



*Ontario Chapter*

**VOCAL  
SHOWCASE  
HANDBOOK  
2024**

## Table of Contents

<b>AT A GLANCE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Equity and Diversity Statement.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ADJUDICATING &amp; ABSENTEE ADJUDICATOR FEES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>HOW TO REGISTER.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS (CPs) and Fees .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>LIVE VOCAL SHOWCASE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Accompaniment .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Proof of Original Purchased Music.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Recording .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Comment Sheets and Results .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Scholarships .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Questions? .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>VIRTUAL VOCAL SHOWCASE.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Proof of Original Purchased Music.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Accompaniment .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Comment Sheets and Results .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Scholarships .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Questions? .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>CLASSICAL VOICE CLASSES.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>POPULAR VOICE/COMMERCIAL MUSIC CLASSES .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>SELF-ACCOMPANIED Commercial Music CLASSES .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>VIRTUAL VOCAL SHOWCASE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Recording Location and Attire.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Recording Instructions.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Accompaniment .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Performance .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Uploading to YouTube .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Invalid Videos.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Adjudication Results, Comments and Scholarship Information .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>LIVE and VIRTUAL VOCAL SHOWCASE FAQs .....</b>	<b>22</b>

# NATS ONTARIO VOCAL SHOWCASE HANDBOOK 2024

The NATS Ontario Vocal Showcase (Live and Virtual) is an opportunity for singers to perform a set of pieces from a choice of three genres - **Classical Voice, Musical Theatre and Popular Voice/Commercial Music (including a separate category for Self-Accompanied Commercial Music)**.

At these events, singers meet and hear other singers, teachers network with their colleagues, and everyone has the chance to hear a variety of repertoire.

**The 2024 LIVE Vocal Showcase will be held at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo.**

**\*NEW IN 2024! “Day by Age” format\***

**JUNIOR DAY (Children/High School Levels)**

**Saturday, November 16, 2024**

**SENIOR DAY (University/Adult Levels)**

**Sunday, November 17, 2024**

**Junior Day** will feature singers who are 18 years and younger (Children/High school levels).

**Senior Day** will feature singers who are 18 years and older (University students/Adult levels).

Age level is determined as of **September 1, 2024**.

**All three genres will be offered each day and singers may participate in one or all genres. Each day culminates in a Winners Showcase Concert.**

Singers may register for both the Live and Virtual Showcase - and singers can present the same (or different) repertoire in these separate streams.

The Virtual Showcase adjudication will take place during the month of November.

**Singers must be registered by and paid for by their teacher** - whether a NATS Ontario Member or not (though additional fees apply for non-members) through AuditionWare.

NATS Vocal Showcase categories are divided by age (and Fach - for classical university levels only).

For the Live Vocal Showcase, singers must bring their own pianist or indicate the intent to use a Collaborative Pianist (CP) when registering. Recorded backtracks are only permitted in CM (Commercial Music) classes.

For Virtual Showcase singers, live accompaniment (piano, guitar) or recorded backtracks are acceptable. Please see class descriptions and FAQs for more specific details.

## AT A GLANCE

### 2024 Live Vocal Showcase - Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo

Saturday, November 16, 2024

Junior Day (Children/High School levels)

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Senior Day (University/Adult levels)

Registration for both LIVE and VIRTUAL opens on Friday, September 6, 2024. Visit [www.auditionware.com](http://www.auditionware.com) to register.

**LIVE** registration deadline is **Monday, October 28, 2024** at 11:59 p.m.

**VIRTUAL** registration deadline (*including video links*) is **Friday, November 4, 2024** at 11:59 p.m.

Virtual adjudicators will have access to video links by November 8th – comments are due back by November 25<sup>th</sup>.

Virtual Winner's Showcase Concert will be posted on YouTube on Sunday, December 1, 2024.

#### ENTRY FEES

Ages 6 -12     \$30

Ages 13 -18     \$35

Ages 19+     \$40

**Collaborative Pianist FEES - includes 10 or 15 minute rehearsal on Showcase Day.**

Two songs     \$60

Three - four songs     \$70

**Non-NATS member Fee - \$50 (to enter students)**

**Absentee Teacher Fee - \$75 (unless a qualified substitute is arranged by the teacher)**

## Equity and Diversity Statement

NATS Ontario is dedicated to promoting Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in our artistic and social interactions, and our engagement as a community. NATS Ontario aims to create an environment of understanding and mutual respect for the value and dignity of all persons. We strive to identify, remove, and prevent barriers that hinder complete and meaningful participation in NATS Ontario activities. All members of the NATS Ontario community share the responsibility of supporting these values and goals. The education and support of our members in the areas of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism is paramount.

## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Both LIVE and VIRTUAL NATS Ontario Vocal Showcases will be offered in 2024.

Classical, Musical Theatre and Popular Voice/Commercial Music classes are offered each day in the new “day by age” format. Singers may enter any or all categories in their appropriate age division for both Live and Virtual Vocal Showcases.

Please read the category descriptions carefully and refer to the individual categories for specific rules and repertoire requirements. Failure to adhere to class criteria will result in disqualification from placement and scholarships.

Please see Live and Virtual Vocal Showcase information below for copyright rules.

Singers must sing the repertoire selections that they declared when they registered; no changes to programming may occur after registration closes. Repertoire selections can be sung in any order.

Singers must begin their final piece within the given time limit to qualify for scholarships. Singers will be stopped if they exceed their time limit (the full piece may not be heard).

All singers in every category and age level will receive written comments from a panel of 3 adjudicators.

Novice Adult categories are for adult singers who have studied two years or less.

Advanced Adult categories are for adult singers who have studied more than two years.

## ADJUDICATING & ABSENTEE ADJUDICATOR FEES

If you are unable to attend either the Live and/or Virtual Vocal Showcase as an adjudicator but are sending a student(s) to Live and/or Virtual Showcase, then there is an Absentee Adjudicator Fee of \$75.00 for each showcase, unless you arrange a substitute adjudicator(s).

Substitute and guest adjudicators should have **substantial** teaching experience (over 3 years of teaching) in classical, musical theatre, and/or popular voice/commercial music and be a suitable substitute for that adjudicator’s skill level. Voice teachers who are non-members of NATS Ontario, have earned a degree in Music and have substantial teaching experience (over 3 years of teaching) are welcome to adjudicate for either one or both days of the LIVE Vocal Showcase and/or adjudicate for the Virtual Showcase. Please contact the Vocal Showcase Coordinator at [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org) for more information or to express interest.

## HOW TO REGISTER

Registration for both Live and Virtual Showcases opens **September 6, 2024**.

**LIVE SHOWCASE** Registration closes on **October 28, 2024** at 11:59 p.m.

**VIRTUAL SHOWCASE** Registration (including video links) closes on **November 4, 2024** at 11:59 p.m. – Be sure to have your YouTube links ready to submit by the deadline!

You can save your registrations - you can start them any time after September 6<sup>th</sup> and add information until the deadlines (Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> or Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>).

NATS Ontario Members (and non-members) must register their students via [www.AuditionWare.com](http://www.AuditionWare.com). Teachers can login anytime using their credentials, which are initially set-up by the VS Coordinator. To create a new account, email [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org).

Teachers must use the email account that is on file with NATS Ontario Chapter to login. **You must use an email OTHER than the account currently associated with [www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org)**. Follow prompts to register for the Vocal Showcase.

All previous student data should be saved under your account (singers' information is maintained from year to year). For NEW singer registrations, we do NOT require singer addresses, phone numbers, etc. so the teacher should enter their own for these prompts.

Do NOT pay fees until you are completely finished entering ALL singer registrations, as this completes and closes your registration. ONLY once your registration for ALL singers is complete, click "PAY FEES" to be redirected to the payment site through PayPal.

For troubleshooting, login issues, or to set up an account, email [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org) for LIVE Showcase, or [showcase2@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase2@natsontario.org) for VIRTUAL Showcase.

Non-NATS Ontario teachers can enter students and can create an AuditionWare account via our coordinators. Please email [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org) for LIVE Showcase, or [showcase2@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase2@natsontario.org) for VIRTUAL Showcase to set up an account or for assistance.

Teachers submitting singers need to be residents of Ontario, however, the singers submitted by a teacher do not need to be residents of Ontario.

## ENTRY FEES

Ages 6 - 12	\$30
Ages 13 - 18	\$35
Ages 19 and over	\$40

There is an additional registration fee of \$50.00 for Non-NATS Ontario/Non-NATS teachers when entering students. Please add this amount to your registration total BEFORE processing through PayPal.

**The TEACHER must pay all Registration Fees, NOT the singer/parent.** It is up to the teacher to decide/communicate how they want to be reimbursed by students. You do NOT need a PayPal account and can check out as a “guest” if you choose.

