

VSNATS Chapter Auditions 2026: Teacher Info Guide



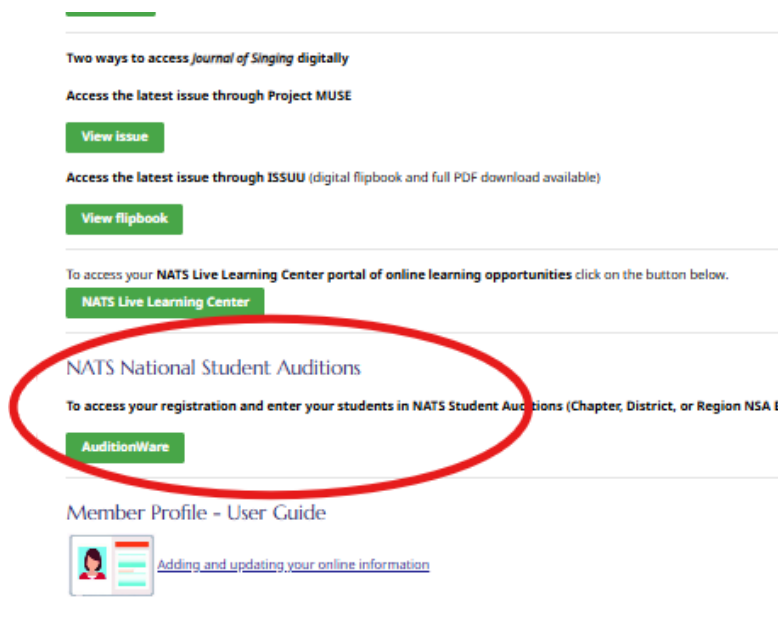
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
**TEACHERS
OF SINGING**

Valley of the Sun Chapter

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Registration will be open from August 31st to October 9th on AuditionWare. You will be unable to register any students after October 9th.
- Chapter dues must be paid in FULL by October 1st in order to be eligible for registering students.
- **PLEASE verify that your contact information is up to date on the NATS membership website.**
- Registration is \$35 per category. The deadline for refunds for any reason will be October 25th.
- Refunds will be \$30 to account for a processing fee. No refunds will be given after October 25th.
- This year there is no teacher fee, and instead a mandatory volunteer position on the event weekend is required to participate (2 hours).
- Access AuditionWare through your membership portal on nats.org →

1. Go to NATS.org, and login (top right corner).
2. On your homepage, scroll down to the bottom and click the green "Auditionware" button.
3. Before you begin registration, make sure it says "Valley of the Sun" in the top right corner. If it says anything else, click the blue "change" button and select "Valley of the Sun."
4. Just below that on the right is the blue button to begin registration. When you click on this, it'll take you to a page to fill out your information for registration. Once this is complete, you'll see "student list" where you can continue to register students.
5. The information you'll need to enter for students is:
 - Full name
 - Birthdate
 - Phone number
 - Email address
 - Grade level (Be sure to check the boxes under grade level for "legal notice.")
 - Names of concurrent/supplemental/past teachers
 - Pianist (If using tracks for CM, select any number "digital accompaniment." If using a "staff pianist," select any number "staff pianist." If it says either of these is full, select a different number. The number does not matter, staff pianists will be assigned based on availability.)
 - Song titles, composers, and language
 - *NOTE: Our chapter allows high school students to choose 2 OR 3 songs, but should students decide to submit to regionals, they require 3.
6. **Double check that all information is correct, and then check the box at the bottom "All information above has been reviewed and is accurate".**
7. Once all students are entered, on the student list page, click the green button "Complete Registration and Pay Fees." While those working on the event will be able to see all of your student info to vet repertoire without paying fees, **your registration is not complete until all fees are paid.**



REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING VERY CAREFULLY!

ALL TEACHERS ENTERING STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO:

