

Puget Sound Chapter Auditions Handbook 2025-2026

**Guidelines, Procedures,
Categories, and Requirements for
Teachers, Students, and
Accompanists**



National Association of Teachers of Singing

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AUDITIONS DATES AND REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

Puget Sound Chapter Auditions Online by Video Submission for Children, Youth, High School, and Adult Avocational categories Student Auditions

Registration: December 15th-29th

Video Vetting: Jan 2nd-4th

Adjudication: January 5th-15th

Winners announcement: January 17th

Western Washington District Student Auditions for College, Advanced, and Nontraditional Categories

Registration: December 15th-29th

Video Vetting: Jan 2nd-4th

Adjudication: January 5th-15th

Winners announcement Jan 17th

Updates and Important Information:

- Video submissions can use a pianist or **piano-only** track as their accompanist for CL, MT, and AS categories. CM categories can use an accompanist, a track with instruments (**No background vocals**), or can self-accompany on keyboard or other ACOUSTIC instruments (no electric guitars)
- CL, MT, and Hall Johnson Spirituals categories can use either a live accompanist or a track with **piano only**. CM categories can use full backing tracks, but with **no vocals**. They can also use live accompaniment on various instruments or they can self-accompany. Acoustic instruments only.
- **Dynamic mics are required for CM categories.**
- All teachers with participating students will be expected to serve as an adjudicator. **If you are not able to adjudicate, you are required to find a replacement by the December 29 registration deadline. Note: If you enter students in both competitions, you will adjudicate in both.**
- Regional Submissions, for those placing 1st-3rd in our chapter Auditions, (with an average score of 90 or above) will be due Feb 19th, 2026.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Purpose

MISSION STATEMENT

As an expression of the goals of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, the NATS National Student Auditions:

- Inspire and encourage students and teachers to continue their dedication to, and growth in, the art of singing
- Embrace all genres of vocal music as art worthy to be studied, respected, and appreciated
- Create a collegial, supportive, and inclusive atmosphere that encourages excellent artistic singing
- Provide constructive, written feedback from a panel of experienced and impartial adjudicators
- Recognize and honor outstanding performances

Former NATS President Roy Delp believed that, “the idea of constructive criticism along with encouragement” is at the heart of our student adjudications. “Perhaps one of the greatest ties that binds us together as NATS members is the care we have for the students of our colleagues, as demonstrated at our student auditions.” *Journal of Singing*, Vol. 57, No. 1, p.2

To help meet these goals, we have set a fee for participation which pays for:

- National processing fees
- Auditionware fees

Any remaining revenue from this event is redirected to our Scholarship Fund.

Puget Sound Chapter Student Auditions operate with the endorsement of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and, as such, they are expected to adhere to national bylaws and policies.

For complete Regulations from Nationals, please go to:

https://www.nats.org/national_student_auditions.html

Eligibility

1. Teachers entering students must be current with National and Chapter dues.
2. A participating student must be an **active** member of the teacher's studio at the time of the Auditions.
3. If the student has been studying less than 8 months with the teacher, the name of the previous teacher must be included on the application.
4. **Students may enter in UP TO THREE categories. The fee for the first category is \$35, and each additional category is \$20.**
5. Teachers may not accompany students, **unless** the teacher is not in the camera shot or if they pre-record a piano track.
6. Participating teachers are expected to serve as adjudicators and attend a **required meeting on Zoom on Saturday Nov. 1st.** We will be doing adjudicator training during this meeting. If you are unable to attend, you will need to watch the recorded session and take a quiz based on the information presented.
7. There will be a required Minor Chaperone Form for LIVE NSA events only (this year, that would only include the national semi-final round in Texas). You will receive a link to this prior to our live auditions. The parents of your minor students will need to download and sign the form in order for the children to participate.