The AuditionWare registration page is for **TEACHERS WITH A REGISTERED ACCOUNT ONLY**. If a student is given access to their teacher’s AuditionWare profile, they will also be able to access all other singers’ registration and personal information. **Allowing students to use this site is a violation of Privacy laws and is strictly prohibited.**

Teachers may enter students in both Showcases, and singers may participate in both showcases, in the same classes and with the same or different repertoire, if they so choose. Each is its own individual Showcase. If you have students singing in both Showcases, you will be expected to adjudicate for both, or find a suitable substitute, or pay the Absentee Adjudicator Fee of \$75.00/per showcase.

NATS Ontario’s PayPal site requires you to enter your total Registration Fees, Non-Member fees, CP Fees (if applicable) - and any Absentee Adjudicator Fees. Please keep track of these as you register your students, so it is easy to add up and enter into the PayPal total owing field.

**The teacher should pay all fees for their students – not the parents/singers.** It is up to the teacher to decide/communicate how they want to be reimbursed by their students.

## COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS (CPs) and Fees

Each student is required to bring their own accompanist (unless self-accompanying or using a backtrack for popular voice/commercial music only) **OR** pay a fee and hire a **NATS Ontario collaborative pianist**. The fee will depend on the numbers of songs the student is performing (see below).

Several Collaborative Pianists (CPs) will be provided by NATS Ontario for students. When registering, please select CP on the dropdown menu. Every effort is made to pair appropriate pianists with each singer by the Vocal Showcase Coordinator.

The teacher must indicate that the student requires a CP and pay the fee with the original registration. The fee includes a 10 or 15 minute scheduled rehearsal time on the day of the Vocal Showcase. A rehearsal schedule will be sent via email including the contact information of the CP prior to the Vocal Showcase. CP's may request to have music pdfs emailed or mailed to them in advance.

**For scheduling purposes, collaborative pianists may play for a maximum of TEN (10) singers and/or TEN classes per day inclusive of all genres. eg. two singers in one class would count as two (2) or one singer in three classes as three (3)**

**Teachers may NOT accompany their own students.**

Two songs	\$60	10 minute rehearsal on Showcase Day
Three - four songs	\$70	15 minute rehearsal on Showcase Day

## LIVE VOCAL SHOWCASE

- Singers do not introduce their repertoire selections and can sing their selections in any order.

### Accompaniment

- Accompaniment for Classical and Musical Theatre must be with live piano.
- For Popular Voice/Commercial Music classes, live accompaniment OR professional backtracks can be used as accompaniment. No background vocals are permitted. Tracks with an audible melody line are not permitted.

### Proof of Original Purchased Music

- Proof of original purchased music for each piece must be present and visible in the performance room (i.e. placed on the piano).
- Pianists may play from the legal music/original score or photocopies, provided the legal music is present for inspection.
- Repertoire considered public domain may be played from copies obtained from IMSLP.



- Digital music requires a proof of purchase receipt (not a title page), showing the title of the piece and the price paid. The music and receipt should NOT identify the teacher in any way.
- **For all Pop/Commercial Music classes,** please purchase and present legal music/original score, if available. Singers may perform unpublished works; please bring a lyric sheet with song title and artist credits. Consider purchasing unpublished song recordings on iTunes, Spotify or Amazon Music to support these artists.
- Music written by the singer in Commercial Music classes is exempt, but the singer should bring a lyric sheet for the adjudicators' reference.
- Students who do not bring legal music (purchased original or digital) will receive comments but will not be eligible for placement or scholarships. Adjudicators do not require the original music but may request to inspect the legal original music brought by the student.

## Recording

- Videography is permitted with permission from the singer. Family members/guests may only record their singer's performance, for both the individual categories and the Winner's Showcase Concert.

## Comment Sheets and Results

- Class results will be posted on the Results Board near the Registration Desk within an hour following the end of the class (once everyone has finished singing).
- All singers are responsible for picking up their comment sheets/adjudications from the area near the Results Board or the Registration Desk before leaving for the day. Comment sheets will not be mailed to the singers after the Vocal Showcase.

## Scholarships

- Scholarship recipients will need to pick up their award letters and provide an email address in order to receive their scholarship. Additional details about where and when to do that will be posted on the Results Board.
- Scholarships will be sent via PayPal directly to the singers (or their parents). Award letters will include donor contact information. Scholarship recipients are strongly encouraged to send a thank you letter to the donor of their award.

## Questions?

- See the specific class requirements, FAQs, the homepage of AuditionWare, or email [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org) for Live Showcase inquiries.

# VIRTUAL VOCAL SHOWCASE

## Introduction

- For virtual performance videos, singers can insert or hold a title card, or record a spoken introduction, with the following information: name, category, title of song, composer, title of work (if applicable). This must be done for each separate video of each song.

