



Cal-Western Region 2022 Conference and Student Auditions



Judging Instructions

Thank you for your service to the students!
First round judging is due on **January 3, 2022**

Please remember that this is a cooperative competition and if you do not fulfill your duties on time your students will, unfortunately, be removed from the competition and no refunds given.

Adjudication Preparation: Please read through the judging rubric for the categories you are judging so you are familiar with the standards against which the students should be judged. They are available at <http://calwestnats.org/judging>. Please note, the rubrics have been updated for 2021-2022. All rubrics should be taken in context of the category being judged; the standard for resonance will be quite different for a 12 year old and 22 year old. Also, we are comparing the students to the rubric, not to each other. This means you can judge the category over several days, if need be.

Recommended Adjudication video: <https://youtu.be/vH0XjK8S0ws> This video is only 6 minutes long, and contains a lot of good information about the rubrics and online adjudication.

Log in Process:

1. Go to nats.org and log in.
2. Go to Member Home by clicking on your name in the upper right-hand corner.
3. Scroll down until you see the green button NATS AUDITIONS REGISTRATION. This will take you to Auditionware.
4. You will be brought to a new page with the option to "View My Student/Adjudicator Schedule." Select it.
5. On the next page, scroll past the printing functions and your own students' information.
6. Watch the National NATS Adjudicator video and then click on acknowledgment link
7. Next click on the link, "View My Students/Judging Schedule," on the Dashboard page. You may then click on the link, "View/Print My Students Schedule & Judging Schedule," to view your judging assignment(s).
8. The form we usually use is now a fillable PDF with one box per song (the YouTube links are right above the box).

Scoring and Comments:

1. ****Make sure to save your entries by clicking Submit.** You can always go back and add to/modify your comments. The system will time out if an entry is open for too long, so please make sure to save.
2. When watching the videos, observe the student's choice of FIRST in the spirit of a live audition.
3. Each division has an amount of time they are allowed to sing. Feel free to set your own timer and stop judging when the time is up if you wish. Please be consistent with all singers.
4. If you have anything to contest, do not note concerns on the judging sheet. Score the singer as if there were no concern. Email your concerns to auditions@calwestnats.org.
5. Click on the Add link next to each student's name under the Judge Score column to enter your comments and scores in their Adjudication Form. It can be helpful to use a second device or notebook to take notes.
6. Each of the categories Tone, Breathing/Alignment, Language/Diction, Musicianship/Accuracy, Artistry/Expression and Ensemble (which does not count toward the score) has a bar with a sliding scale from 70-100. Slide the bar to reflect the singer's score in each category.
7. Type your overall score (should be an average of the scores above) in the box on the bottom right. Please make sure your x for each criterion correlates with your final score.
8. The scores given should take into consideration the age and expected experience level of the category. Add in the "for a child," or "for an upper college student" etc. to your thought process when assigning scores.
9. Write constructive comments to encourage the student and offer suggestions for improvement where needed. Your comments will eventually go back to the student, so keep in mind their feelings and level of experience.
 - a. Make your comments as specific, positive, concise and helpful as possible.
 - b. Overly blunt, harsh, or impersonal comments should be avoided.
 - c. Avoid using terms unique to your own pedagogy; instead, refer to the rubric, using terms that will be generally understood.
10. Singers qualify for finals with an average score of 90+ or two scores of 90+. There may be categories in which no finalists are chosen nor award given. Please take this into consideration in your judging.

Thank you!!!