

NATS Mid-South Student Auditions Regulations

1. There are two functional leaders at the Student Auditions. The Site Host is the person who arranges for physical space, judges' assignments and all other logistical matters. The Governor/Auditions Coordinator has the authority to enforce all the regulations governing the auditions, to see that scores are tabulated accurately and to resolve any problems arising from infringements of age and repertoire requirements.

2. EACH INDIVIDUAL TEACHER IS RESPONSIBLE TO SEE THAT HIS/HER PARTICIPATING STUDENTS CONFORM TO REGULATIONS BELOW.

3. DIVISIONS:

Division	Age on Audition Date	Length of Study
High School Women	19 maximum	8 months minimum
High School Men	19 maximum	8 months minimum
Freshman Women	22 maximum	1-2 college semesters
Freshman Men	22 maximum	1-2 college semesters
Sophomore Women	23 maximum	3-4 college semesters
Sophomore Men	23 maximum	3-4 college semesters
Adult beginner	22 minimum	1-4 college semesters
Junior Women	24 maximum	5-6 college semesters
Junior Men	24 maximum	5-6 college semesters
Senior Women	25 maximum	7-8 college semesters
Senior Men	25 maximum	7-8 college semesters
Adult Intermediate	24 minimum	5-8 college semesters
Advanced Women	22 minimum	Over 8 college semesters
Advanced Men	22 minimum	Over 8 college semesters
Post-Advanced	25 minimum	Over 8 college semesters

Musical Theater Division	Age on Audition Date	Length of Study
High School Women & Men	19 maximum	8 months minimum
Underclassmen:		
Freshman, Sophomore	23 maximum	1-4 college semesters
Adult Beginners	22 minimum	1-4 college semesters
Upperclassmen:		
Juniors, Seniors	25 maximum	5-8 college semesters
Adult Intermediate	24 minimum	5-8 college semesters
Advanced	22 minimum	Over 8 college semesters

4. REPERTOIRE

CLASSICAL:

High School:

Three songs chosen from classical repertoire such as: art songs, folk songs, early Italian arias (before 1800), spirituals, musical theater (not more than one selection may be from musical theater). One selection must be in English and all three may be in English.

Underclass (Freshman, Sophomores, Adult Beginners)

Three songs including:

1. A foreign language art song in the original language.
2. An American, Canadian or British 20th or 21st Century art song. *
3. A third song or aria of choice. See **CLARIFICATION OF ARIA**

Upperclass: (Juniors, Seniors, Adult Intermediate)

Four songs including:

1. A foreign language art song in the original language.
2. An American, Canadian or British 20th or 21st Century art song.*
3. An aria in the original key. See **CLARIFICATION OF ARIA**
4. A fourth song or aria of choice.

Advanced

Five selections as follows:

1. One operatic aria in the original key, in the original language or translation.
2. One oratorio/cantata/mass aria in the original key, in the original language or translation
3. Two art songs in different foreign languages
4. An American, Canadian or British 20th or 21st Century art song. *

* Counter tenor may substitute an appropriate early Musical English piece for this category.

MUSICAL THEATER

High School

Two songs from musical theater works. An aria from an operetta may be substituted for one of the songs.

Underclassmen (Freshmen, Sophomores, Adult Beginners)

Three songs including:

1. One song/aria from a musical theater work or operetta composed through 1968
2. One song from a musical theater work composed after 1968
3. One Musical theater selection from any time period

Upperclassmen (Juniors, Seniors, Adult Intermediate, Advanced)

Four songs including:

1. One song/aria from a musical theater work or operetta composed through 1968
2. One song from a musical theater work composed 1968-2000
3. One song from a musical theater work composed in the 21st century
4. One musical theater selection from any time period

For musical theater division songs should be sung in the original language and the use of lawful editions of musical is required. At least one song must be a ballad (a song in legato style in slow to moderato tempo). List the year for all songs. Songs that have been modified from their original form for revival purposes must carry the date of the revival.

CLARIFICATION OF "ARIA"

- a) For High school and Underclass Divisions, any selection from 28 Italian Songs and Arias is accepted as an aria as well as appropriate opera, operetta, cantata, mass or oratorio arias.
- b) For Upperclass and Advanced Divisions, only those selections in 28 Italian Songs and Arias specified as "arias" or clearly excerpted from an opera, operetta, cantata, mass or oratorio.
- c) "Aria" means a selection from opera, operetta, oratorio, mass, cantata, or a "concert aria."
- d) An aria written after 1750 is not considered an art song.

- e) For the Advanced contestant, distinguish between “opera arias” and aria from oratorio/cantata/mass.

5. TIME LIMITS

CLASSICAL DIVISIONS:

- a). **Preliminary Round:** High School and Underclass Divisions: 7 minutes.
All others: 9 minutes.
- b). **Semi-Final Round:** High School and Underclass Divisions: 5 minutes.
All others: 7 minutes.
- c). **Final Round:** High School through Junior Collegiate 4 minutes. Senior Collegiate, Advanced and Post-Advanced: 5 minutes.

MUSICAL THEATER DIVISIONS:

- a). **Preliminary:** High School and Underclass Divisions: 7 minutes. All others: 9 minutes.
- b). **Semi-Final Round:** High School and Underclass Divisions: 5 minutes.
All others: 7 minutes
- c). **Final Round:** High School and Underclass Divisions: 4 minutes. All others: 5 minutes .
Cuts are encouraged.

6. SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS

In Semi-Final Rounds where there are fewer than six contestants, the number of finalists chosen will be as follows:

1-3 Semi-Finalists	= 1 Finalist
4-5 Semi-Finalists	= 2 Finalists
6 or more Semi-Finalists	= 3 Finalists

The selection of Finalists will be by score. There will be no consultation between judges. Each judge will rank order all singers in the Semi-Final Round numerically (1, 2, 3, 4, etc... with the best singer as #1). These numerical rankings will be averaged by the Site Host and/or Governor/Auditions Coordinator. The singers with the lowest total points will be Finalists.

7. LAWFUL EDITIONS

Accompanists may elect to use Xerox copies only if the lawful edition is AT HAND at the piano. In other cases, permission must be granted in advance of the auditions from the Governor or Auditions Coordinator.

8. CONTESTANT NUMBERS

Contestants will be known only by a number assigned to them by a Site Host. No name should be written on the adjudication sheets. Public postings/mailings should be by contest numbers only. A master list including contestant numbers and names must be retained by the Host.

9. NON-REFUND OF FEES

Prize award amounts are determined in advance by income from registration fees. Therefore, registration fees are non-refundable.

10. TEACHER ATTENDANCE

If the NATS member enters students to the auditions, he or she must attend the auditions as well. If this is not possible, the NATS member must secure a substitute judge who is a NATS member in good standing, and who will not be entering any students in the competition.