



## 2026 CCNATS Auditions

**Information for Teachers:** Youth, High School, Post-High School, Advanced Auditions

### Audition Information

**Date: April 18, 2026**

**Location: Roosevelt University**  
430 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605

**Winner Recital: St. Vincent DePaul**  
1010 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, IL 60614

**Date: April 19, 2026**

**Classical: 12:00pm-1:30pm**

**Musical Theatre: 2:00pm-3:30pm**

### Registration

**Opens: February 18, 2026**

**Deadline: March 18, 2026**

**Repertoire Change Deadline: March 18, 2026**

### Audition Fees

*Payments are made by the student's teacher online via credit/debit card at the end of registration through the NATS.org site.*

#### **CCNATS Teacher Fees (non-refundable)**

*Participating teachers are needed and expected to share their expertise through adjudication. (CCNATS will provide breakfast for all adjudicators.)*

**Fee for Judge Participant: \$50**

**Fee for Non-Judge: \$150**

#### **Student Fees**

*Student fee is refundable up to two weeks before auditions.*

**Per Entry: \$50**

Please note – information in this packet is subject to change on an as needed basis from administration.

**Please contact Josephine Stracek and/or Lindsay Cummings at [auditions@chicagocats.org](mailto:auditions@chicagocats.org) with specific questions/concerns.**

## IMPORTANT

Nationals has released updated information and regulations regarding Auditions for 2026.

As part of CCNATS Auditions updates, all categories (Youth, High School, Post-High School, and Advanced) will be two rounds to follow Nationals regulations.

Additional updates have been made to CCNATS Guidelines. Please review all information in the following document carefully before completing registration.

## COMING SOON!

### CCNATS WEBINAR:

Understanding and Registering  
for Chapter Auditions  
**February 1, 2026**

## Table of Contents

<b>Registration.....</b>	<b>p. 2</b>
<b>Music.....</b>	<b>p. 3</b>
<b>Audition Details .....</b>	<b>p. 4</b>
<b>Schedule.....</b>	<b>p. 5</b>
<b>Categories.....</b>	<b>p. 6</b>
Children & Youth.....	p. 7
High School.....	p. 7
Post High School.....	p. 8
Advanced.....	p. 9
CCNATS Categories.....	p. 9-10

---

# Registration

## GENERAL - ENTERING STUDENTS IN AUDITIONS

*The following information is taken directly from the NSA registration documents.*

NATS members should respect each student's prerogative to obtain instruction from any teacher(s) of their choice, including concurrent study with another teacher(s). Transparency should be maintained among all parties.

Whenever a student has multiple voice teachers, the following designations apply:

**Primary Voice Teacher**—the teacher who currently teaches a student the majority of their voice lessons in an independent studio or in an academic degree program.

**Concurrent Voice Teacher**—a teacher, who in addition to a primary teacher, also currently teaches regularly recurring voice lessons to the same student. Common examples: voice teachers addressing different genres of vocal music or having different areas of expertise desired by the student.

**Supplemental Voice Teacher**—a teacher, who in addition to a primary teacher, also currently teaches voice lessons to the student recurring lessons on a less than weekly basis.

**Former Voice Teacher**—a teacher who has taught the student regularly recurring lessons, but no longer teaches the student being entered. Common examples: teachers of students who have changed voice teachers or voice teachers of students who have earned a diploma or degree and who have begun a subsequent vocal degree program at a different institution or with a different voice teacher.

**Remote Voice Teacher**—the teacher currently teaching a student that resides in a different location than the teacher. Remote Voice Teachers are considered Primary Voice Teachers unless designated as a Concurrent or Supplemental Teacher.

### **NATS National Student Auditions:** Chapter and District Auditions

A primary teacher may enter any of their students in any chapter(s) or district in which the teacher is a current member. Remote and Concurrent Teachers may enter their students in either the chapter/district/region where the teacher resides OR the chapter/district/region where the student resides, providing the teacher has a current membership in that chapter. Teachers entering students must follow the NSA Regulations and rules of the entity holding the NSA event. Teachers must be aware that some, but not all, chapter and/or district auditions qualify students to advance to the region's NSA auditions. Students may be entered in multiple chapter auditions, but teachers may enter each student in only ONE region's NSA in each NSA cycle, which may impact participation in multiple chapter auditions.