Registration

1. Teachers must complete the **online registration and payment** process at www.nats.org. Teachers are expected to proofread submissions and verify that all repertoire meets requirements. The Auditions Chair is not responsible for vetting entries and ineligible entries will be deemed disqualified at the auditions and will sing for comments only. To access AuditionWare, go to the NATS website, scroll down to Auditionware, and log in.
2. The **entry fee** for all categories is \$35 for the first category, and \$20 for each additional category entered. **Entry fees are non-refundable in all cases.**
3. In order for adjudication to remain impartial, Teachers may accompany their students as long as they cannot be seen in the video or have their name anywhere on the video (including being uploaded to their personal YouTube channel.)
4. **All registrations must be completed by Dec 29th at 11:59pm.**
5. An entry will be considered incomplete and ineligible to participate if:
 - a. repertoire is left blank

- b. Video links won't play or are the incorrect song
 - c. student contact information is not included
 - d. A collaborative pianist is not listed ('Digital Pianist' will be an available selection)
6. Once registration has been submitted, **repertoire** cannot be changed.
7. Teachers should receive a confirmation of registrations submitted through AuditionWare. Teachers should review the information for any error. Should an error be found in the information, it is the teacher's responsibility to advise the Auditions Chair immediately so that a correction can be made.
8. All teachers registering students are required to adjudicate. Please put the dates on your calendar now. **If it is impossible for a teacher to adjudicate, regardless of reason, that teacher will be required to find a replacement to judge before the registration deadline of Dec. 29. Students of a non-participating teacher will not be adjudicated unless the teacher has found an Adjudicator Replacement.**
9. Teachers entering more than 25 Registrations will be required to find an additional adjudicator and let us know by Dec 29th.

[Click here for AuditionWare Registration How-To](#)

[Click here for Video Submission Guidelines](#)

Who: The National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), in collaboration with Puget Sound NATS and Tahoma NATS, is pleased to announce the introduction of the Western Washington Auditions for post-high school non-traditional and advanced categories. This new initiative is designed to provide a more accessible and flexible audition process for students and singers who may not be able to participate in traditional in-person auditions. This new event will work within the [NSA Guidelines](#) vision and approach.

Categories Available:

- **Post High School (College)**
 - Lower: students 22 or younger, in their 1st or 2nd year of post-high school voice study
 - Upper: students 25 or younger, in their 3rd, 4th, or 5th year of post-high school voice study and not enrolled in a graduate voice program
- **Advanced:** post-baccalaureate students aged 30 years or younger in their 4th or higher year of postHigh School voice study
- **Non Traditional:** Students pursuing or holding degrees in music and whose age or level of study falls outside the limits of other categories

Specific information regarding categories and qualifications can be found in the [NSA Categories Handbook](#)

What: The Western Washington Auditions event is an engaging way for students to get helpful, specific, professional feedback on their singing from a qualified adjudicator. Adjudicators are members of Puget Sound and Tahoma that score and give feedback based on the [NSA Rubrics](#).

When: Registration and submission will take place via Auditionware from **December 15, 2025 until December 29, 2025.**

Where: Online via Auditionware

How:

- With the help of the teacher, students will create a video of each of their songs carefully following the guidelines found here https://www.nats.org/_Library/NSA_Files/2024-25_NSA_Video_Submission_Guidelines.pdf
- Once the video is created, uploaded, and ready to submit, teachers will log into their AuditionWare portal via the NATS website. Once in the portal, teachers will select the **Western Washington District**. This is the combined district for Puget Sound and Tahoma for the Western Washington Online Auditions.
- Teachers, please note that **even though video vetting will happen after registration, all videos MUST be vetted by teachers before registration.**
- Each submission has a \$35 fee that is paid at the time of submission. Any additional categories entered will be an additional \$20 entry fee
- Video submissions cutoff time will be 11:59 pm on Dec. 29

- Adjudication will happen between Jan 5-15 and winners will be announced on Jan 17.

