

*National Association of Teachers of Singing
Cal-Western Region*



2014 Student Auditions – Information, Rules & Requirements

Friday & Saturday, March 28-30, 2013

University of Nevada - Las Vegas, NV

I. Purpose:

- The Regional Student Auditions offer the students and NATS members...
 - ...encouragement towards more diligent study.
 - ...incentive for vocal and musical self-improvement.
 - ...preparation and understanding of appropriate repertoire.
 - ...an opportunity to receive constructive evaluations from qualified adjudicators.
 - ...opportunities for public appearance by outstanding students.
 - ...recognition of achievement.
 - ...scholarships and awards.

II. Who May Participate:

- Any student who has placed first, second or third in a NATS Chapter or District Audition within the immediate preceding year. The student must also study with a NATS member in good standing (National and Local dues paid).

- NATS Code of Ethics: It is unethical to claim as a pupil one having studied less than eight months with the teacher except when there has been no previous training. If a student has studied with a teacher less than eight months, then the teacher must list the student's former teacher on the application form.

II. Categories & Repertoire Requirements:

IMPORTANT NOTE: Top three places in *Categories I through XII* at the Regional Auditions will advance to the National YouTube Screening Round of the National Student Auditions.

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC THEATER CATEGORIES

<i>Category</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
I. Music Theater Men	14-19	no limit
II. Music Theater Women	14-19	no limit

Repertoire

1. Three (3) contrasting music theater selections from Broadway and Off-Broadway original shows and revivals.

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORIES

<i>Category</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
III. High School Men	14-19	no limit
IV. High School Women	14-19	no limit

Repertoire

1. One art song in English.
2. One art song in a foreign language.
3. One additional selection (from the classical repertoire. Music Theater repertoire may not be included in this category.)

COLLEGE/PRIVATE MUSIC THEATER CATEGORIES

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
V. C/P Music Theater Men	25	1 – 5 (all as undergraduate)
VI. C/P Music Theater Women	25	1 – 5 (all as undergraduate)

Repertoire

1. Four (4) contrasting music theater selections from Broadway and Off-Broadway original shows and revivals. One of the four selections may be from an opera or operetta.

LOWER COLLEGE/PRIVATE CATEGORIES

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
VII. Lower College/Private Men	22	1 – 2 (beyond HS)
VIII. Lower College/Private Women	22	1 – 2 (beyond HS)

Repertoire

1. One aria (sung in original language or in English translation when appropriate).
2. One art song in English (original language).
3. One foreign language art song (sung in the original language).

UPPER COLLEGE/PRIVATE CATEGORIES

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
IX. Upper College/Private Men	25	3 – 5 (all as undergraduate)
X. Upper College/Private Women	25	3 – 5 (all as undergraduate)

Repertoire

1. One aria (sung in original language or in English translation when appropriate).
2. One art song in English (original language).
3. One foreign language art song (sung in the original language).
4. One additional selection (sung in the original language and selected from the classical repertoire. Music Theater repertoire may not be included in this category).

GRADUATE/ADVANCED CATEGORIES

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
XI. Graduate/Advanced Men	22-30	5+ (beyond HS)
XII. Graduate/Advanced Women	22-30	5+ (beyond HS)

Repertoire

1. One operatic aria (sung in the original language or in English translation when appropriate).
2. One oratorio/cantata aria (sung in the original language or in English translation when appropriate).
3. One foreign language art song (sung in the original language).
4. One English art song (sung in English).
5. One additional selection (sung in the original language and selected from the classical repertoire. Music Theater repertoire may not be included in this category).

NOTE: No more than two (2) of the selections may be in English.

ADVANCED MUSIC THEATER CATEGORIES (NOTE: Does not advance to National Student Auditions)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
XIII. Music Theater Men	Must be at least 26	no limit
XIV. Music Theater Women	Must be at least 26	no limit

Repertoire

1. Four (4) contrasting music theater selections from Broadway and Off-Broadway original shows and revivals. One of the four selections may be from an opera or operetta.

ADULT I CATEGORY (NOTE: Does not advance to National Student Auditions)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
XV. Adult I Men & Women	Must be at least 26	no limit

Repertoire

1. Three (3) contrasting pieces selected from classical and/or Music Theater repertoire.

SINGER OF THE YEAR (NOTE: Does not advance to National Student Auditions)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Age Limit</i>	<i>Length of Study</i>
XVI. Singer of the Year (men & women combined)	39	At least eight semesters

Repertoire (Eleven pieces total)

1. Two opera arias (sung in the original language).
2. One oratorio/cantata aria (sung in the original language).
3. Six songs representing five different languages.
4. Two songs composed after 1980.