## Proof of Original Purchased Music

- Prior to performing, singers must display the original music (book, score, sheet music or digital music) to the camera. Music shown should not identify the teacher in any way.
- Digital purchased music requires a proof of purchase receipt (not a title page) to be shown on camera, showing the title of the piece and the price paid.
- Original music written by the participant for Commercial Music classes is exempt. Please show a lyrics sheet.
- Students who do not display legal purchased music on camera will receive comments but will not be eligible for placement or scholarships.

## Accompaniment

- Accompaniment for Classical and Musical Theatre must be with live piano or piano backtracks only.
- For Popular Voice/Commercial Music, live accompaniment (piano, guitar) or professional backtracks can be used as accompaniment (no background vocals permitted and no melody line).

## Comment Sheets and Results

- For the Virtual Showcase, teachers will be able to view and print comment sheets for their students by November 30<sup>th</sup>. They may distribute them to students as they wish.

## Scholarships

- Virtual Showcase Scholarships will be sent via PayPal to individual teachers who will then distribute funds to their students. Teachers will be provided with all the details re award amounts for each student and a general award letter with donor contact information so that students can send thank you letters.

## Questions?

- See the specific class requirements, FAQs, the homepage of AuditionWare, or email [showcase2@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase2@natsontario.org) for Virtual Showcase inquiries.

## CLASSICAL VOICE CLASSES

- Suggested repertoire can be found in, but not limited to, the RCM or CC syllabi.
- Age-appropriate repertoire, content and lyrics suitable for all audiences should be taken into consideration when choosing songs.
- All repertoire selections must be sung by memory, except for Oratorio/Cantata selections. No Musical Theatre or Popular/Commercial Music songs are permitted.
- Categories may be combined or split if numbers warrant for scheduling purposes of adjudicators and pianists.

Fach = voicing; S (soprano), M (mezzo/alto), T (tenor), B (bass) – For university level singers

<b>Class Code</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Fach</b>	<b>Time limit</b>	<b>Repertoire Requirements</b>
CV-01	5-6	ALL	4 minutes	TWO Contrasting art or folk songs
CV-02	7-8	ALL	6 minutes	TWO Contrasting art or folk songs
CV-03	9-10	ALL	8 minutes	TWO Contrasting art or folk songs
CV-04	11-12	ALL	8 minutes	TWO Contrasting art or folk songs
CV-05	13-14	ALL	8 minutes	TWO Contrasting art or folk songs
CV-06	15-16	ALL	10 minutes	THREE Contrasting art or folk songs One song must be in a language other than English
CV-07	17-18	ALL	10 minutes	THREE Contrasting art or folk songs One song must be in a language other than English
CV-08	1st Year	S/M	10 minutes	THREE Contrasting art songs. Minimum of two languages, one selection must be in English – an Operatic or Oratorio aria may be substituted for an art song
CV-09	1st Year	T/B	10 minutes	THREE Contrasting art songs.

Minimum of two languages, one selection must be in English – an Operatic or Oratorio aria may be substituted for an art song

CV-10	2nd Year	S/M	10 minutes	THREE Contrasting art songs. Minimum of two languages, one selection must be English – an Operatic or Oratorio aria may be substituted for an art song.
CV-11	2nd Year	T/B	10 minutes	THREE contrasting art songs. Minimum of three languages, one selection must be in English - an Operatic or Oratorio aria may be substituted for an art song.
CV-12	3rd Year	S/M	12 minutes	THREE contrasting selections. Minimum of three languages, one selection must be in English. Two art songs and one Operatic or Oratorio aria required. Canadian composition strongly recommended.
CV-13	3rd Year	T/B	12 minutes	THREE contrasting selections. Minimum of three languages, one selection must be in English. Two art songs and one Operatic or Oratorio aria required. Canadian composition strongly recommended.
CV-14	4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> Year	S/M	12 minutes	THREE contrasting selections. Minimum of three languages, one selection must be in English. Two art songs and one Operatic or Oratorio aria required. Canadian composition strongly recommended.

CV-15	4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> year	T/B	12 minutes	THREE contrasting selections. Minimum of three languages, one selection must be in English. Two art songs and one Operatic or Oratorio aria required. Canadian composition strongly recommended.
CV-16	Grad	S/M	14 minutes	FOUR contrasting selections. Minimum of four languages, one selection must be in English. One Operatic aria, one Oratorio aria, two art songs, one of which must be post-1960 Canadian composition.
CV-17	Grad	T/B	14 minutes	FOUR contrasting selections. Minimum of four languages, one selection must be in English. One Operatic aria, one Oratorio aria, two art songs, one of which must be post-1960 Canadian composition.
CV-18	NAd (-30)	ALL	12 minutes	THREE contrasting art or folk songs. One song must be in a language other than English.
CV-19	NAd (30+)	ALL	12 minutes	THREE contrasting art or folk songs. One song must be in a language other than English.
CV-20	AdvA (-30)	ALL	12 minutes	THREE contrasting art or folk songs. One song must be in a language other than English.
CV-21	AdvA (+30)	ALL	12 minutes	THREE contrasting art or folk songs. One song must be in a language other than English.

