be refunded. If a student has not met the requirements of a category, the student will be allowed to sing during the Student Auditions but will be ineligible for prizes. For example, if a student is entered in the wrong category or presents a song that is not listed on the adjudication sheet, the student will be disqualified. Adjudicators will evaluate the performance as usual but for "comments only".
6. Transgender Policy: Students who self-identify as transgender or gender fluid must choose an audition category in Music Theatre and/or CCM based on their gender identification at the time of the Singing Festival and select repertoire associated with the gender of that category.
7. All fees (teacher and student) must be paid by the teacher at the time of ONLINE REGISTRATION.
8. **Previous first place winners from November 2019 cannot enter the same category that they have already won. They need to enter the next higher category.** 1st Place winners of "Advanced Categories" cannot proceed into Avocational Categories the next year because Advanced categories are for singers who are professionally bound. The next step for Musical Theater Singers would be the NATS

National Musical Theater Competition, the Cal-Western Regional Student Auditions, or they can sing in the Advanced Categories for "comments only" in the Singing Festival. Avocational is for non- professional singers.

9. Four awards will be given per category, including ties. Winners are determined by the judges' scores.
10. Winners will be announced by November 10 online at www.sfbacnats.com.
11. Teachers will receive adjudication forms via Google Drive following the completion of the final round.

YOUTUBE ONLINE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. Each of your three videos will be separately uploaded to YouTube, and each video will have a separate URL address.
2. When uploading your video file to YouTube, note that you must select "Public" in the Privacy settings found under the broadcasting and Sharing Options section. If you select "Unlisted" or "Private" your submission will be invalid.
3. ALL video links must be uploaded in the same order that your repertoire is listed on your application.
4. Please double-check the links you provide as we will not be able to accept links after the deadline.
5. The video must clearly show your face. A frozen camera position throughout, showing your face and most of your body, is preferable. The use of an iphone will suffice as sufficient video/audio quality. Ensure that the microphone of the iphone is not covered up during recording. The best visual method for adjudicating and viewing is recording vertically on an iphone.
6. Singers are required to sing their selections from memory on the competition video entries. If a singer's performance is not memorized, the entry will be disqualified.
7. In your video, you must sing with a live pianist or with a piano track.
    a. Students are welcome to use piano accompaniment tracks from any source, such YouTube, AppCompanist, Hal Leonard, or an accompaniment recorded for you personally by your pianist. However, the accompaniment must be PIANO ONLY (acoustic or electronic piano), and it cannot include instruments, or background singing.
    b. Note that the quality of the accompanist's playing can affect not only your singing, but also the judging.
    c. The video should be in the spirit of a recital or audition. It may be shot in a home, school, church, synagogue, recital hall, or some other appropriate location, with or without an audience. Please take into account the acoustics of the room. A small room with dead acoustics will not flatter a voice.
    d. We encourage you to dress appropriately, as you would for a recital or an audition.
8. Accompanists are forbidden to use photocopies. Pianists accompanying singers must play from original and legal publications. Entries with visible photocopies will be automatically disqualified. Photocopying music is illegal. The purchase of a publication does not grant the right to photocopy for rehearsal or performance with a pianist. The use of LEGALLY downloaded and purchased copies in compliance with the NATS Copyright Policy is allowed. Videos should be made as if singers are at a live NATS audition.

REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

The National Student Auditions Committee revised the rules for all Student Auditions in August 2017. A summary of the changes to Music Theater Auditions is outlined below.

- The National Committee deleted the requirement that selections must come from a "Broadway/Off Broadway" show. In its place, they stated that all repertoire must be from the score of a book show written or intended for a fully realized musical production. The production may be a musical (including film musicals), revue, or MUTH song cycle. A fully realized production includes blocking/acting, dance, costumes, sets, pit orchestra or piano, lighting, sound, or a combination of the aforementioned elements. Revues should thread back to the original production. Various online resources are available

to confirm whether a particular selection was written/intended for a fully realized musical production, and teachers are encouraged to consult these resources when selecting repertoire for the auditions.

