

2024 NATS Categories & Rep Requirements

AR Chapter Student Auditions – Classical Categories

| Category# (Corresponds with NSA/Region) | Category Name | Length of Study | Age Range and Limit | Minimum Time Limit | Repertoire Requirements |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|--|
| CL 3 | High School Classical – Treble | No Limit – All HS | 14-19 9 th -12 th grade | 8 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria. |
| CL 4 | High School Classical – TBB | No Limit – All HS | 14-19 9 th -12 th grade | 8 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria. |
| CL 5A | First Year Classical – Treble | 1 st year Post-HS | 20 | 10 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria. |
| CL 6A | First Year Classical – TBB | 1 st year Post-HS | 20 | 10 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria. |
| CL 5B | Second Year Classical – Treble | 2 nd year Post-HS | 22 | 10 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria. |
| CL 6B | Second Year Classical – TBB | 2 nd year Post-HS | 22 | 10 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One additional art song or aria. |
| CL 7A | Third Year Classical – Treble | 3 rd year Post-HS | 23 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented. |
| CL 8A | Third Year Classical – TBB | 3 rd year Post-HS | 23 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented. |
| CL 7B | Fourth/Fifth Year Classical – Treble | 4 th /5 th year Post-HS (undergrad) | 25 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented. |
| CL 8B | Fourth/Fifth Year Classical – TBB | 4 th /5 th year Post-HS (undergrad) | 25 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented. |
| CL 9 | Advanced Classical – Treble | 4+ years Post-HS (graduate) | 22-30 | 15 minutes | FIVE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One operatic aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented. |

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| CL 10 | Advanced Classical – TBB | 4+ years Post-HS (graduate) | 22-30 | 15 minutes | FIVE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English. One art song in a language other than English. One operatic aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented. |
| CL 11A | Adult Avocational Classical – Treble & TBB | No Limit, Non-College | 22+ | 12 minutes | THREE Contrasting Classical Selections. One Art Song in English. One Art Song in a Foreign Language. One additional Art Song or Aria. |
| CL 13A | Younger Student Adult Classical – Treble & TBB | 1-4 semesters (undergrad) | 21+ | 12 minutes | THREE Contrasting Classical Selections. One Art Song in English. One Art Song in a Foreign Language. One additional Art Song or Aria. |
| CL 13B | Older Student Adult Classical – Treble & TBB | 5-10 semesters (undergrad) | 24+ | 12 minutes | FOUR Contrasting Classical Selections. One Aria in the original language. One Art Song in English. One Art Song in a Foreign Language. One additional Art Song or Aria. |

Classical Competition Notes

1. "Aria" includes a solo selection from opera, oratorio, cantata, requiem, mass, operetta, zarzuela, or work titled "concert aria."
2. Selections from Purcell's semi-operas/masques will be considered songs.
3. Handel arias of any kind will be considered arias, even though he was a contemporary of many of the composers in the 24/26/28 Italian Songs and Arias collections.
4. Selections from 24/26/28 Italian Songs and Arias will be considered songs in upper and advanced categories: CL 7-8 A and B; CL 9-10 A and B; CL 13B. They can be considered songs or arias in lower categories: CL 3 and 4, CL 5-6 A and B.
5. English MUST BE THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE for the required English Art Song.
6. Arias must be presented in the original language unless performance practice dictates otherwise.
7. Published transpositions are permitted.
8. Selections must be performed from memory.
9. Students may enter more than one category (i.e., Classical Division and Spirituals. Repertoire may be "double-dipped" in the preliminary division. For example, one of the Spirituals may be used as an English Art Song in the CL division. However, if the student makes the finals in both the Classical and Spirituals divisions, the Spiritual may not be performed twice.
10. Winners in categories CL 11, 13A, and 13B do not go to nationals. There are no adult or avocational categories for the national level planned at this time.
11. In the NATS AR Chapter, we do not subdivide the HS CL categories into lower and upper high school. All HS trebles, grades 9-12, compete against each other, as do all HS TBB.

AR Chapter Student Auditions – Musical Theatre Categories

| Category# (Corresponds with NSA/Region) | Category Name | Length of Study | Age Range and Limit | Minimum Time Limit | Repertoire Requirements |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| MT 3 | High School MT – Treble | No Limit – All HS | 14-19 9 th -12 th grade | 8 minutes | THREE contrasting musical theatre selections from musicals including stage musicals, film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles, or stand-alone MT songs. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or stand-alone MT song. |
| MT 4 | High School MT – TBB | No Limit – All HS | 14-19 9 th -12 th grade | 8 minutes | THREE contrasting musical theatre selections from musicals including stage musicals, film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles, or stand-alone MT songs. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or stand-alone MT song. |
| MT 5 | Lower MT – Treble | 0-2 years Post-HS | 22 | 10 minutes | THREE contrasting musical theatre selections from musicals including stage musicals, film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles, or stand-alone MT songs. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or stand-alone MT song. |
| MT 6 | Lower MT – TBB | 0-2 years Post-HS | 22 | 10 minutes | THREE contrasting musical theatre selections from musicals including stage musicals, film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles, or stand-alone MT songs. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or stand-alone MT song. |
| MT 7 | Upper MT – Treble | 3-5 years Post-HS (undergrad) | 25 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting musical theatre selections from musicals including stage musicals, film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles, or stand-alone MT songs. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or stand-alone MT song. |
| MT 8 | Upper MT – TBB | 3-5 years Post-HS (undergrad) | 25 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting musical theatre selections from musicals including stage musicals, film musicals, revues, operettas, musical theatre song cycles, or stand-alone MT songs. Only one selection may be chosen from an operetta or stand-alone MT song. |
| MT 9 | Advanced MT – Treble | 4+ years Post-HS (graduate) | 30 | 15 minutes | FOUR 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 an operetta or musical theatre song literature. |
| MT 10 | Advanced MT – TBB | 4+ years Post-HS (graduate) | 30 | 15 minutes | FOUR 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 an operetta or musical theatre song literature. |
| MT 11 | Adult Avocational – Treble & TBB | No Limit | 18+ | 10-12 minutes | 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. |