## MUSICAL THEATRE CLASSES

- Singers are encouraged to choose selections from all areas of Musical Theatre such as staged musicals, workshops, revues, cabarets, Disney films, movie musicals, juke-box musicals, Gilbert and Sullivan and new musical theatre works.
- Age-appropriate repertoire and suitable lyrics (for all audiences) should be taken into consideration when choosing songs. It is also important to consider whether the material is culturally appropriate. Carefully consider the content, lyrics, character, and cultural setting of the work to make repertoire decisions. If in doubt, please contact the Showcase Coordinator at [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org)
- For MT-04 classes and higher, one selection must be from a staged musical.
- For MT-06 classes and higher, singers are encouraged to choose songs from a variety of styles and eras, and it is strongly recommended that a pre-1970s song be included.
- All selections must be sung from memory.
- Minimal props and costumes are acceptable but will not factor into placements.
- No Classical or Popular/Commercial Music songs are permitted. If a Commercial Music song is used from a jukebox musical, it must be performed in the Musical Theatre style.
- Categories may be combined or split if numbers warrant for scheduling purposes of adjudicators and pianists.

<b>Class Code</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>	<b>Repertoire Requirements</b>
MT-01	5-6	4 minutes	TWO contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad.
MT-02	7-8	6 minutes	TWO contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad.
MT-03	9-10	6 minutes	TWO contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad.
MT-04	11-12	8 minutes	TWO contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad.
MT-05	13-14	10 minutes	TWO contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad.

MT-06	15-16	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-07	17-18	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-08	1st yr	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-09	2nd yr	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-10	3rd yr	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-11	4 <sup>th</sup> yr	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-12	NAd(-30)	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-13	Nad(+30)	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.

MT-14	AdvA(-30)	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.
MT-15	AdvA(+30)	12 minutes	TWO or THREE contrasting selections - one up-tempo and one ballad must be included.

## POPULAR VOICE/COMMERCIAL MUSIC CLASSES

- Two contrasting songs for each class.
- Live acoustic accompaniment (piano, guitar, ukulele) or professional recorded backtracks can be used (no background vocals or audible melody line are permitted on backtracks). Recommended backtracks resource where you can customize your track (change key, tempo, remove background vocals after purchase): <https://www.karaoke-version.com>
- Age-appropriate repertoire and lyrics suitable for all audiences should be taken into consideration when choosing songs.
- A microphone, amplifier and an acoustic piano will be available for Live entrants. A brief amount of time will be given for a mic check before the performance.
- **Singers using recorded backtracks must send separate links for each song when registering.**
- A maximum of ONE song can be an original, however the singer (not the song) will receive feedback. Please bring a lyric sheet (and tabs/chart if possible) to the Live Showcase for the adjudicators. For the Virtual Showcase, please email a pdf of your lyric sheet/tabs/chart to [showcase2@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase2@natsontario.org) which will be sent in confidence to the assigned adjudicators for the class.
- For Virtual Showcase singers, microphones are encouraged but not necessary.
- For Virtual Showcase singers, band accompaniment is permitted, however, only the singer will receive feedback. Choose songs which highlight the singer. The band should be off camera in the video recording and only the singer should be visible. The singer is also welcome to use a recording of their band as a backtrack. If the singer is also playing an instrument (eg. guitar), they should enter the Self-Accompanied Commercial Music class.
- **For all Pop/Commercial Music classes,** please purchase and present legal copies, if available. Singers may perform unpublished works; please bring a lyric sheet with song title and artist credits. Consider purchasing unpublished songs' recordings on iTunes, Spotify or Amazon Music to support these artists.



- Please be advised that selections from musical theatre (such as ‘Hamilton’ or ‘Rent’), belong in the Musical Theatre category.
- Commercial Music songs that are also used in jukebox musicals (Mamma Mia, Moulin Rouge, & Juliet, etc.) are acceptable, however, an understanding of pop performance style should be considered and presented.
- All songs must be sung from memory.
- Categories may be combined or split if numbers warrant for scheduling purposes of adjudicators and pianists.