- Singers should ensure that contrasting selections represent the spectrum of their vocal and dramatic abilities. This should be exhibited by selecting pieces of varying style periods (pop/rock, contemporary, Golden Age, operetta), composers, and employing a variety of vocalism (belt, mix, legit).
- Singers may choose only one operetta aria as one of their selections.
- Please note the above states that "film musicals" can now be included in Music Theater Auditions. Our chapter's Student Auditions Committee has agreed that animated films are allowable as Music Theater repertoire.

STUDENT ENTRY CATEGORIES

Please read the requirements for the entry categories carefully. The correct category in which to register your student depends on multiple factors:

1. The first criteria to consider is the student's year in school.
2. Then check the age ranges that are listed for the student's year in school. Note: The age ranges do overlap between the categories to accommodate students who are ahead or behind in age when compared to their peers. If a student exceeds the age range given for their year in school, please contact the Festival Chairperson.
3. Collegiate and advanced categories also take into account the number of years that the student has studied.
4. Our goal is to have categories with 7-16 singers in each. If less than 7 singers enroll in a category, it may be combined with a similar category. If there are more than 16 singers in a category, it will be subdivided.

MUSICAL THEATER CATEGORIES: Please consult "Musical Theater" under the AUDITION TERMINOLOGY section for further advice *(See page 5 of this document.)*.

Category		Length of Study	Age Range	Time	Repertoire Requirements
1	**Children Music Theater below 6th Grade**	No Limit	11 & under	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting Music Theater selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
2	**Youth Music Theater Grades 6-8**	No limit.	11-14	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting Music Theater selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
3	**Lower High School Music Theater SSA Grades 9 & 10**	No limit.	14-16	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting Music Theater selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
4	**Lower High School Music Theater TBB**	No limit.	14-16	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting Music Theater selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a

	Grades 9 & 10				musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
5	**Upper High School Music Theater SSA Grades 11 & 12**	No limit.	16-19	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting Music Theater selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
6	**Upper High School Music Theater TBB Grades 11 & 12**	No limit.	16-19	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting Music Theater selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
7	**Lower College & Independent Studio Music Theater SSA**	0-2 years post high school	22 & under	8 minutes	Three Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
8	**Lower College & Independent Studio Music Theater TTB**	0-2 years post high school	22 & under	8 minutes	Three Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
9	**Upper College & Independent Studio Music Theater SSA**	3-5 years post high school	25 & under	12 minutes	Four Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
10	**Upper College & Independent Studio Music Theater Men**	3-5 years post high school	25 & under	12 minutes	Four Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
11	**Advanced Music Theater SSA**	5+ years post high school	30 & under	12 minutes	Four Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
12	**Advanced Music Theater TBB**	5+ years post high school	30 & under	12 minutes	Four Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue, song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.
13	**Advanced Music Theater ALL VOICE TYPES**	5+ years post high school	31 & over	12 minutes	Four Contrasting Music Theater Selections from scores of book shows written or intended for fully realized musical productions. (a musical, revue,

					song cycle or operetta). Only one selection may be an operetta aria.

CCM CATEGORIES: (CCM = Contemporary/Commercial Music) CCM repertoire requirements are the same for all categories, and include: selections from jazz, pop, rock, American Songbook or other repertoire. Singers may specialize in a particular genre and have contrasting selections within the chosen genre OR may select repertoire from more than one genre. Full piano accompaniment is required—no lead sheets or chord charts. No microphones are allowed.

Category		Length of Study	Age Range	Time	Repertoire Requirements
14	**CCM Children below 6th Grade**	No Limit	11 & under	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting selections from repertoire requirements described above
15	**CCM Youth Grades 6-8**	No limit	11-14	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting selections from repertoire requirements described above.
16	**CCM High School TTB & SSA**	No limit	14-19	8 minutes	Three contrasting selections from repertoire requirements described above.
17	**CCM Collegiate & Independent Studio TTB & SSA**	No limit	post high school	8 minutes	Three contrasting selections from repertoire requirements described above.