Important Information to Note




- In accordance with the [NSA online guidelines](#), piano track recordings are permitted but a live pianist is preferred.
- Videos must be recorded on or after September 1st 2025.
- Adjudication will take place from January 5-15, 2026 through AuditionWare on the NATS portal. Teachers who submit students to the Western Washington Auditions are expected to adjudicate.
- All teachers registering students are required to adjudicate. Please put the dates on your calendar now. **If it is impossible for a teacher to adjudicate, regardless of reason, that teacher will be required to find a replacement adjudicator before the registration deadline of Dec. 29. Students of a non-participating teacher will not be adjudicated unless a replacement adjudicator has been approved by the Auditions Chair.**

ADJUDICATION

Please utilize these resources as you prepare for adjudication:

- [Rubrics](#)
- [Adjudication Forms](#)
- [NSA Children & Youth Adjudicator Training](#)
- [NSA Classical Adjudicator Training](#)
- [NSA Commercial Music Adjudicator Training](#)
- [NSA Musical Theatre Adjudicator Training](#)
- [NSA Spirituals Adjudicator Training](#)
- [Adjudication Best Practices](#)
- [Sample Comments for Classical Categories](#)
- [Sample SHORT and AMPLIFIED COMMENTS for Classical Categories](#)
- [Sample Comments For Musical Theatre Categories](#)

Video Resource Library

-  [The Art of Being a Great Adjudicator](#) (1:04:08)
-  [Tips for adjudicating musical theatre categories of the NATS Student Auditions](#) (46:17)
-  [Best practices for recording a quality audition video](#) (4:37)

Rubrics, Terminology, and other Resources for All Categories

- [NSA Full Regulations](#)
- [All NSA Categories of Entry](#)
- [American Negro Spiritual Category Resources](#)
- [Children & Youth Category Resources](#)
- [Commercial Music NSA Category Resources](#)
- [Hall Johnson Spirituals Competition Resources](#)
- [Musical Theatre NSA Category Resources](#)

CATEGORIES AND REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

Note: categories that apply to the W WA District Auditions have been highlighted in beige.

	Children and Youth:				
	Category Treble: Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Contralto and Countertenor TBB: Tenor, Baritone and Bass Voices	Length of Study	Age Limit	Time	Repertoire: all repertoire sung from memory
MT 1	Children Musical Theatre - all voices	No limit	11 and under (below 6th grade)	6 min	TWO contrasting age-appropriate musical theatre selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles or musical theatre song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or musical theatre song literature.
MT 2	Youth Musical Theatre - all voices	No limit	14 (6th - 8th grade)	6 min	TWO contrasting age-appropriate musical theatre selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles or musical theatre song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or musical theatre song literature.
CL 1	Children Classical - all voices	No limit	11 and under (below 6th grade)	6 min	TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections from classical repertoire.
CL 2	Youth Classical - all voices	No limit	14 (6th - 8th grade)	6 min	TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections from classical repertoire.
CM 1	Children Commercial Music - all voices	No limit	11 and under (below 6th grade)	6 min	TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections performed in a CM style(s).
CM 2	Youth Commercial Music - all voices	No limit	14 (6th - 8th grade)	6 min	TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections performed in a CM style(s).
	High School:				

MT 3A	Lower High School Musical Theatre (grades 9 and 10) -Treble	No limit	16	8 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 3B	Upper High School Musical Theatre (grades 11 and 12) -Treble	No limit	19	8 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 4A	Lower High School Musical Theatre (Grades 9 and 10) -TBB	No limit	16	8 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 4B	Upper High School Musical Theatre (Grades 11 and 12) -TBB	No limit	19	8 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
CL 3A	Lower High School Classical (Grades 9 and 10) -Treble	No limit	16	8 min	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One art song sung in English; English must be the original language. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CL 3B	Upper High School Classical (Grades 11 and 12) -Treble	No limit	19	8 min	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One art song sung in English; English must be the original language. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CL 4A	Lower High School Classical (Grades 9 and 10) -TBB	No limit	16	8 min	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One art song sung in English; English must be the original language. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CL 4B	Upper High School Classical (Grades 11 and 12) -TBB	No limit	19	8 min	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire. One art song sung in English; English must be the original language. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CM 3A	Lower High School Commercial Music (Grades 9 and 10) -Treble	No limit	16	8 min	THREE contrasting songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 up tempo. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental

					track or a live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers can use karaoke tracks with full instrumentals. Singers should perform with amplification(Dynamic microphone) if possible. Singers and accompanists may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 3B	Upper High School Commercial Music (Grades 11 and 12) -Treble	No limit	19	8 min	THREE contrasting songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 up tempo. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers can use karaoke tracks with full instrumentals. Singers should perform with amplification(Dynamic microphone) if possible. Singers and accompanists may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 4A	Lower High School Commercial Music (Grades 9 and 10) -TBB	No limit	16	8 min	THREE contrasting songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 up tempo. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers can use karaoke tracks with full instrumentals. Singers should perform with amplification(Dynamic microphone) if possible. Singers and accompanists may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 4B	Upper High School Commercial Music (Grades 11 and 12) -TBB	No limit	19	8 min	THREE contrasting songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 up tempo. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers can use karaoke tracks with full instrumentals. Singers should perform with amplification(Dynamic microphone) if possible. Singers and accompanists may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.

AS 3	High School American Negro Spirituals -Treble & TBB (Not active in 2025-2026 cycle)	No limit	19	8 min	Three classical arrangements of American Negro Spirituals contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. See approved publication list: https://www.nats.org/American_Negro_Spiritual_Competition.html
	College (Post High School) and Advanced: (ONLINE)				
CL 5	Lower College Classical -Treble	1-2 Years Post High School	22	10 min	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria or art song.
CL 6	Lower College Classical -TBB	1-2 Years Post High School	22	10 min	Three contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria or art song.
CL 7	Upper College Classical -Treble	3-5 Years Post High School	25	12 min	Four contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional art song or aria. At least three languages must be represented.
CL 8	Upper College Classical -TBB	3-5 Years Post High School	25	12 min	Four contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional art song or aria. At least three languages must be represented.
CL 9	Advanced Classical -Treble	4+ Years Post High School	30	15 min	Five contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One opera aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.
CL 10	Advanced Classical -TBB	4+ Years Post High School	30	15 min	Five contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One opera aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.
MT 5	Lower College Musical	1-2 Years	22	10 min	Three contrasting music theater selections

	Theatre- Treble	Post High School			from musicals (including film musicals), revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 6	Lower College Musical Theatre -TBB	1-2 Years Post High School	22	10 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals (including film musicals), revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 7	Upper College Musical Theatre -Treble	3-5 Years Post High School	25	12 min	Four contrasting music theater selections from musicals (including film musicals), revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 8	Upper College Musical Theatre -TBB	3-5 Years Post High School	25	12 min	Four contrasting music theater selections from musicals (including film musicals), revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 9	Advanced Musical Theatre - Treble (DO NOT ADVANCE)	4+ yrs post HS	30	15 min	FIVE contrasting theater selections from musicals (including film musicals), revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 10	Advanced Musical Theatre - TBB (DO NOT ADVANCE)	4+ yrs post HS	30	15 min	FIVE contrasting theater selections from musicals (including film musicals), revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
CM 5	Lower Post High School Commercial Music -Treble & TBB	1-2 yrs post HS	22	10 min	THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 up tempos. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers can use karaoke tracks with full instrumentals. Singers should perform with amplification(Dynamic microphone) if possible. Singers and collaborators may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 7	Upper Post High School Commercial Music - Treble & TBB	3-4 yrs post HS study	25	12 min	FOUR contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): Up to 2 songs may be original songs, instead of covers. Up to 2 songs may be self-accompanied on an acoustic

					instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers and collaborators may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 9	Advanced Commercial Music - Treble & TBB	4+ yrs post H.S.	30	15 min	FIVE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style: up to 3 songs may be original songs, instead of covers. Up to 2 songs may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument instead of performing with an instrumental track or one live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singers and collaborators may use an electric keyboard or digital piano.
AS 7	Intermediate American Negro Spirituals -Treble & TBB (NOT ACTIVE in 2025-2026 cycle)	1-3 yrs post HS	23	10 min	THREE classical arrangements of American Negro Spirituals contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. See approved publication list: https://www.nats.org/American_Negro_Spiritual_Competition.html
AS 9	Advanced American Negro Spirituals -Treble & TBB (NOT ACTIVE in 2025-2026 cycle)	4+ yrs post HS	30	12 min	FOUR classical arrangements of American Negro Spirituals contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. See approved publication list: https://www.nats.org/American_Negro_Spiritual_Competition.html
HJ 7	Hall Johnson -All Voices	Post High School Under grad Students	17 -23	10 min	THREE contrasting selections from approved Hall Johnson spirituals repertoire. See approved repertoire on page 7 of National Categories of Entry.
	Avocational: Students neither pursuing nor holding a degree in music and not working as professional musicians				
CL 11	Adult Avocational Classical -Treble	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song sung in English; original language must be English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CL 12	Adult Avocational Classical TBB	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song sung in English; original language must be English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.

CL 15	Adult Avocational Classical IV -Treble & TBB - DOES NOT MOVE ON TO REGIONALS	No Limit	60+	10 min	THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song sung in English; original language must be English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
MT 11	Adult Avocational Musical Theatre - Treble	No Limit	none	10 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 12	Adult Avocational Musical Theatre - TBB	No Limit	none	10 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
MT 15	Adult Avocational Musical Theatre IV - DOES NOT MOVE ON TO REGIONALS	No Limit	60+	10 min	Three contrasting music theater selections from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, music theater song cycles or music theater song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theater song literature.
CM 11	Adult Commercial Music -Treble	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singer or collaborator may play electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 12	Adult Commercial Music TBB	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singer or collaborator may play electric keyboard or digital piano.
CM 15	Adult Avocational Commercial Music IV - DOES NOT MOVE ON TO REGIONALS	No Limit	60+	10 min	THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singer or collaborator may play electric keyboard or digital piano.
	Non Traditional Student: Students				

	pursuing or holding degrees in music and whose age or level of study falls outside the limits of other categories (ONLINE)				
MT 13	Adult Musical Theatre —Treble Voices	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting musical theatre selections: from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles or musical theatre song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theatre song literature.
MT 14	Adult Musical Theatre —TBB Voices	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting musical theatre selections: from musicals including film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles or musical theatre song literature. Only one selection may be chosen from operetta or musical theatre song literature.
CL 13	Adult Classical —Treble Voices	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song sung in English; English must be the original language. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CL 14	Adult Classical —TBB Voices	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song sung in English; English must be the original language. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria.
CM 13	Adult Commercial Music —Treble Voices	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 uptempo. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singer or collaborator may use an electric piano or digital keyboard.
CM 14	Adult Commercial Music —TBB Voices	No Limit	none	10 min	THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): At least 1 ballad and 1 uptempo. Only one song may be an original song, instead of a cover. Only one song may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or live collaborative acoustic instrumentalist. Singer or collaborator may use an electric piano or digital keyboard.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL STUDENT AUDITIONS

Additional opportunities for adjudication are available for excellent singers from our Chapter Auditions. Singers earning the top three scores in each Regional-eligible category will be invited to the Regional competition.

Singers who advance will be provided with the necessary information and instructions regarding the Regional Student Auditions following the close of the Chapter Auditions. Note that one selection from the Chapter level can be changed at the Regional level. Repertoire may not change between Regional and National events.

Singers competing at the Regional level in National-eligible categories will advance to Nationals if they receive scores of 90 or higher, and are among the top five singers in their category. The National system has preliminary, quarter-final, semi-final, and final rounds.

Regional Guidelines are available at www.northwesternnats.com. Regional videos are due February 19, 2026.

Video submission guidelines:

https://www.nats.org/Library/NSA_Files/2024-25_NSA_Video_Submission_Guidelines.pdf

Rules for the National rounds can be found at https://www.nats.org/national_student_auditions.html

Minor Chaperone Form:
https://www.nats.org/Library/NSA_Files/2024-25_Minor_Chaperone_Form.pdf