<b>Class Code</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>	<b>Repertoire Requirements</b>
CM-01	5-6	7 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-02	7-8	7 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-03	9-10	7 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-04	11-12	8 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-05	13-14	8 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-06	15-16	10 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-07	17-18	10 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.

CM-08	NAd(-30)	10 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-09	NAd(+30)	10 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-10	AdvA(-30)	10 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.
CM-11	AdvA(+30)	10 minutes	TWO contrasting songs in a POP, JAZZ, ROCK or COUNTRY STYLE.

## SELF-ACCOMPANIED Commercial Music CLASSES

- Singers will prepare two contrasting selections.
- Self-accompaniment is required for both songs (piano, guitar, ukulele).
- Covers and/or original music are allowed. A maximum of ONE original song is allowed, and the singer (not the song) will receive feedback.
- Age-appropriate repertoire and lyrics suitable for all audiences should be taken into consideration when choosing songs. See previous Pop/CM paragraph regarding scores.
- For Live Showcase singers, a microphone, amplifier, and acoustic piano will be provided. Please arrive with your own instruments (guitar, ukelele) already tuned, as any set-up time is included in the class time limit. A microphone will be provided for the accompanying instrument. A brief amount of time will be given for a mic check before performance.
- Songs do not need to be performed from memory.
- For Virtual Showcase singers, microphones are encouraged but not necessary.
- For Virtual Showcase singers, band accompaniment is permitted, however, only the singer will receive feedback. Choose songs which highlight the singer. The band should be off camera in the video recording and only the singer should be visible. The singer is also welcome to use a recording of their band as a back-track. If the singer is also playing an instrument (eg. guitar), they should enter the Self-Accompanied Commercial Music class.

- Categories may be combined or split if numbers warrant for scheduling purposes of adjudicators and pianists.

<b>Class Code</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>	<b>Repertoire Requirements</b>
CM-20	5-6	10 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-21	7-8	10 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-22	9-10	10 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-23	11-12	10 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-24	13-14	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-25	15-16	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-26	17-18	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-27	NAd (-30)	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-28	NAd (30+)	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-29	AdvA (-30)	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections
CM-30	AdvA (30+)	12 minutes	TWO contrasting CM selections

## VIRTUAL VOCAL SHOWCASE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Your videotaped performances must be made after **August 16, 2024** (3 months prior to the Vocal Showcase)

### Recording Location and Attire

- Record your video in the spirit of a live audition or recital performance
- Record in a home or an otherwise appropriate space
- Find an acoustic that is not too live, so your performance is heard as “in person”
- Dress professionally, as you would for a recital or live audition

### Recording Instructions

- **Record a separate unedited video for each selection**

- Your camera should record from a fixed position/tripod/steady surface and in a horizontal frame
- Face the camera as you would appear to adjudicators in person
- Recordings must clearly show your face and torso from the hips up in your horizontal frame
- Be sure to eliminate all background noise (dishwasher, pets, etc.) before beginning, and check your accompanist or track volume balance
- Check your lighting so we can see your expressions, posture and gestures
- No splicing, editing, adding reverb or other sound modification is allowed
- For CM classes only, handheld microphones are encouraged and permitted but are not necessary

**A separate video for each song should be recorded and uploaded with a separate YouTube link for each song. DO NOT edit songs into one recording/YouTube link.**

## Accompaniment

- You may use a piano backtrack, band or live piano accompaniment - see more information under each category for specific requirements.
- All tracks must be piano only for Classical and Musical Theatre classes. (Instrumental tracks are permitted for CM classes only).
- Check and test the levels for balance between your voice and accompaniment to ensure you can be heard.

## Performance

- Introduce EACH selection at the beginning of EACH video:

“My name is \_\_\_\_\_, I am enrolled in class \_\_\_\_\_ and I will sing—Title of Composition—by— Composer—(and if appropriate)—from—Title of Work.” This spoken introduction will be included in your total allotted performance time. If preferred, singers can insert or hold a title card with this information (a “slate”) at the beginning of each video instead.

- HOLD UP your ORIGINAL score (legal purchased music) to the camera so that it is clearly visible. Also, show the receipt indicating the song title and price paid, if it is purchased downloaded sheet music (eg. from Musicnotes.com).

A title page is NOT acceptable proof of purchase and may result in the singer being disqualified from placement and scholarships. They will still receive written feedback. Make sure that the teacher's name is not visible anywhere on the music or receipt.

- DO NOT reveal the identity of your teacher, school or region
- You must perform each of your selections from memory on your recording (except for those entered in the Self-accompanied class or for those singing Oratorio/Cantata repertoire).

