

**Chicago Chapter NATS  
Classical Video Auditions  
Re-Registrations Procedures**

It is important that you follow these directions carefully to get your student in compliance for the video auditions.

**Starting Now**

- Make your song videos. Follow the **Video Recording Instructions** listed on page 2. Failure to comply could result in disqualification.

*Other tips:*

- You will need a video camera (or good cell phone video camera) to make your recording from a stationary position.
- You will also need a YouTube account from which to post the videos. I recommend using the singer's or the parent's account, NOT the teacher's. The teacher of the student should not be identified in the videos or from the account.

**March 21**

- The registration page will reopen to allow you to load your individual videos of each required song. You have already paid, so there will be no additional fees for this process.
- From your repertoire, you will choose one song that will be your Round 2 selection and indicate this selection in the registration. This song will also be used for our virtual Honors Recital that we will post at the end of competition.

**April 3**

- Registration closes and all video links must be submitted. (11:59 PM)

**April 4-9**

- Judges will be given assignments and deadlines to view, comment, and score auditions for Rounds I and II. All of this will be done online and your comments will be sent to you digitally at the end of the event.

**April 10**

Final scores are tallied by CCNATS Board Members

**April 11**

- Results will be announced online and a Virtual Honors Recital will be posted.
- Certificates will be created, checks written, and all materials will be mailed to the teachers of the selected students.

## **Video Recording Instructions**

### **Regional and National Student Auditions**

#### **Recording Location**

You should record your video in the spirit of a live audition or recital performance. You may record in a home, school, church, synagogue, recital hall, rehearsal room, or voice studio with good natural acoustics with or without an audience. You should dress professionally, as you would for a recital or live audition.

#### **Recording Instructions**

##### **Recording**

- You should record a separate unedited video for each selection on your repertoire list.
- Your camera should record from a fixed position as if three adjudicators were seated in front of you.
- You should face straight forward to the camera as you would appear to adjudicators in a live audition.
- Your video recordings must clearly show your face and most of your upper body.
- Double check that your links play at an appropriate sound level and will be clearly heard by the adjudicators.

##### **Accompanist**

- You may choose to sing with a prerecorded accompaniment OR a live accompanist.
  - Live Accompanist
    - Your teacher may accompany, but they cannot be visible in the recording; directly or on any reflected surface (mirror, piano, etc).
    - The live accompanist does NOT have to be included in the video.
    - Live accompanists must play from legal publications that are compliant with the NATS Copyright Policy.
    - The accompanist may use a page turner who is not the singer's teacher.
  - Pre-recorded accompaniments
    - You will be contacted by the CCNATS staff accompanist originally assigned to your category for the live auditions. You may arrange with them to make piano recordings of your pieces to sing along with in your videos.
    - You may use Accompanying apps like Appcompanionist or Cadenza.
    - You may use the accompaniment CD's provided with some sheet music collections.
    - You may NOT use orchestrated karaoke tracks.
    - As with sheet music, you must make sure that you have the legal rights to use your selected accompaniment source.

## Performance

- Introduce each selection at the beginning of the video. *I will sing*—Title of Composition---*by*—Composer—and if appropriate—*from*--Title of Work. The identity of your teacher, school, and region should not be revealed.
- You must perform each of your selections from memory on your recording.

## Preparing the YouTube Video

### Settings

- Please note that you must select "public" or "unlisted" in the Privacy settings found under the broadcasting and Sharing Options section when uploading your video file to YouTube.
- If you select "private," adjudicators will not be able to access your submission(s).

### Submission

- In the registration, provide the web link/address for each video that corresponds to the appropriate repertoire selection.
- Please double check the links you provide for each video before submitting your registration.

### Invalid Videos

The following video problems would make them invalid:

- Videos revealing the identity of the student's teacher or the school they attend.
- Videos with "private" sharing options (see above).
- Videos that pan and zoom during performances.
- Videos using additional recording equipment other than the camera.
- Videos that are digitally altered.

Send me your questions.

We will work through it together!

Katherine Petersen

[auditions@chicagonats.org](mailto:auditions@chicagonats.org)