

# **DFW NATS**

# **Student Auditions**

**Spring 2024**

Tarleton State University

Fri. March 15th-Sat. March 16th

**Casey Carter & Susan Hanlon Ferrer**  
**Audition Chairs**

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# Schedule

Registration will open February 19th  
Registration will close February 26th

Friday March 15th Commercial Music & Musical Theatre Categories

1:00pm Judges Meeting

2:00pm Preliminaries Begin

TBD Finalists Announced

TBD Finals Begin

That evening Awards Presented

Saturday March 16th Classical Categories

8:30am Judges Meeting

9:30am Preliminaries Begin

TBD Finalists Announced

TBD Finals Begin

TBD Jennifer Glidden Performer of the Year Competition

That evening Awards Presented

# Registration Fees 2024

- 1** Audition Registration Teacher Fee: \$20 per teacher
- 2** Audition Registration Student Entry Fee: \$25 per student, per category.

**Registration will open February 19th and will close February 26th, 2024.**

# Eligibility & Participation

- The student's teacher must be a NATS member in good standing in the DFW Chapter
- The student must meet the requirements of classification for a specific category
- If the student has studied with the teacher for less than 8 months, the teacher must provide the name of the former teacher (unless there has been no previous training)
- If the student has multiple voice teachers (concurrent or supplemental), the teacher must provide the name of additional teachers.

## NOTE:

- It is unethical to enter a student of another teacher in the Student Auditions. Any students discovered to be so entered will be disqualified immediately.

# Eligibility & Participation

Registration Closes February 26, 2024 at 5pm

All registration (complete information, including repertoire) must be completed by this point and all fees paid.

# Eligibility & Participation

## **Number of student entrants:**

Each teacher may enter a maximum of 10 students per day. (Musical Theatre/Commercial or Classical)

If a teacher wishes to enter more than 10 students on one day, they need to provide an additional proxy (must be approved by Auditions Chairs in advance)

(Maximum possible is 20 students total per day)

# Participation

## Previous Winners

Previous First Place Winners are NOT eligible to enter the classification in which they won. However, they are permitted to enter the next higher classification. Assuming they meet all other eligibility requirements, there are THREE exceptions to this rule:

1. Previous First Place winners of categories 3A, 4A, 3B & 4B (Lower and Upper High School Categories.) and Youth Categories
2. Previous First Place winners of categories 7B or 8B (Fourth/Fifth Year) may re-enter those categories during their fifth year of undergraduate study.
3. Previous First Place winners of categories 9 or 10 (Advanced) may re-enter those categories.
4. Adult categories.



# Attendance

The Student Auditions are offered only to students of those members who attend the conference. Remember that if you enter students in the auditions, you **MUST** attend the day of the conference that you are entering students, attend the judges meeting the day you are entering students, and be available for judging assignments throughout the day/evening.

The judges meetings will be:

Friday, March 15th 1:00pm for Commercial Music & Musical Theatre Categories

Saturday, March 16th 8:30am for Classical Categories

The only exceptions to this requirement are the following:

1. The member is unable to attend due to a life-threatening or degenerative illness.
2. The member is receiving extensive short-term medical treatment due to a medical emergency.

Members receiving a medical exemption from attending the conference are still responsible for all conference fees.

# Attendance

NEW REQUIREMENT FOR 2024:

NATS is requiring a Minor Chaperone Form to allow permission for participation. After registration closes, a form will be requested of all participants under the age of 18.

Every singer under the age of 18 **MUST** be with a chaperone for the entire NATS event.