### Uploading to YouTube

- You must select “public” or “unlisted” in the Privacy settings found under the Broadcasting and Sharing Options section when uploading your videos
- Disable “comments” and “for kids only”
- Please be advised that “private” and “kids only” videos block adjudicators’ access
- Singers should create their own YouTube channel
- Teachers should not upload videos for students from their personal YouTube channel as anonymity is important.

### Invalid Videos

The following video problems make the video invalid and may disqualify singers from scholarships and placements, although they will receive written feedback:

- 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 that are edited, altered or enhanced.

## Adjudication Results, Comments and Scholarship Information

Adjudication sheets will be submitted through [www.AuditionWare.com](http://www.AuditionWare.com). Teachers will be able to view and print comment sheets by **November 30th** and may distribute them to students as they are available.

Scholarship money for winners will be sent via PayPal to the teacher for the Virtual Showcase in early December.

## LIVE and VIRTUAL VOCAL SHOWCASE FAQs

### ***What is the difference between Novice (NAd) and Advanced Adult (AdvAd) singers?***

Novice Adult categories are for adult singers who have studied two years or less.  
Advanced Adult categories are for adult singers who have studied more than two years.

### ***What do I do if I cannot adjudicate the Showcase(s) where I have entered singers?***

**\*\*ADD your Absentee Adjudicator Fee (\$75/showcase) to your Registration total BEFORE processing through PayPal.**

Withdrawal from adjudicating after the registration deadline requires that the teacher finds a suitable substitute adjudicator and informs the VS Coordinator and Treasurer.

Teachers working as substitute adjudicators need not be NATS members. See page 6 for more information on specific qualifications for substitutes.

For LIVE Showcase, please email [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org) AND [treasurer@natsontario.org](mailto:treasurer@natsontario.org) so we are aware of your absence.

For VIRTUAL Showcase, please email [showcase2@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase2@natsontario.org) AND [treasurer@natsontario.org](mailto:treasurer@natsontario.org) so we are aware of your absence.

Teachers who are unable to adjudicate must email the appropriate coordinator **no later than the registration deadline** and must either pay the fee or report a substitute adjudicator.

***Can I find a substitute adjudicator or pay the Absentee Adjudicator Fee so I can attend the Live Showcase as an audience member?***

No. Teachers may not find a substitute adjudicator for themselves OR pay the Absentee Adjudicator fee in order to attend the Live Showcase as an audience member. The Live Showcase relies on the strong participation of its members to provide 3 adjudicators per class.

***Can I adjudicate the Virtual Showcase instead of the Live (or vice versa)?***

No. Virtual and Live Showcase adjudicator participation MAY NOT be “swapped”. Each is its own individual Showcase. If you have singers in both Showcases, you are expected to adjudicate for both, or find a suitable substitute, or pay the Absentee Adjudicator Fees.

***Can I volunteer as a guest adjudicator for the Live or Virtual Showcase if I am not a NATS Ontario member?***

Yes. You can adjudicate either or both the Live and Virtual Showcases as a guest adjudicator if you are a voice teacher with a degree in music and substantial teaching experience (over 3 years). Please contact the Vocal Showcase Coordinator at [showcase@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase@natsontario.org) for more information or to express your interest.

***When will teachers receive YouTube links and comment sheets for adjudicating the Virtual Vocal Showcase?***

Teachers who are adjudicating will be sent more information about how comment sheets are to be completed. Access to video links will be sent on or by November 8, 2024. Teachers will be assigned a category of singers and will submit their comment sheets by November 25, 2024 via [www.AuditionWare.com](http://www.AuditionWare.com).

***What is the deadline for adjudicators to submit their Virtual Vocal Showcase feedback?***

The deadline to submit comment sheets is **Monday, November 25, 2024**. Placement rankings must be emailed separately to the Virtual Vocal Showcase Assistant Coordinator at [showcase2@natsontario.org](mailto:showcase2@natsontario.org) for tabulation.

***Where can I learn more about adjudicating Commercial Music/Popular Voice classes?***

We are committed to offering guidance and opportunities to our members and colleagues to learn how to be more effective as adjudicators in this genre. President Amanda Kind gave a wonderful presentation at one of our NATS ON Point series (April 2023) and has agreed to share the recording:

<https://youtu.be/NJCeBp3Wn04> \_

Here are the notes:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/tbt31lwask66arw/NATS%20CCM%20On%20Point.pdf?dl=0>

This video has been produced by NATS for Commercial Music adjudicators:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eir\\_g\\_jfEx8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eir_g_jfEx8)

### ***How can I make a donation to the NATS Ontario Scholarship fund?***

Thank you!! Scholarships and other donations are gratefully accepted and can be paid via the PayPal button on the [www.natsontario.org](http://www.natsontario.org) website OR sent by cheque made out to “NATS Ontario” and mailed to NATS Ontario Treasurer, Jennifer Swanson, 2315 Maitland Avenue, Windsor, ON N8P 1Y8.

