

Virtual Video Auditions in Auditionware

This year's Georgia NATS Virtual Student Auditions will require you to create videos of your students' performances – one video for each selection performed. The videos should be uploaded to YouTube and the URL link to each performance should be copied to the Student Info page on auditionware.com under the section where the repertoire selection is to be entered.

Traditionally, students have been able to choose which selection they sing first during live auditions. In order to replicate this procedure online, make sure that the first YouTube hyperlink posted for each student in Auditionware is the song/aria that the student would like adjudicators to view first. This should also be the first piece entered in the repertoire section during registration.

NOTE: Students or teachers should keep track of the original digital video files after uploading the audition videos to YouTube. We will need a copy of one of these original digital video files from each category winner in order to create the Virtual Winners Concert.

Video Submissions

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 upper body.
- Record your videos in LANDSCAPE orientation (horizontal) rather than portrait (vertical).
- Make sure singers are well lit from the front. Avoid backlighting or side lighting.

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 legal publications that are compliant with the Copyright law.
- The accompanist may use a page turner who is not the singer's teacher.

****Pandemic Concerns**

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

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accompanists during this time. Therefore, during this crisis students will be allowed to record audition videos using pre-recorded tracks such as found on Accompanist, 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. NO orchestrated tracks or tracks with other instruments or voices will be acceptable and would result in disqualification. 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.). 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

- Students should announce their name and the title of their song/aria selection at the beginning of the video. "My Name is _____; I will sing—*Title of Composition*---by—*Composer*— and if appropriate—from---*Title of Work*". ***The identity of your teacher, school, and region MUST NOT be revealed.***
- You must perform each of your selections from memory on your recording.

Preparing the YouTube Video

Video Titles and Notes

- Each video title should contain the singer's name and "Georgia Chapter NATS". (i.e. Jane Doe – GA Chapter NATS) If the same video is used for a different audition, the video title MUST be changed to reflect the new audition. (i.e. From the Eastern Region to the National Preliminary Round.)
- In the YouTube "Notes" section, please include the Title, Composer, and Larger Work (if applicable).
- YouTube Channel Titles & Images must NOT reveal Teacher, School, or Studio affiliations.

Settings

- Please note that you must select "public" or "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).

Submission

- In the application, 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 national or regional category.
- In the spirit of allowing students to choose their first selection in the traditional audition setting, please upload videos appropriately in the #1, #2, #3, etc. boxes so as to assist the adjudicator in honoring the student's first choice for performance. In doing so, understand that #1 refers to the selection to which adjudicators will first adjudicate.
- Please double check the links you provide for each video before submitting your application.

Invalid Videos

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The following video problems would make them invalid.

- Videos revealing the teacher's identity, the region of the singer, or the school they attend.
- Videos with "private" sharing options (see above).
- Videos that pan and 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 or enhanced.