



# 2018 SPRING NATS CLASSICAL STUDENT AUDITIONS/ SINGING FESTIVAL



San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
**RULES**

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Volunteers & Adjudicators Meeting: 9 am

Auditions: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Awards Concert, Recital Hall, Time 6:30

California State University East Bay - Music Building  
25800 Carlos Bee Blvd  
Hayward, CA 94542

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## 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

Because these auditions are for classical repertoire only, each student is limited to only one entry. Folk song arrangements, spirituals, and traditional hymn tunes are accepted as a part of the classical genre. Student categories are divided by the following criteria: year in school, number of years of study, and age. There are categories for Youth, High School, Collegiate/Adult Independent Studio and Avocational singers. Students may enter any level or category "for comments only" by indicating this in their online registration.

**REGISTRATION FEES:** Registration fees are \$50 per entry and are non-refundable.

## BRING PROOF OF AGE WITH YOU THE DAY OF THE STUDENT AUDITIONS

- Categories are determined by the age of the entrant as of March 3, 2018.
- All entrants must present "proof of age" upon signing in at the registration table on the day of the Student Auditions.
- **Acceptable forms of identification are: Driver's License, DMV ID Card, Passport, Birth Certificate.**  
**NOTE: Student School Identification cards are NOT acceptable.**

## REGISTRATION FEES

The fee for our Classical NATS Student Audition is \$50 per student entry.

*This fee includes the \$2 processing fee 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 with one exception: if a student has a possible conflict for the day of audition, and the teacher alerts the Festival Director of possible conflict BEFORE registering the student. There is no way to determine the student's audition time before the scheduler is run. Despite conflicts, after the schedule is set no refunds will be allowed without previous notification.*

## HOW TO SELECT THE APPROPRIATE ENTRY CATEGORY FOR YOUR STUDENT:

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.

## CLASSICAL CATEGORIES:

Unless otherwise specified, aria selections can be from opera, oratorio, mass, cantata, operetta, and concert arias. All selections must be memorized, including oratorio selections.

Category		Length of Study	Age Range	Time	Repertoire Requirements
1	<b>Children Grade 5 &amp; under</b>	No limit	11 & under	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting age appropriate selections from classical repertoire
2	<b>Youth Boys &amp; Girls Grades 6-8</b>	No limit	11-14	8 minutes	Two or three contrasting age appropriate selections from classical repertoire.
3	<b>Lower High School Women Grades 9 &amp; 10</b>	No limit	14-16	8 minutes	Two required selections from classical repertoire: one art song in English, one art song in a foreign language. Optional third piece may include an additional art song or aria.
4	<b>Lower High School Men Grades 9 &amp; 10</b>	No limit	14-16	8 minutes	Two required selections from classical repertoire: one art song in English, one art song in a foreign language. Optional third piece may include an additional art song or aria.
5	<b>Upper High School Women Grades 11 &amp; 12</b>	No limit	16-19	8 minutes	Two required selections from classical repertoire: one art song in English, one art song in a foreign language. Optional third piece may include an additional art song or aria.
6	<b>Upper High School Men Grades 11 &amp; 12</b>	No limit	16-19	8 minutes	Two required selections from classical repertoire: one art song in English, one art song in a foreign language. Optional third piece may include an additional art song or aria.
7	<b>Lower College &amp; Independent Studio Women</b>	0-2 years post high school	17-22	8 minutes	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One art song in English. One art song in a foreign language. One additional art song or aria.
8	<b>Lower College &amp; Independent Studio Men</b>	0-2 years post high school	17-22	8 minutes	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One art song in English. One art song in a foreign language. One additional art song or aria.
9	<b>Upper College &amp; Independent Studio Women</b>	3-5 years post high school - all as undergraduate	20-25	12 minutes	Four contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One aria. One art song in English. One foreign language art song. One additional

					selection. At least three languages must be represented.
10	<b>Upper College &amp; Independent Studio Men</b>	3-5 years post high school - all as undergraduate	20-25	12 minutes	Four contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One aria. One art song in English. One foreign language art song. One additional selection. At least three languages must be represented.
11	<b>Advanced College &amp; Independent Studio Women</b>	4+ years post high school	22-30	15 minutes	Five contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One operatic aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One foreign language art song. One art song in English. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.
12	<b>Advanced College &amp; Independent Studio Men</b>	4+ years post high school	22-30	15 minutes	Five contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One operatic aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One foreign language art song. One art song in English. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.
13	<b>Advanced Classical Men &amp; Women</b>	4+ post high school	31 & older	15 minutes	Five contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One operatic aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One foreign language art song. One art song in English. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.