---

## CCNATS - REGISTERING STUDENTS FOR AUDITIONS

1. Before registering, your membership must be in good standing with both National and Chapter dues paid.
2. Review the student audition categories at the end of this packet and identify the correct category for your student. Depending on the total number of registrants, categories may be combined or separated.
3. Ensure the accuracy of your student's age (determined as of the day of the audition) and length of study (or year in school).
  - a. Students under the age of 18 are required to submit a parent/legal guardian email address to complete their registration.
  - b. If a student is found to be in the wrong division, they may be ineligible for the auditions.
4. Make note of all repertoire requirements for the student division.
5. Register your student at <https://www.nats.org/>. Registration opens on February 18, 2026, and closes on March 18, 2026.
  - a. More detailed instructions for registering can be found in the document entitled "Instructions for Register for 2026 Chicago Chapter NATS Auditions."
6. All fees are due at the time of registration and by the deadline listed.
7. Students **WILL NOT** have the option of bringing their own pianist. All students will be assigned a CCNATS collaborative pianist.
  - a. Children & Youth categories will be assigned rehearsal time before auditions start on the morning of the event.
  - b. High School, Post-High School, and Advanced categories will not be assigned rehearsal time on the day of auditions to simulate a true audition setting. Collaborative pianists will reach out should they require information or clarification from a specific student.

## Music

- All Music must be performed from memory.
- NATS Teachers should be able to provide original piano/vocal copies of published music if asked.
  - Online music sources must have the student, parent, or teacher's name printed on it.
- Adjudicators do not need copies of music.

### NATS Copyright Policy

NATS encourages its members, their students, collaborative pianists, and general populations to become educated about and to comply with all applicable copyright laws.

Read more details by clicking below

[NATS Policy on Copyright Laws](#)

## Reproduction of a copyrighted work constitutes copyright infringement unless the reproduction is an “authorized copy, meaning:

- a license to reproduce such work has been obtained
- the use is considered “fair use” (please review via the copyright resources)
- the work is the public domain in the country
- a valid exception to copyright infringement exists

NATS requires students, teachers, and other participants in NATS affiliated events, auditions, and competition to affirm their compliance with the NATS Copyright Policy on United States Copyright Laws, and to use ONLY published sheet music/scores or authorized reproductions of copyrighted works. NSA personnel may not investigate copyright compliance without assuming legal liability or adherence to the U.S. Copyright Laws.

## CCNATS Audition Details

- Students must be outside their audition room **at least 15 minutes prior** to their assigned time.
- Students should enter the room when invited by the adjudicators.
  - If the adjudicators need a moment to finish writing comments for the previous student, they will let the student know.
  - The student should immediately discuss with their accompanist tempos and other information before introducing their first selection.
- Timing will begin when the student enters the room (6 minutes for Youth & Children, 8 minutes for High School Students, 10 minutes for Lower College, 12 minutes for Upper College, and 15 minutes for Advanced College).
- Students should announce their first selection. Adjudicators will then choose the following pieces in any order.
  - **Students advancing to the second round of auditions will only be asked to sing one song. They should announce their choice and begin immediately upon entering the room.**
- At the end of the specified limit, the adjudicators will let the student know that the audition time is finished. Being stopped at the specified time does not disqualify the student from placing even if their song has not been finished.
- After all the students in each category have performed in round 1, the judges will tally the scores and a list of round 2 participants will be posted outside of the tally room.

---

After all students in each category have performed in round 2, the judges will tally the scores, and the winners will be announced at the award ceremony.

- The top student in each category will be invited to perform one selection at the winner's recital, which will take place on April 19, 2026, at St. Vincent de Paul Church.

## AFTER AUDITIONS

- Students will receive written comments from adjudicators.
- If a teacher is not present, the comments will be emailed to the teacher no later than one week after the student auditions.
- Students who are not present for the awards ceremony will receive their certificate (all categories) and medal (youth only) from their teacher.
- First place winners will be offered the opportunity to perform at a concert the following day in the winner's recital.

# Audition Day Schedule

*(All times are approximate.)*

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

8:00am-9:00am	<b>Assigned Rehearsals</b>
9:30am-12:00pm	Round 1
12:30pm-1:30pm	Workshop for Teachers & Students
1:30pm	Round 2 Announcement
1:45pm-2:45pm	Round 2
3:30pm-4:00pm	Winners Announcement

## HIGH SCHOOL, POST-HIGH SCHOOL, & ADVANCED

9:30am-12:30pm	Round 1
12:30pm-1:30pm	Workshop for Teachers & Students
1:30pm	Round 2 Announcement
2:00pm-4:00pm	Round 2
4:30pm-5:00pm	Winners Announcement

# Winner's Recitals

## CLASSICAL CONCERT

11:30am-11:45am	<b>Check-In</b>
12:00pm-1:30pm	Classical Concert

## MUSICAL THEATRE & CONTEMPORARY CONCERT

1:30pm-1:45pm	<b>Check-In</b>
2:00pm-3:30pm	Musical Theatre & Contemporary Concert

---

# Categories

The following pages include information regarding the categories that CCNATS will be using for the upcoming year. All categories and repertoire requirements are based on the updated information provided by Nationals.