Musical Theatre Competition Notes

1. Selections must be performed from memory.
2. Published transpositions are permitted.
3. Singers are expected to select repertoire from a wide variety of styles.
4. Selections should be performed in the original language unless a translation is warranted by performance practice.

5. Appropriate selections may be “double-dipped” in the preliminary rounds if a student is registered in both the CL and MT competitions. For example, Lonely House from *Street Scene* can be used as both an aria and MT song. However, if the student is a finalist in both categories, the song cannot be used for both.
6. In the NATS AR Chapter, we do not subdivide the HS MT categories into lower and upper high school. All HS trebles, grades 9-12, compete against each other, as do all HS TBB.

AR Chapter Student Auditions – Commercial Music Categories

| Category# (Corresponds with NSA/Region) | Category Name | Length of Study | Age Range and Limit | Minimum Time Limit | Repertoire Requirements |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| CM 3 | High School MT – Treble & TBB | No Limit – All HS | 14-19 9 th -12 th grade | 8 minutes | THREE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): At least one ballad and one up tempo included in 3 selections. 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 instrumentalist. |
| CM 5 | Lower MT – Treble & TBB | 0-2 years Post-HS | 22 | 10 minutes | 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 a live collaborative instrumentalist. |
| CM 7 | Upper MT – Treble & TBB | 3-5 years Post-HS (undergrad) | 25 | 12 minutes | FOUR contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): Up to 2 songs may be original songs, instead of a cover. Up to 2 songs may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative instrumentalist. |
| CM 9 | Advanced MT – Treble & TBB | 4+ years Post-HS (graduate) | 30 | 15 minutes | FIVE contrasting full songs performed in a CM style(s): Up to 3 songs may be original songs, instead of a cover. Up to 2 songs may be self-accompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative instrumentalist. |
| CM 11 | Adult Avocational MT – Treble & TBB | No Limit | 18+ | 10 minutes | 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 pianist. |
| CM 13 | Adult Non- Traditional – Treble & TBB | No Limit | 18+ | 10- minutes | 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 pianist. |

Please see the [NSA 2023-2024 Categories of Entry](#) for additional information regarding terminology.

AR Chapter Student Auditions – Hall Johnson Competition

Held during Chapter Conferences in even-numbered years

| Category# (Corresponds with NSA/Region) | Category Name | Length of Study | Age Range and Limit | Minimum Time Limit | Repertoire Requirements |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| HJ 7 | Hall Johnson Competition – All Voices | Post-HS (undergrad) | 17-23 | 10-12 minutes | THREE contrasting selections from approved Hall Johnson Spirituals Repertoire. See note below. |

Hall Johnson Competition Notes

1. Guidelines and approved repertoire can be found here:
https://www.nats.org/Hall_Johnson_Spirituals_Competition.html
2. ALL students are encouraged to audition, regardless of race/ethnicity
3. Students may use Hall Johnson songs as English Art Song selection, but if the student makes the finals in both the Classical and Hall Johnson competitions, the Hall Johnson song may only be used once.

AR Chapter NATS Student Auditions – American Negro Spirituals Competition

Held during Chapter Conferences in odd-numbered years

| Category# (Corresponds with NSA/Region) | Category Name | Length of Study | Age Range and Limit | Minimum Time Limit | Repertoire Requirements |
|--|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|
| AS 3 | High School American Negro Spiritual – All Voices | No Limit; All HS | 14-19 | 8 minutes | THREE Spirituals contrasting by composer, tempi, and text |
| AS 5 | Post-HS American Negro Spiritual – All Voices | Post-HS (undergrad and graduate) | 18-30 | 12 minutes | FOUR Spirituals contrasting by composer, tempi, and text |

American Negro Spirituals Competition Notes

1. National is encouraging ALL students to audition in the Spirituals competition, regardless of race/ethnicity. Please keep this in mind as you prepare your students for NATS this year.
2. Students may use spirituals as an English Art Song selection, in the preliminary round. However, if the student makes the finals in both the Classical and AS competitions, the Spiritual may only be used in one category. In other words, no “double-dipping” in the Finals.
3. The categories for the American Negro Spiritual Competition are combined - Treble and TBB Voices. There are two categories for the AR state chapter auditions: AS 3 - High School Treble and TBB; and AS 5 - Post-HS/College (undergraduate and graduate) Treble and TBB.
4. Here is the website that includes repertoire and competition guidelines. Please read it carefully:
https://www.nats.org/American_Negro_Spiritual_Competition.html