**AVOCATIONAL CATEGORIES:** Men and women's 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. Repertoire must include only classical selections -- musical theater and CCM selections are not appropriate.

Category		Length of Study	Age Range	Time	Repertoire Requirements
14	<b>Adult Women (AVOCATIONAL)</b>	No limit	22 & older	8 minutes	Three classical selections which can include any of the following: art song, aria, folk song, spiritual, and traditional hymn tunes. At least one selection must be in English, and one in a foreign language.
15	<b>Adult Men (AVOCATIONAL)</b>	No limit	22 & older	8 minutes	Three classical selections which can include any of the following: art song, aria, folk song, spiritual, and traditional hymn tunes. At least one selection must be in English, and one in a foreign language.
16	<b>Adult Women LATE BLOOMERS</b>	<i>Open only to those who began vocal lessons at the age of 35 or later.</i>	35 & older	8 minutes	Three classical selections which can include any of the following: art song, aria, folk song, spiritual, and traditional hymn tunes. At least one selection must be in English, and one in a foreign language.
17	<b>Adult Men LATE BLOOMERS</b>	<i>Open only to those who began vocal lessons at the</i>	35 & older	8 minutes	Three classical selections which can include any of the following: art song, aria, folk song, spiritual, and traditional hymn tunes. At least one selection must be in English, and one in a foreign language.

		<i>age of 35 or later.</i>			
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## Audition Terminology & Repertoire

<b>Aria</b>	An aria is a solo taken from an opera, oratorio, mass, cantata, operetta, zarzuela, or works titled “concert aria”.
	Oxford Online definitions will be used for the purposes of this audition. For example, Purcell’s selections from the semi- operas and masques are considered art songs.
<b>24/26/28 Italian Art Songs and Arias</b>	The repertoire found in the 24/26/28 Italian Art Songs and Arias collections may be counted as an aria or an art song in the high school and lower college classical categories. <b>For the singers in the upper college categories and beyond, these pieces may count as an art song ONLY, regardless of origin.</b>
	Any repertoire found outside of these collections will be considered only as the composer intended, as an art song OR aria.
<b>Classical Repertoire/Categories</b>	The word “classical” in this context refers to art songs and arias from the “classical” genre, not limited to the “Classical” period of Mozart and Haydn. In other words, no musical theater, pop, soul, jazz, rhythm and blues, etc.
	Published arrangements of folk songs, spirituals, and traditional hymn tunes in English are widely accepted as a part of the classical genre. Students in classical categories may present one selection of this type to fulfill an art song requirement.
<b>Original Languages</b>	Selections should be sung in original language or in translation if warranted by common performance practice.
<b>Transposition</b>	All arias from opera, oratorio, mass, cantata, operetta, zarzuela, and works titled “concert aria,” must be sung in the original key or standard published key. Art songs may be transposed to any key.
<b>Judicious Cuts</b>	Cuts in piano introductions, piano interludes, piano music after the vocal solo is completed, and internal cuts are allowed as in common performance practice.
<b>Memorization</b>	All repertoire, including oratorio, must be sung from memory.
<b>Comment Only</b>	Any student may register to sing for comments only and participate in any preliminary round category.