*To learn more about categories and regulations sent up by Nationals, please [follow this link](#) for the NSA Categories of Entry.*

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

Number	Category	Length of Study	Age Limit / Grade Limit	Time Limit	Repertoire Requirements
MT 1A	Children Musical Theatre Lower - All Voices		9 in MT 1	6 minutes	TWO age-appropriate musical theatre selections contrasting in composer, tempo, and text. Only one selection may be chosen dfrom operetta or musical theatre song liturature.
MT 1B	Children Musical Theatre Upper - All Voices		11 in MT 1 (5th Grade)	6 minutes	
MT 2A	Youth Musical Theatre Lower - All Voices		12 in MT 2	6 minutes	
MT 2B	Youth Musical Theatre Upper - All Voices		14 in MT 2 (8th grade)	6 minutes	
CL 1	Children Classical - All Voices		11 (5th grade)	6 minutes	TWO age-appropriate selections from classical repertoire contrasting by composer, tempo, and text.
CL 2	Youth Classical - All Voices		14 (8th grade)	6 minutes	
CM 1	Children Commerical Music - All Voices		11 (5th grade)	6 minutes	TWO age-appropriate selections contrasting by composer, tempo, and text perofmred in the CM style(s).
CM 2	Youth Commerical Music - All Voices		14 (8th grade)	6 minutes	

## High School

Number	Category	Length of Study	Age Limit / Grade Limit	Time Limit	Repertoire Requirements
MT 3A	Lower HS Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	No limit - all HS	16 (9th & 10th Grades)	8 minutes	THREE musical theatre selections contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or musical theatre song literature
MT 4A	Lower HS Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	No limit - all HS	16 (9th & 10th Grades)	8 minutes	
MT 3B	Upper HS Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	No limit - all HS	19 (11th & 12th Grades)	8 minutes	
MT 4B	Upper HS Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	No limit - all HS	19 (11th & 12th Grades)	8 minutes	
CL 3A	Lower HS Classical - Treble Voices	No limit - all HS	16 (9th & 10th Grades)	8 minutes	THREE selections from classical repertoire contrasting by composer, tempo, and text: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria
CL 4A	Lower HS Classical - TBB Voices	No limit - all HS	16 (9th & 10th Grades)	8 minutes	
CL 3B	Upper HS Classical - Treble Voices	No limit - all HS	19 (11th & 12th Grades)	8 minutes	
CL 4B	Upper HS Classical - TBB Voices	No limit - all HS	19 (11th & 12th Grades)	8 minutes	
CM 3A	Lower HS Commercial Music - Treble Voices	No limit - all HS	16 (9th & 10th Grades)	8 minutes	THREE full songs contrasting by composer, tempo, and text 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.
CM 4A	Lower HS Commercial Music - TBB Voices	No limit - all HS	16 (9th & 10th Grades)	8 minutes	
CM 3B	Upper HS Commercial Music - Treble Voices	No limit - all HS	19 (11th & 12th Grades)	8 minutes	
CM 4B	Upper HS Commercial Music - TBB Voices	No limit - all HS	19 (11th & 12th Grades)	8 minutes	

## Post High School

Number	Category	Length of Study	Age Limit	Time Limit	Repertoire Requirements
MT 5A	1st yr. Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	1 yr. post HS	20	10 minutes	THREE musical theatre selections contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or musical theatre song literature
MT 6A	1st yr. Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	1 yr. post HS	20	10 minutes	
MT 5B	2nd yr. Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	2 yrs. post HS	22	10 minutes	
MT 6B	2nd yr. Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	2 yrs. post HS	22	10 minutes	
MT 7A	3rd yr. Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	3 yrs. post HS	23	12 minutes	FOUR musical theatre selections contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or musical theatre song literature
MT 8A	3rd yr. Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	3 yrs. post HS	23	12 minutes	
MT 7B	4th & 5th yr. Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	4-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	25	12 minutes	
MT 8B	4th & 5th yr. Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	4-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	25	12 minutes	
CL 5A	1st yr. Classical - Treble Voices	1 yr. post HS	20	10 minutes	THREE selections from classical repertoire contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria or art song.
CL 6A	1st yr. Classical - TBB Voices	1 yr. post HS	20	10 minutes	
CL 5B	2nd yr. Classical - Treble Voices	2 yrs. post HS	22	10 minutes	
CL 6B	2nd yr. Classical - TBB Voices	2 yrs. post HS	22	10 minutes	
CL 7A	3rd yr. Classical - Treble Voices	3 yrs. post HS	23	12 minutes	FOUR selections from classical repertoire contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. At least three languages must be represented. One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire.
CL 8A	3rd yr. Classical - TBB Voices	3 yrs. post HS	23	12 minutes	
CL 7B	4th & 5th yr. Classical - Treble Voices	4-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	25	12 minutes	
CL 8B	4th & 5th yr. Classical - TBB Voices	4-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	25	12 minutes	
CM 5	Lower Commerical Music - Treble Voices	1-2 yrs. post HS	22	10 minutes	THREE full songs contrasting by composer, tempo, and text 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.
CM 6	Lower Commerical Music - TBB Voices	1-2 yrs. post HS	22	10 minutes	
CM 7	Upper Commerical Music - Treble Voices	3-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	25	12 minutes	FOUR full songs contrasting by composer, tempo, and text performed in a CM style(s). Up to 2 songs may be selfaccompanied on an acoustic instrument. In exception, up to 2 songs may be contrasting original songs.
CM 8	Upper Commerical Music - TBB Voices	3-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	25	12 minutes	