- **Have chapter dues paid in FULL.**
- **ADJUDICATION: You must be available to adjudicate on both days of the students auditions (Nov 6 & 7).**
 - Your actual judging assignments might be on both days or one of the days and will not exceed 6 hours for both days.
 - **If you are unable to adjudicate on either/both days, you MUST provide a substitute adjudicator to fulfill your requirement on your behalf for EACH day of the event you are unable to adjudicate.**
 - Substitute adjudicators do not need to be NATS members, but MUST attend any judge's meetings prior to the event in order to be familiar with the NATS rubric.
 - Students of teachers who cannot attend and do not provide a substitute by October 9th will be unable to participate.
 - We STRONGLY encourage you to attend both days, as it is a valuable event where you can network with your local community of teachers, flex your adjudication muscles, and listen to our amazing students!
 - We understand that life can happen - if your availability changes due to a personal emergency or other major circumstance after registration closes, please provide a substitute to cover your adjudication responsibilities AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, otherwise your students will be unable to participate.
 - **IF YOU ARE REGISTERING MORE THAN 20 STUDENTS, one substitute adjudicator is required to register any additional students, with one being required every 20 registrants. Ex: 20-39 registrants = 1 additional adjudicator, 40+ registrants = 2 additional adjudicators, and so on.**
 - **Teachers are responsible for THEIR OWN substitute adjudicator. One will not be provided. Please coordinate your substitutes prior to October 9th if you know you are unavailable for one or both days. The same substitute can adjudicate both days if necessary.**
- **JUDGES MEETING: Attend at least 1 judge's meeting prior to the event weekend**
 - Judge's meetings will be held virtually at least two times in the week prior to the event, with one in-person event option that we highly recommend attending.
 - Times + location TBD
 - Please review the NATS National Student Auditions rubric and regulations before the judge's meeting and come with any questions you may have. → [NSA Full Regulations](#)
- **PIANISTS: Provide a pianist to play for your students who need live accompaniment; please communicate the parameters of the auditions to the pianist(s) your students hire.**
 - All Pianists may play for a maximum of 20 categories. Any additional categories of a teacher's registered students must be accompanied by an additional pianist.
 - Teachers MAY NOT accompany their own students. This also prohibits prior or concurrent voice teachers from accompanying as well.
 - Teachers are responsible for communication with their students' pianist(s): **PLEASE VERIFY** directly with your pianist their availability and contact information prior to completing registration.
 - Your pianist may already have their information in AuditionWare when you register. If they do not, DO NOT select staff pianist — email Emily Benoit-Smith at auditionschair@vsnats.org with

their name and contact information and she will add them. Once they are added, you may complete registration with the correct pianist.

- IF A TEACHER CANNOT PROVIDE A PIANIST, Staff Pianists will be available for a fee of \$50-\$60 per category for the audition only; it does not include a rehearsal.
 - \$50 fee per category for categories that require 2-3 songs; \$60 fee per category for categories requiring 4-6 songs. Once you have your staff pianist's contact info it is your/your student's responsibility to schedule and pay for any rehearsal time.
 - If a student is unable to attend their audition and they have hired a Staff Pianist, they will not receive a refund for the pianist fee.
 - Staff Pianists will be assigned once registration closes and teachers/students will be sent their pianist's contact information. **It is TEACHER & STUDENT responsibility to send their sheet music to their designated staff pianist by October 25th, otherwise they will be unable to use that pianist for their audition.**
- Please review the sheet music rules and regulations on the NSA website. If the regulations are not followed, it could result in disqualification and/or a fine. → [NSA Full Regulations](#)

○ **VOLUNTEERING: You must be available to volunteer for at least 2 hours during the event weekend**

- Volunteer positions will be assigned based on the availability provided in the link below. Positions include but are not limited to: tabulation room assistants, door monitors, check-in desk helpers, welcomers, hospitality, etc.
 - Positions will be assigned once registration closes and adjudication schedules have been confirmed.
- Volunteer hours CANNOT be fulfilled by a substitute. However, if you have students or parents that would like to volunteer during the event, please send them the link below to sign up!
 - **PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM WITH YOUR TOTAL AVAILABILITY ASAP!**
 - [Teacher + Volunteer Availability Form](#)
- **Your students' participation in the auditions is contingent on your volunteer hours - if you are unable to commit to these, your students may be unable to participate.**

EVENT SCHEDULE

Below information subject to change based on availability and registration needs.

AUDITIONS:

Friday Nov 6, 2026 4:00pm-9:00pm

Saturday Nov 7, 2026 8:00am-7:00pm

Saturday Nov 7, 2026 Teacher Appreciation Lunch 12:15-1:15pm, box lunch provided for attendees
(sign up to follow)

Friday Nov 6, 2026 4:00pm-9:00pm College and Adult Categories

Saturday Nov 7, 2026 8:00am-7:00pm Children, Youth and High School categories

AWARDS: All awards will be announced Saturday evening Nov 7th in person, via Facebook Live and posted on the vsnats.org website.

- Award schedule TBD based on Saturday audition times.
- If unable to attend in person, any awards and checks may be picked up during the winner's recitals on Sunday, Nov. 8th (see below), or will be mailed individually to the winners after the event.

WINNERS RECITALS

- Winners Recitals will be held Sunday afternoon Nov. 8th, 2026 in the Chapel at Valley Presbyterian Church. First place winners are invited to perform in recital Sunday afternoon with this tentative schedule in mind:

Classical Recital 1:00pm - 2:00pm

CM Recital 2:30pm-3:45pm

MT Recital 4:15pm - 5:30pm

NOTE: The National Student Auditions and the NATS National organization are introducing updated rules and regulations for the 2026-2027 year for all regional and advancing auditions, and will be available on the website in the coming weeks. Our Valley of the Sun Chapter Auditions will adhere to the 2025-2026 regulations this year, and we will introduce and incorporate the changes for our 2027 Chapter Auditions. All the links in this document are the 2025-2026 rules and regulations. These links are no longer available on the national website, but access through this document is still working.

Please contact Emily Benoit-Smith at auditionschair@vsnats.org with any questions or concerns.