

# NATSAA|2016

## 44th NATS Artist Awards Competition for Singers

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant must be at least 21 but not more than 35 years of age on the deadline entry date: January 13, 2016.
2. Membership status of teacher or applicant:
  - The applicant's most recent teacher must be a full member of NATS (in good standing) with whom the applicant must have studied continuously for at least one academic year;
  - OR -
  - The applicant must be a full member of NATS in good standing for at least one year prior to January 13, 2016.
3. First-place winners in prior NATSAA national auditions are ineligible.
4. The final decision on all matters of eligibility rests with the Vice President of NATSAA.

**Note: Performers in NATS-sponsored auditions, competitions, recitals, and other activities such as workshops, shall perform from lawful editions and shall support and obey the law relative to copyright and the NATS Copyright Policy.**

### ENTRANCE PROCEDURE

- ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY.
  - Online applications are available at [www.natsaa.org](http://www.natsaa.org). If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the NATS Executive Office at 904-992-9101 or [info@nats.org](mailto:info@nats.org).
  - The completed application, including payment of the fee of \$75 U.S. by credit card, or money order, must be received in the Executive Office no later than January 13, 2016. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.
1. Online applications must include:
    - a. payment of the non-refundable entry fee of \$75.00 in U.S. funds via credit card (Visa or MasterCard); or money order (made payable to NATS-NO CHECKS ACCEPTED)
    - b. Applicants MUST provide proof of legal age at the regional audition site. This proof must be provided in the form of an original, government-issued document such as a valid driver's license, and the applicant must provide a copy of this documentation which will be retained by the Association until the completion of the NATSAA competition. Failure to bring both the original and the copy of this documentation will result in disqualification. (COPY CANNOT BE RETURNED)
    - c. the NATS member number AND Email address of the applicant or the sponsoring NATS teacher
    - d. complete entries for all repertoire, including:
      - 1) TITLE and LANGUAGE of each selection
      - 2) COMPOSER of each selection

- 3) KEY of each selection
- 4) ACCURATE TIMING (duration) of each selection
- 5) COMPOSER birth and death dates

2. Completion and submission of the application is followed by Preliminary Auditions.

Applicants must compete in the regional audition of their legal residence or where they are currently studying singing.

### **ADJUDICATION PROCEDURES AND POLICIES**

1. Qualified adjudication will be provided for all competitions. There will be at least three judges but no more than five at each audition. Teachers having students in auditions will not be eligible to adjudicate that audition.
2. Contestants will remain anonymous until the audition is completed.
3. Contestants will be heard for 12-15 minutes.
4. Contestants will sing one selection of their choice at each audition. The balance of the numbers to be heard will be requested by the judges from the repertoire submitted.
5. National finalists will present a fifteen-minute program of their own choosing, selected from the submitted repertoire.
6. NATS will publicize the availability of award winners for professional engagements.

### **REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS**

The repertoire list need not be thought of as comprising a complete recital program.

The contestants and their teachers might want to consider, however, that national finalists will, in fact, present a fifteen minute program of their choosing from the submitted repertoire.

1. Contestants must be prepared to sing at each audition level all of the songs and arias specified in Sections a, b, and c below:
  - a. An aria from an opera to be sung in the original language and key.
  - b. An aria from a major oratorio, mass, requiem, or cantata to be sung in the original key.
  - c. Twelve (12) additional recital selections divided into four groups. The number of pieces in each group may vary but must total 12 in all, and each group except the English set must have at least two selections therein. Special note - At least one art song composed in or after 1950 (not an arrangement of a folk song) must be included in Group II, III, or IV. The song(s) must be identified and the date of composition given.
    - I. Songs or arias composed before 1800. No more than two arias may be included in this group.
    - II. German Lieder or French Mélodies.
    - III. A second group of National Art Songs consisting of any languages that are not presented in Sections II and IV.
    - IV. American, Canadian, or British Art Songs. Art songs with English as the original language. A minimum of three songs must be included in this group.
2. Note that the arias in Sections a. and b. are in addition to and not part of the 12-song recital requirement of Section c.
3. Memorization: All repertoire must be memorized with the exception of the oratorio

selection (Section b).

4. A contestant entering the auditions for a second or third time will be expected to present a reasonable amount of new repertoire.
5. Any questions concerning the stated repertoire requirements should be addressed to the Vice President of NATSAA.
6. Repertoire changes are NOT allowed from the time of application through completion of regional rounds of the competition. Regional winners may elect to change repertoire prior to the national semi-final auditions.

## **AUDITIONS**

1. Applicants may secure the date and location of the auditions from their teachers, district or regional governors, and the NATS web page.
2. Preliminary Auditions. Auditions will originate at the regional level. The regional audition will include a live preliminary round and final round held either on two consecutive days or on the same day. The regional governor plans and coordinates both rounds.
3. Regional Winners. Each region will select a winner from the regional auditions to be sent to the national semifinal auditions, which will be held in Chicago, July 2016. Regional winners must be certified by their regional governor as to their availability to participate in the national semifinals.
4. Expense Stipends. Semifinalists will each receive a stipend of \$200 from the NATS executive office to assist in covering travel costs. Regions usually contribute additional funds. Contestants are expected, however, to be responsible for the remainder of their own additional expenses, as well as for making their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations.
5. Finalists. No fewer than four and no more than eight finalists will be chosen at the semifinals to sing in the final auditions during the National Conference in Chicago in July 2016. Finalists and semifinalists will earn prizes of not less than \$700.
6. Accompanists. Contestants are urged to provide their own accompanists. At regional auditions accompanists can be provided for a fee if the regional governor is notified at least three weeks before the audition. At the National Semi-finals the NATS executive office will provide a travel stipend of \$200 for accompanists. However, if so desired, professional accompanists will be available without expense to contestants. Notification of the need for accompanists must be given to the Vice President of NATSAA by May 15, 2016. NATS teachers are not allowed to accompany their students at any level.

## **QUESTIONS ABOUT RULES AND REGULATIONS, OR ABOUT REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

**Carole Blankenship, NATSAA Vice President, [vpnatsaa@nats.org](mailto:vpnatsaa@nats.org)  
901-569-3807**