**\*\* Tax receipts will be issued for all donations of \$20.00 and over.**

### ***Where can singers rehearse with the accompanist they have hired or brought with them? Where are practice rooms?***

Practice rooms and times will be organized prior to the Vocal Showcase for singers who have paid for a NATS Collaborative Pianist and will be sent out via email to teachers. Singers who choose to use a Collaborative Pianist will be given either a 10 or 15 minute rehearsal time depending upon number of selections, on the day of the Vocal Showcase.

Throughout the day all available practice rooms may be used by NATS singers.

Signage will indicate where practice rooms are on the day of the Live Vocal Showcase. You may also check with the Registration Desk.

**\*\* Singers should take no more than 15 minutes in these rooms as a courtesy.**

### ***What is the daily schedule overview for the Live Vocal Showcase?***

\*schedule is subject to change\*

8:00 am	Registration opens
8:00 am	Collaborative Pianist rehearsals begin
9:30 am	Adjudicator’s meeting
10:00 am	Classes begin
3:30 pm	Approximate end of all classes
4:30 pm	Approximate time of the Winner’s Showcase Concert



***Can the students watch their entire class? What should students do when they are finished singing?***

Singers, parents and guests are welcome to watch other classes and/or visit the Recruitment and Vendors Fair. Please only enter or exit rooms in between singer's performances. Schedules of each class are posted outside the rooms in use or at the registration desk.

***When will students know if they are singing in the Live Winner's Showcase Concert?***

Winner's names/placements in each category will be posted on the Results Board near the Registration Desk approximately one hour following the performance of the final singer in their class.

**Only singers who have received 1st Place will sing in the Winner's Showcase Concert.** Singers who wish to sing in the Winner's Showcase Concert are responsible to ensure that their collaborative pianist is available to stay and play for the concert.

Singers using a Collaborative Pianist must pay an additional fee of \$25 directly to the CP for the Winner's Showcase Concert performance. If the pianist the singer performed with earlier cannot stay for the concert, a designated concert CP will be provided for the same \$25 rate which the singer will pay directly to the concert CP without a rehearsal.

Singers who win first place in more than one category per day will choose only ONE song to sing in the Winner's Showcase Concert. **A time limit of 4 minutes/song should be observed for the Winner's Concert.**

***Can teachers go backstage to help/support my singer/singers if they are invited to perform in the Live Winner's Showcase Concert?***

No. Teachers may NOT be present backstage at any point but are encouraged to attend and support all the singers from the audience.

***Is there a Winner's Showcase Concert for the Virtual Vocal Showcase?***

Yes. The Virtual Winner's Showcase Concert will be presented via YouTube on Sunday, December 1, 2024. Announcement of placements as well as a YouTube video link of the first-place performances will be sent to the teachers and adjudicators of virtual singers by Nov. 30, 2024. The link and placements will also be sent to NATS Ontario members via email and posted in the NATS Ontario Facebook Group.

**NOTE:** The selection that will be used for the concert will have been selected at the time of registration.

***How will students receive their scholarship money?***

For the Live Showcase, winners will need to provide their email address to the NATS Ontario Treasurer to receive their scholarship monies via PayPal. Where and when to do that will be posted on the Results Board near the Registration Desk.

Winners will also receive a congratulatory letter informing them of the name and contact info of the donor of their scholarship. Singers are strongly encouraged to write a thank you note to their donor.

For the Virtual Vocal Showcase, scholarship funds will be disbursed to the winner’s teacher via PayPal, who will then pass on the amount to the student. Teachers will be notified when the money has been sent to them, and which students receive what amount. Teachers of winners will also receive a congratulatory letter to send to their students, informing them of the name and contact info of their donor. Winners are strongly encouraged to send a thank you note to their donor.

***Who can progress to the Great Lakes Region Auditions?***

Any student of a NATS teacher may enter the Great Lakes Region Auditions. Winning the NATS Ontario Vocal Showcase is not a requirement.

The Great Lakes Region Auditions will be held on **Saturday March 1, 2025 at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan**. Visit the Great Lakes Region [website](#) for more information.

The top 5 placements in each category/class will proceed to the video round of the National Student Auditions.

