

## MUSIC: VOCAL – CONTEMPORARY

This competition focuses on the art song repertoire of the late 20th, and 21st centuries, emphasizing balance, clarity, and moderation.

### Requirements

1. Song Selection: Choose one song that does not exceed five minutes in length. Exceeding this time limit will result in point deductions.
2. Accompaniment:
  - Local and National Competitions: Accompaniment will be provided.
  - Contestant Provided Accompaniment: If you choose to bring your own accompanist, please ensure they are prepared to perform without a backing track.
  - Contestants are permitted to perform to a backing/accompaniment track. All sound should be clean and not distorted.
3. Sheet Music: Submit six copies of your sheet music.
4. Memorization: The performance must be memorized.
5. Costumes: Costumes are optional.
6. Instrument: The only instrument provided for performance will be a piano.

### Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Choice of Music	10	Selection of a suitable repertoire piece
Diction	25	Correct pronunciation and articulation

Interpretation	10	Expressive performance, phrasing, and adherence to historical style and tempo
Intonation	10	Accuracy of pitch
Stage Presence	10	Confidence, poise, and connection with the audience
Technique	10	Breathing, posture, rhythm, and accuracy
Tone Quality	25	Beauty of sound and vocal control

### Tips for Contestants

- **Choose Wisely:** Select a song that showcases your strengths and aligns with your vocal range and style.
- **Practice, Practice, Practice:** Consistent practice is key to mastering your piece.
- **Know Your Music:** Understand the historical context and stylistic nuances of your chosen song.
- **Master the Text:** Pay close attention to diction and pronunciation.
- **Connect with the Music:** Convey the emotions and story of the song through your performance.
- **Mind Your Body:** Maintain good posture and breath control.
- **Stage Presence Matters:** Project confidence and engage with the audience.
- **Embrace Feedback:** Use feedback from judges and coaches to improve your performance.
- **Enjoy the Experience:** Have fun and let your passion for music shine!