IV. Competition Rules and Procedures:

1. Repertoire must meet the requirements of the categories described above and must represent diverse styles, composers, and musical periods.
2. The student may choose the selection he/she will perform first; the judges may request the second selection. The rendition of additional selections will be at the discretion of the judges based on judging needs as well as the time limitations of the audition. Total performance time allowed by category:

Categories	Total Performance Time Allowed
I, II, III, IV	8 minutes
VII, VIII, XV	10 minutes
V, VI, IX, X, XIII, XIV	12 minutes
XI, XII	15 minutes
XVI	20 minutes

3. The National Association of Teachers of Singing endorses a strict policy regarding copyright laws. The use of photocopied music is prohibited at all NATS sponsored events, from the national to the chapter level. Exceptions are:

1. Music that is out of print, still under copyright law, with permission from a publisher.
2. Sheet music or books for which the copyright has expired, but available in CD format. (e.g., CD Sheet Music). Performers must be prepared to present proof of ownership upon request.
3. Sheet music purchased legally from an online vendor. Such music should have either a separate page proving the performer has purchased such OR a copyright notice at the bottom of the music that includes the performer's name. Performers must be prepared to present proof of ownership upon request.
4. Music available from approved public domain websites. Performers should take particular care when accessing these sites as some do not guarantee that all works are indeed in the public domain. Current approved online public domain sites are:

www.imslp.org

www.sheetmusicarchive.net

www.jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/handle/1774.2/2085

4. All selections must be memorized. (EXCEPTION: Music may be used in the performance of oratorio/cantata arias.)
5. All selections must be performed in their original language, unless designated otherwise in the category.
6. Students must provide their own accompanist OR indicate their need for an accompanist on the registration form. Staff accompanists will be assigned by the Auditions Coordinator to best

facilitate scheduling and repertoire requirements. The accompanist fee will be \$35.00 for categories I through XV, and \$45.00 for category XVI. This fee also allows for a rehearsal with the pianist prior to the audition performance.

7. Each accompanist may not accompany more than 12 singers in the auditions.
8. Teachers may not judge their own students.
9. Entrants may not repeat repertoire from previous years.
10. NATS Teachers may not accompany their own students.

V. Entry Deadlines and Scheduling:

1. Students are to complete the Student Audition form obtained from their voice instructor and **submit it to their voice instructor**. Instructors must read and sign each entry form, verify that they are accompanied by the correct entry fee, and submit all entries together with a completed ***Voice Teacher Master List*** to:

Dr. Michelle Latour, NATS Student Auditions Chair
11070 Zarod Road
Las Vegas, NV 89135

2. All entries must be postmarked no later than **Friday, March 7, 2014**. ***No late entries, incomplete/unsigned entry forms, or entries unaccompanied by the correct entry fee will be accepted. All entrants must list their accompanist on the entry form.***

3. **Entry Fees:** (Please DO NOT send cash)

Singer Divisions I through XVI	\$25.00
Staff Accompanist Fee <i>(if needed)</i>	
Categories I through XV	\$35.00
Category XVI	\$45.00
NATS Teacher Registration Fee	\$20.00

Members may pay through *PayPal* via a link on the www.calwestnats.org website OR by check.

Returned checks will incur a \$35.00 fee in addition to the entry fee listed above.

4. Teachers who are entering students, but who are unable to attend in person and help adjudicate must pay a non-attendance fee of \$50.00. This fee must be enclosed with entry forms or paid online via *PayPal* and received before the previously listed deadline. The non-attendance fee will be waived if the teacher finds another NATS member in good standing to replace them as a substitute.

5. No changes in scheduling will be permitted on the day of the auditions.

6. Students and accompanists should arrive at least 30 minutes in advance of their assigned time. Practice rooms will be available for warm-up/rehearsal.

7. The Student Auditions are “open” - students, relatives, friends and teachers are encouraged to attend. Please enter and leave only before and after each singer's performance. Observance of concert etiquette is respectfully requested.

VI. Adjudication, Awards and Winners Concert:

1. Contestants will be assigned a number and their names will not be made known to the judges.
2. Awards will be given to the First, Second, and Third place winners of each division. The amount of these awards will be determined by the officers of the Region based upon available funds. The awards are primarily intended to be recognition of the singers' achievements. The judges reserve the right to award no winners.
3. A “**Best in the West**” award will be given to the finest singer in the Winners Concert. Each NATS voice teacher present will be given a ballot to be collected at the end of the concert.
4. The “**HPAF-NATS Aloha Scholarship.**” A generous full-tuition scholarship including room and board (*valued at \$3,545.00*) to the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival will be awarded to one student selected from High School Category III or IV. Each NATS voice teacher present at the Winners Concert will be given a ballot to be collected at the end of the concert to determine the final winner. Additional information on the festival may be found at www.hawaiiperformingartsfestival.org
5. If there are an insufficient number of entries in any division, that division may be combined with another division of similar contestants.
6. Notification of the winners for each division will be posted in a central location, following the adjudication of that division. The first place winners for each division will perform at the NATS Annual Winners Concert on the afternoon following the auditions. Winners and their accompanists must be available to perform at this recital. Please do not leave the Student Auditions until the winners are posted.
7. Decisions of the judges are final - please respect their expertise. Judges will provide written evaluations of each performer and these evaluations will be given to the teacher. Teachers and students are encouraged to spend time discussing the judges' comments.
8. Non-compliance with any of the rules and regulations will reduce the judges' ratings and may be a basis for disqualification.

Any questions may be directed to the NATS Cal-Western Student Auditions Coordinator:

Dr. Michelle Latour
michelle.latour@unlv.edu
702-895-2550