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National Association of Teachers of Singing

TEXOMA REGION

Video Recording and YouTube Upload Instructions

**Registration Deadline: Monday, February 14, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

**Video Link Upload Deadline: Monday, February 21, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

Registration is completed through Auditionware, accessed from the [Member Home](#) page of the [National Association of Teachers of Singing](#) website [<http://www.nats.org/>].

NATS NSA: Texoma Region will follow the national guidelines for the NSA YouTube Round. Additional information is available here: [NSA Video Submission Guidelines](#)

RECORDING LOCATION

You should record your video in the spirit of a live audition or recital performance. You may record in a home, school, church, synagogue, recital hall, rehearsal room, or voice studio with good natural acoustics with or without an audience. You should dress professionally, as you would for a recital or live audition.

RECORDING INSTRUCTIONS

Recording

- You should record a separate unedited video for each selection on your repertoire list.
- Your camera should record from a fixed position as if three adjudicators were seated in front of you.
- You should face straight forward to the camera as you would appear to adjudicators in a live audition.
- Your video recordings must clearly show your face and most of your body from the knees upward.
 - Singers, pianists, and teachers should follow the health guidelines/regulations issued by their institution/venue wherever they are recording. Therefore, during this pandemic, masks are allowed to be worn in NATS audition videos.
- External mics are permissible to assist in picking up the sound but they may not be used to alter the sound in any way.
- To view a short video of best practices for recording a quality audition video click [HERE](#).

Accompanist

- You may sing with a live pianist, your teacher, or recorded accompaniment in your video entries.
- If your teacher is your accompanist, they should not be in view in the video.
- Accompanists must play from authorized copies that are compliant with the NATS Copyright Policy.
- The accompanist may use a page turner who is not the singer's teacher.

Due to the unprecedented nature of the times in which we find ourselves, with growing travel restrictions, school closings (and/or transitions to online instruction), and wide-spread health concerns, we know it will be nearly impossible for many to meet and record videos with live accompanists during this time.

Therefore, during this crisis NATS will allow students to record audition videos using pre-recorded tracks such as found on Appcompanionist, Hal Leonard's Virtual Library, or other similar sources that offer piano-only accompaniments. YouTube Karaoke Tracks

are also acceptable, as long as they are piano only. It will also be acceptable to use tracks that are recorded by your teacher or your pianist (who know you and your interpretation). Additionally, in this extreme circumstance, should student and teacher be in the same location, a teacher may accompany a singer in the recording, but the teacher should not be visible in the recording directly or on any reflected surface (mirror, piano surface, etc.).

NO orchestrated tracks or tracks with other instruments or voices will be acceptable, and would result in disqualification.

Please note that this will not be an accepted precedent for future auditions, but is rather an isolated exception necessitated by a highly unusual global crisis. Because of this, videos will not be required to show the pianist.

Performance

- Introduce each selection at the beginning of the video. Introduce yourself by saying:
“My name is _____; “I will sing (Title of Composition) by (Composer) from (Title of Work (if applicable)).”

The identity of your teacher, school, and region should not be revealed.

- You must perform each of your selections from memory on your recording (with the exception of Oratorio/Cantata arias).
 - *If using your tablet or phone during the recording to control accompaniment, if you give the impression you are reading the score, you may be disqualified.*
- Participants in all categories (classical, musical theatre, spirituals, and CCM) must perform full songs or arias. 16-bar, 32-bar, etc. cuts are not acceptable.

UPLOADING YOUR VIDEO

Tutorials

If you need assistance with YouTube, try these two brief tutorials to get started:

- [Creating a YouTube Account](#)
- [Uploading a Video to YouTube](#)

Settings

- Please note that you must select “Unlisted” in the Privacy settings found under the broadcasting and Sharing Options section when uploading your video file to YouTube.
- If you select “private,” adjudicators will not be able to access your submission(s). If you select “Public”, you may encounter copyright issues with YouTube.

- If you see the option to “Set this video (and/or channel) for kids” or “No, this content is not for kids,” please choose the NOT for kids option. The setting for kids can make it more difficult for judges to access the material and it may need to be reviewed by YouTube admins, causing delays.

Video Titles and Descriptions

- Each video title should contain the singer’s name and “Texoma Region NATS” (i.e. Jane Doe – Texoma Region NATS).
- In the YouTube “Description” section, please include the Title, Composer, and Larger Work (if applicable).
- YouTube Channel Titles & Images must NOT reveal Teacher, School, or Studio affiliations.

VIDEO SUBMISSION IN AUDITIONWARE (Registration Program)

- Create a link to the YouTube video using the “SHARE” option that appears directly below the video. Select “SHARE” then “COPY”
- In the registration program, provide the web link/address for each video that corresponds to the appropriate repertoire selection – either 3, 4, or 5 total selections, depending on your audition category.
- In addition to the above settings, double-check that the video you upload and link to:
 - Has the correct title and information
 - Is the correct version you want to enter (i.e. the video doesn’t cut out halfway through)
 - After creating and submitting your link, double-check to make sure the link works

INVALID VIDEOS

The following video problems would make them invalid. Invalid videos may result in disqualification without a refund for the student audition fee.

- Videos revealing the teacher’s identity, the region of the singer, or the school they attend.
- Videos with “private” sharing options.
- Videos that pan and/or zoom during performances.
- Videos using recording equipment that alters the acoustics of the venue or the sound quality of the singer by adding/subtracting reverb or altering the pitches being sung.
- Videos that are digitally altered.
- Videos where it appears that the student is reading music that is placed off-camera