

2020 Requirements

VOICE

Please be sure you follow all requirements related to your application. Failure to comply with any of the requirements listed below may result in disqualification during the review process and/or make your application ineligible for an award.

Jazz

Application Requirements

- Improvisation (scatting) is strongly encouraged on at least one of the pieces. Your music should come from the appropriate repertoire. Use of a *Standards Real Book* or *Standards Fake Book* is acceptable.
- All audition submissions must be memorized and performed without sheet music.

For your audition, submit a total of **four (4) individual digital video recordings** to include the following and in the following order:

- **A jazz ballad** (first 8 bars a cappella; the rest performed with instrumental accompaniment).
- **A medium or up-tempo swing tune.**
- **A Bebop** (e.g., *Boplicity*, *Tenor Madness*, *Donna Lee*, *Au Privave*) **or Blues tune** (e.g., *Route 66*, *Everyday (I have the Blues)*, *Stormy Monday*). Songs may be sung with lyrics or scat syllables.
- **A tune set to a Bossa Nova rhythm** (sung in English).

NOTE: If selected as a Finalist, you will be required to perform your submitted materials live for the panel during YoungArts Week.

Accompaniment Requirements

- Live accompaniment is preferred, including but not limited to one piano (also preferred), guitar or combo.
- Only a pre-recorded format without background vocals is permitted if live accompaniment is not available to you.
- You may accompany yourself (piano, guitar, etc.) keeping in mind only the vocals are being adjudicated.
- Make sure the level of your piano accompaniment does not overpower the sound of your voice in the recording.

Guidelines for Recording Your Audition

- Dress appropriately for your audition.
- Ensure recording captures good quality image.
- Ensure recording equipment has the ability to capture good sound quality. Check for good balance and blend.
- Mics are permitted as long as windscreen is removed and the judges can see your face clearly.
- Leave the camera in one location. Shoot the vocalist straight on.

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- Do not pan, move the camera or follow the vocalist.
- Camera image may be no closer than waist up.
- No sound enhancements are allowed. (i.e. reverb)

Before recording your pieces, film a test. Perform the first few lines of one of your selections, then watch and listen to it on playback. Check the following important things:

- **Sound:** Make sure the acoustics in the room are suitable for a recording. Practice your piece in the space. Please ensure the balance between piano and voice is appropriate.
- **Lighting:** Make sure the space is well-lit, but not too bright. Judges should be able to see your face clearly. Too little light and judges cannot see you. Too much light will leave you overexposed and judges cannot see your expressions.
- **Framing:** The camera should be set at a distance to frame your face and body clearly. If judges only see your face and shoulders, it's too close. If judges can see the entire stage but your facial expressions cannot be seen clearly, it's too far away.

Media Submission Requirements

- When uploading, verify that image is upright (not sideways) and plays smoothly.
- Save and name your files individually with their titles.
- Upload each selection as a separate video file.
- Do not put your name or any identifying information in or on your media submission.
- Please do not do any of the following as it may disqualify you:
 - Do not edit within a piece.
 - Do not use special effects, dissolves, fades or wipes.
 - Do not submit pre-recorded live performances, such as recitals, concerts, or competitions.

Reviewers and Panel are looking for:

- Tone Production - the ability to achieve a quality of sound appropriate to the type of voice and to the style of the music.
- Technique - the degree to which the performer has acquired control of the voice.
- Diction - accurate pronunciation and clear articulation.
- Intonation - singing in tune.
- Interpretation - the ability to accurately express the piece performed with a clear understanding of its meaning.
- Phrasing - sensitivity to the need for phrasing and the ability to execute it.

Note: If your work has been submitted to other competitions, you are responsible for getting permission to submit to YoungArts.