AVOCATIONAL CATEGORIES: TTB and SSA categories are listed separately below. Singers with music degrees or professional singing experience should not compete in Avocational Categories. Students who enter an Avocational category are limited to that one category only. Classical selections are not appropriate for this November Student Auditions. However, one operetta aria is allowed, as described in the Music Theater categories.

Category		Length of Study	Age Range	Time	Repertoire Requirements
18	**Adult SSA (AVOCATIONAL)**	No limit	22 & older	8 minutes	Three selections. Repertoire may include either Music Theater and/or CCM selections.
19	**Adult TTB (AVOCATIONAL)**	No limit	22 & older	8 minutes	Three selections. Repertoire may include either Music Theater and/or CCM selections.
20	**Adult SSA LATE BLOOMERS**	*Open only to those who began vocal lessons at the age of 35 or later.*	35 & older	8 minutes	Three selections. Repertoire may include either Music Theater and/or CCM selections.
21	**Adult TTB LATE BLOOMERS**	*Open only to those who began vocal lessons at the age of 35 or later.*	35 & older	8 minutes	Three selections.. Repertoire may include either Music Theater and/or CCM selections.

ORIGINAL SONGWRITING:

22	**ORIGINAL SONG**	*Open to songwriters 19 & under*	19 & under	8 minutes	One to two original songs written and performed by the singer. Arrangements of other songs are not allowed. It can be performed with one solo accompanying instrument(played by the singer or an accompanying instrumentalist).
23	**ORIGINAL SONG**	*Open to songwriters 20 & above.*	20 & older	8 minutes	One to two original songs written and performed by the singer. Arrangements of other songs are not allowed. It can be performed with one solo accompanying instrument(played by the singer or an accompanying instrumentalist).

AUDITION TERMINOLOGY & REPERTOIRE

Music Theater Selections	Here is further clarification of terms used to describe the new Music Theater repertoire guidelines. ● All repertoire must be from the score of a book show written or intended for a fully realized musical production. The production may be a musical (including film musicals), revue, or song cycle (MUTH). ● A "book show" refers to dramatic material in a musical as a libretto is to opera. ● The term "fully realized" refers to the dramatic elements of blocking/acting, dance, costumes, sets, pit orchestra or piano, lighting, and sound. ● "Revues should thread back to the original production" means being traced back to the original production. ● The new guidelines include musicals "intended" for fully realized productions, especially new MUTH productions and other productions at universities and schools, as well as trunk songs and cut songs, including the songs of Porter, Kern and Gershwin referred to above and songs from Ziegfield Follies. ● The new guidelines include "semi-staged, concert versions of musicals (revues) that never make it to the mainstage, but are considered staged musical productions. Also allowed are musicals written and intended for the stage, including those musicals that are performed at the microphone in small black box theaters, or non-theatrical venues (clubs, for example), with minimal or no costumes, with electronic keyboard". ● This expanded definition excludes (does not include) non-musicals and stand-alone songs however dramatic they may be. ● Further discussion can be found at https://www.nats.org/Frequently_Asked_Questions_-_NSA.html
Original Languages	Selections should be sung in original language or in translation if warranted by common performance practice.
Judicious Cuts	Piano introductions, piano interludes, piano music after the vocal solo is completed, and internal cuts are allowed as in common performance practice.
Memorization	All repertoire must be sung from memory.
Time	Due to the nature of this online competition, the total performance time for some singers may exceed the category performance time allotment. You will not be penalized for songs that exceed the limit. ***However, adjudicators are only required to hear 8 or 12 minutes of music depending on the category.***

Comment Only	Any student may register to sing for comments only and participate in any preliminary round category.

FINAL ROUND

First Place Winners of each category are expected to participate in the Final Round Concert where further awards will be given. After category results are posted, first place winners must PROMPTLY contact our audition chairs to confirm your participation by November 12 at 9:00am. Repertoire for the Final Round must be confirmed at this time. The Final Round will be held November 14 at 6:00 p.m. online. Winners will perform their choice of one selection from the repertoire that they performed in the Student Auditions.

Second Place Winners will be contacted *if the first place winner of a category is unable to perform in the Final Round.*

Final Round Concert: The final round concert will be streamed live on Youtube on Saturday, November 14 at 6:00pm.