

MUSIC VOCAL: CONTEMPORARY

Description

The art of performing with the human voice with rhythmic tones or sounds to produce popular music with the tones of the present.

Overview

This competition focuses on the art song repertoire of the late 20th, and 21st centuries, emphasizing balance, clarity, and moderation.

Requirements

1. Song Selection: Choose one song that does not exceed three and half (3.5) minutes in length. Exceeding this time limit will result in point deductions.
2. Accompaniment:
 - a. Local and National Competitions: Accompaniment will be provided.
 - b. Contestant Provided Accompaniment: If you choose to bring your own accompanist, please ensure they are prepared to perform without a backing track.
 - c. Contestants are permitted to perform to a backing/accompaniment track. All sound should be clean and not distorted.
3. Sheet Music: Submit one copy of your sheet music.
4. Memorization: The performance must be memorized.
5. Costumes: Costumes are optional.
6. Instrument: The only instrument provided for performance will be a piano.

Necessary equipment:

1. 1 Sound System w/2 Speakers, a microphone, and necessary cables that is electricity based, not battery powered
2. Laptop w/charger or Phone w/Charger
 - a. [Dongle Adapter](#) for Macbooks
3. Aux Adaptor for playback from phones
 - a. USB C to 3.5 mm Aux Jack (most modern devices)
 - b. Lightning to 3.5 Aux Jack (older apple devices)
4. Aux cable

5. Outlet Surge Protector

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Choice of Music	10	Selection of a suitable repertoire piece
Diction	25	Correct pronunciation and articulation
Interpretation	10	Expressive performance, phrasing, and adherence to historical style and tempo
Intonation	10	Accuracy of pitch
Stage Presence	10	Confidence, poise, and connection with the audience
Technique	10	Breathing, posture, rhythm, and accuracy
Tone Quality	25	Beauty of sound and vocal control
Point Deduction	-1 to -5	In the event the student performance exceeds 5 mins one point will be deducted for every minute over up to five points.
Total	100	

Notes for Judges

- Each contestant will have 5 minutes to present their performance and then the judging co-hort will have 5-10 minutes for any follow up questions and quick deliberations before the next contestant. Each contestant will only have an allocated time frame of 10-15 minutes.

- You should not under any circumstances engage with the students before or after the competition until the Awards Ceremony has concluded.
- You must provide honest constructive feedback for each contestant that you are judging.
- Scoring Rubric:
 - 95-100 - Qualifies as a Gold Medalist
 - 90+Up - Qualifies as a Silver Medalist
 - 85+Up - Qualifies as a Bronze Medalist
 - Please take heed that the identifying word here is “Qualifies”. There can be multiple contestants that can qualify as gold medalist and if that’s the case the highest score will receive the gold, and silver and bronze will be allocated to the next two highest scores.

In the event the highest score is a 90 then there is no gold medalist and there’s only a possibility for a silver and bronze medalist as long as the remaining scores land within the 85+Up region.

Tips for Contestants

- Choose Wisely: Select a song that showcases your strengths and aligns with your vocal range and style.
- Practice, Practice, Practice: Consistent practice is key to mastering your piece.
- Know Your Music: Understand the historical context and stylistic nuances of your chosen song.
- Master the Text: Pay close attention to diction and pronunciation.
- Connect with the Music: Convey the emotions and story of the song through your performance.
- Mind Your Body: Maintain good posture and breath control.
- Stage Presence Matters: Project confidence and engage with the audience.
- Embrace Feedback: Use feedback from judges and coaches to improve your performance.
- Enjoy the Experience: Have fun and let your passion for music shine!