## Audition Rules and 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 **January 4, 2018 at 12:01 am through February 4, at 11:59 pm. Late applications will not be accepted.** Please go to [www.natsauditions.com](http://www.natsauditions.com) to complete your registration.
3. Each performer is allowed 8 minutes, 12 minutes or 15 minutes depending on their category. This time limit includes time spent entering the room, conferring with the accompanist, singing, and exiting.
4. Singers choose their first selection. Judges may then request a second piece, an excerpt only, or ask a singer to stop midway through a piece.
5. All music must be shown at the registration desk when the student checks in for the day. All scores will be checked for NATS copyright compliance, and given a stamp of approval. Students cannot perform without

their check-in “stamp” on each piece of music. 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. Sheet music purchased legally from an online vendor. Performers must be prepared to present proof of ownership. Such music should have either a separate page 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:

- [www.imslp.org](http://www.imslp.org)
- [www.sheetmusicarchive.net](http://www.sheetmusicarchive.net)
- [www.jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/handle/1774.2/2085](http://www.jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/handle/1774.2/2085)

6. Policies regarding working with your Student Auditions pianist:

- a. All singers **MUST** be accompanied by the NATS contracted pianist for the category. No exceptions will be made.
- b. Pianists must play from the original/approved scores presented at registration. No photocopies are allowed. Please make sure that your bound scores are sufficiently broken-in to stay open on the piano.
- c. If a singer performs from approved loose sheets of music, they **MUST** be double-sided, hole punched, indexed and in a 3-ring binder for the ease of the pianist. **Students who fail to put their sheet music in a binder as described may be disqualified from performing.**
- d. Mark all cuts clearly for the accompanist. (See AUDITION TERMINOLOGY regarding “judicious cuts”.) Also, if there are any questions, the student must be able to clearly understand and communicate verbally with the pianist what the tempo will be, and where all cuts, repeats, ritards, etc. occur.
- e. There will be no rehearsal allowed with the Student Auditions pianists before the competition. All pianists will be well-practiced in the songs they will play. Students must be prepared to give clear directions to the pianist regarding their tempo, repeats, cuts, ritards, etc. Teachers -- please teach your student how to clearly communicate this information to their accompanist.
- f. Pianists will be given lists of the repertoire well in advance. If a pianist needs to review a piece, he/she may contact the student or teacher directly to get a scanned copy.

7. 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, he/she 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”. At no time will the student be challenged directly by the adjudicators, pianist, or room monitor. Any questions or challenges should be communicated to the tally room, and will be decided by the Student Auditions Chairperson.

8. **TRANSGENDER POLICY:** Students who self-identify as transgender or gender fluid must choose an audition category based on their gender identification at the time of the Singing Festival and select repertoire associated with the gender of that category.
9. All fees (teacher and student) must be paid by the teacher at the time of ONLINE REGISTRATION.
10. Audition times, locations and assigned accompanists will be sent to the student and teacher by email two weeks before the Student Auditions.
11. If a category has fewer than 7 entrants, it may be combined with another category. Likewise, if a category has more than 15 entrants, it may be divided into 2 or more categories.
12. **Previous first place winners from Classical Student Auditions-cannot enter the same category that they have already won. They need to enter the next higher category.**
13. Four awards will be given per category, including ties. Winners are determined by the judges' scores.
14. Winners are announced after the close of each category throughout the day, and will also be posted online at [www.SFBACNATS.org](http://www.SFBACNATS.org).
15. Adjudication sheets will be returned to teachers after the last category winners are posted before the Final Round Awards Concert.
16. Students are expected to provide their own lunch, snacks and water.

## FINAL ROUND CONCERT

**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 go to the Tally Room to register and confirm their participation and repertoire for the Final Round Concert. They will be assigned a rehearsal time with the pianist at that time. The Final Round will be held at 6:30 pm in the Recital Hall. Winners will perform their choice of one selection from the repertoire that they performed in the Student Auditions.

**Second Place Winners** should also check-in with the Tally Room to see if they are needed to perform. *If the first place winner of a category is unable to perform in the Final Round Concert, the second place recipient will be invited to participate and compete in the Final Round Concert.*

Everyone who has attended the Student Auditions as singer or supporter is invited and strongly encouraged to attend this Final Round Concert. There is no participation fee or admission charge.