## Advanced

Number	Category	Length of Study	Age Limit	Time Limit	Repertoire Requirements	
MT 9	Advanced Musical Theatre - Treble Voices	4+ yrs. post HS		30	15	FIVE musical theatre selections contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or musical theatre song literature.
MT 10	Advanced Musical Theatre - TBB Voices	4+ yrs. post HS		30	15	
CL 9	Advanced Classical - Treble Voice	4+ yrs. post HS		30	15	FIVE selections from classical repertoire contrasting by composer, tempo, and text. One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One opera aria.
CL 10	Advanced Classical - TBB Voice	4+ yrs. post HS		30	15	One oratorio/cantata aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.
CM 9	Advanced Commercial Music - Treble Voice	4+ yrs. post HS		30	15	FIVE full songs contrasting by composer, tempo, and text performed in a CM style(s). Up to 2 songs may be self accompanied on an acoustic instrument. In exception, up to 3 songs may be contrasting original songs.
CM 10	Advanced Commercial Music - TBB Voice	4+ yrs. post HS		30	15	

The following two categories are the only categories that will have one round of judging during Auditions. These categories are outside of the Nationals guidelines and are used by CCNATS only.

### BIPOC Composers

Number	Category	Length of Study	Age Limit / Grade Limit	Time Limit	Repertoire Requirements
BP 1	Youth BIPOC Composers - MT/CM		14 (8th grade)	6 minutes	ONE age-appropriate selection written by a composer who identifies as a BIPOC individual.
BP 2	Youth BIPOC Composers - Classical		14 (8th grade)	6 minutes	
BP 3	HS BIPOC Composers - MT/CM	No limit - all HS	19	6 minutes	ONE age-appropriate selection written by a composer who identifies as a BIPOC individual.
BP 4	HS BIPOC Composers - Classical	No limit - all HS	19	6 minutes	
BP 5	Post HS BIPOC Composers - MT/CM	1-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	22	10 minutes	TWO selections written by a composer who identifies as a BIPOC individual.
BP 6	Post HS BIPOC Composers - Classical	1-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	22	10 minutes	
BP 7	Advanced BIPOC Composers - MT/CM	4+ yrs. post HS	30	10 minutes	TWO selections written by a composer who identifies as a BIPOC individual.
BP 8	Advanced BIPOC Composers -Classical	4+ yrs. post HS	30	10 minutes	

### Women Composers

Number	Category	Length of Study	Age Limit / Grade Limit	Time Limit	Repertoire Requirements
W 1	Youth Female Composers - MT/CM		14 (8th grade)	6 minutes	ONE age-appropriate selection written by a composer who identifies as a female individual.
W 2	Youth Female Composers - Classical		14 (8th grade)	6 minutes	
W 3	HS Female Composers - MT/CM	No limit - all HS	19	6 minutes	ONE age-appropriate selection written by a composer who identifies as a female individual.
W 4	HS Female Composers -Classical	No limit - all HS	19	6 minutes	
W 5	Post HS Female Composers- MT/CM	1-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	22	10 minutes	TWO selections written by a composer who identifies as a female individual.
W 6	Post HS Female Composers - Classical	1-5 yrs. post HS not in a grad prog	22	10 minutes	
W 7	Advanced Female Composers - MT/CM	4+ yrs. post HS	30	10 minutes	TWO selections written by a composer who identifies as a female individual.
W 8	Advanced Female Composers - Classical	4+ yrs. post HS	30	10 minutes	