National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)  
National Student Auditions (NSA)

## Permission for Participation of a Minor in NATS Live Events

**STUDENT'S FULL LEGAL NAME**

**ADULT CHAPERONE NAME**

*the chaperone designated here may be a parent/guardian, but may not be a NATS teacher*

**CHAPERONE'S CELL PHONE**

As the parent and/or legal guardian of the above named student, I give my permission for the adult chaperone stated above to bear all legal, health, and safety responsibilities for the welfare of this student during their participation in NATS events, including, but not limited to, all NATS Student Auditions at the Chapter, Region, and National level occurring in the 2023-2024 student audition cycle at locations specified by NATS. I hereby release, defend, acquit and forever discharge NATS, its officers, members, employees, and event venues from any and all claims, demands, rights, promises, damages and liabilities arising out of or in connection with this student's participation in and/or attendance at NATS events in the calendar years 2023-2024.

**The chaperone will take responsibility for this student's and their chaperone's appropriate and respectful behavior, including:**

- attend scheduled events on time, in the correct location, and with all required materials
- cause no disruption of NATS events, including no extraneous noise immediately outside or inside audition, announcement, and/or event spaces
- refrain from the use of profanity and/or derogatory/hurtful remarks toward other students, adjudicators, instrumentalists, or other event personnel
- respect the authority of all individuals helping to make each event run smoothly
- abstain from all use of tobacco, drugs, and/or alcohol, which are strictly prohibited
- follow NATS rules for cell phone use at NSA events: 1. Silence cell phones during auditions, announcements, and other events in progress. 2. Cell phones will be permitted OUTSIDE event venues and before and/or after scheduled events. 3. Cell phones must be out of sight during events (screens dark on silent mode, with the exceptions of when silenced phones video or audio record any audition or announcement not being professionally filmed by a NATS-contracted videographer and of course, medical emergencies. These rules will be strictly enforced. Anyone who does not abide by these rules will have their phones confiscated.

*Signature of Chaperone*

*Printed Name of Parent/Guardian*

*Parent/Guardian cell phone*

*Signature of Parent/Guardian*

*Date of signature*

**ALL FIELDS MUST BE FILLED.**

# National Guidelines

*All National Guidelines, including video explanations and templates of judging forms, are available at:  
<https://www.nats.org/nsaresources.html>*

# Registration

*Registration is through AuditionNow, accessed through the Member Home page of the NATS website:*

*[www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org)*

*Make sure your NATS membership is in good standing (dues paid) at a minimum several days before registration is set to close. It takes 24-48 hours to process dues and have that reflected on the registration website, to allow you to register.*

## **For Registration...**

Teachers have access to a fillable PDF student information sheet that they can send to all of their students to complete and return, so that teacher will have all of the information they will need prior to completing the students' registrations.

[https://www.nats.org/\\_Library/2023\\_24\\_NSA\\_Docs/Student\\_Pre-Registration\\_Form\\_9-5-23.pdf](https://www.nats.org/_Library/2023_24_NSA_Docs/Student_Pre-Registration_Form_9-5-23.pdf)

This form was attached to the email with the zoom link for this meeting!

# For Registration...

## School/Studio Names:

If your studio name is not on AuditionNow in the list,  
email [dfwchapternats@gmail.com](mailto:dfwchapternats@gmail.com)

# Categories

All ages and grade level should be determined by age/grade for September of the 2023-2024 school year:

## **Musical Theatre:**

*Children Musical Theatre- Age 11 & under or below 6th grade*

*Youth Musical Theatre- Ages 11-14 or 6th-8th grade*

*Lower HS Treble & Tbb- Ages 14-16 or 9th & 10th grades*

*Upper HS Treble & Tbb- Ages 16-19 or 11th & 12th grades*

*Lower Post Highschool Treble & Tbb- Age limit 22 & 1-2 years post HS*

*Upper Post Highschool Treble & Tbb- Age limit 25 & 3-5 years post HS*

*Advanced Treble & Tbb- Age limit 30 & 4+ years post HS*

*Adult Treble & Tbb- Age is 18+ & No limit of study*



# Categories

All ages and grade level should be determined by age/grade for September of the 2023-2024 school year:

## Commercial Music

*Children Commercial Music- Age 11 & under or below 6th grade*

*Youth Commercial Music- Ages 11-14 or 6th-8th grade*

*Lower HS Treble & Tbb- Ages 14-16 or 9th & 10th grades*

*Upper HS Treble & Tbb- Ages 16-19 or 11th & 12th grades*

*Lower Post Highschool Treble & Tbb- Age limit 22 & 1-2 years post HS*

*Upper Post Highschool Treble & Tbb- Age limit 25 & 3-5 years post HS*

*Advanced Treble & Tbb- Age limit 30 & 4+ years post HS*

*Adult Treble & Tbb- Age is 18+ & No limit of study*

# Categories

All ages and grade level should be determined by age/grade for September of the 2023-2024 school year:

## Classical

*Children Classical- Age 11 & under or below 6th grade*

*Youth Classical- Ages 11-14 or 6th-8th grade*

*Lower HS Treble & Tbb- Ages 14-16 or 9th & 10th grades*

*Upper HS Treble & Tbb- Ages 16-19 or 11th & 12th grades*

*Lower Post Highschool Treble & Tbb- Age limit 22 & 1-2 years post HS*

*Upper Post Highschool Treble & Tbb- Age limit 25 & 3-5 years post HS*

*Advanced Treble & Tbb- Age limit 30 & 4+ years post HS*

*Adult Treble & Tbb- Age is 18+ & No limit of study*

# Repertoire- Children's Categories (6 minutes)

For additional specifics, please consult the NSA Resources guide

**Children Classical-** *TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections from classical repertoire.*

**Children Musical Theatre-** *TWO contrasting age-appropriate 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.*

**Children Commercial Music-** *TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections performed in a CM style(s).*

# Repertoire- Youth Categories (6 minutes)

For additional specifics, please consult the NSA Resources guide

**Youth Classical-** *TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections from classical repertoire.*

**Youth Musical Theatre-** *TWO contrasting age-appropriate 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.*

**Youth Commercial Music-** *TWO contrasting age-appropriate selections performed in a CM style(s).*

# Repertoire- Highschool Categories (8 minutes)

**HS Classical-** *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.

**HS Musical Theatre-** *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 an operetta or MT song literature.

**HS Commercial Music-** *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 selfaccompanied on an acoustic instrument, instead of performing with an instrumental track or a live collaborative instrumentalist.

# Repertoire- Lower Post HS Categories (10 min)

**Lower Post HS Classical-** *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.

**Lower Post HS Musical Theatre-** *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 an operetta or MT song literature.

**Lower Post HS Commercial Music-** *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.

# Repertoire- Upper Post HS Categories (12 min)

**Upper Post HS Classical-** *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.

**Upper Post HS Musical Theatre-** *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 MT song literature.

**Upper Post HS Commercial Music-** *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.

# Repertoire- Advanced Categories (15 min)

**Advanced Classical**- FIVE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English.\* One art song in a language other than English. One opera aria. One oratorio/cantata aria. †† One additional selection from the classical repertoire. At least three languages must be represented.

**Advanced Musical Theatre**- 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.

**Advanced Commercial Music**- 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.



## **Repertoire- Adult Avocational & Non Traditional Student Categories (10 min)**

**Adult Classical-** *THREE contrasting selections from classical repertoire: One art song in English.\* One art song in language other than English. One additional art song or aria.*

**Adult Musical Theatre-** *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.*

**Adult Commercial Music-** *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.*

# Categories & Repertoire

Please take time to carefully review ALL category and repertoire requirements!

Common issues that result in incorrect entries include:

- Making sure you know if a classical art song is part of a larger work
- Knowing if MT material is song literature or part of a larger body of work
- Making sure you have the correct number of languages represented for Classical Categories.
- Classical Singers must have an art song in English and English **MUST** be the original language of the selection.
- The repertoire found in the 24/26/28 Italian Art Songs and Arias collections may be counted as an aria or an art song in the high school and lower college classical categories. For the singers in the upper college categories and beyond, these pieces may count as an art song **ONLY**, regardless of origin.



# Categories & Repertoire

## Classical:

Judicious cuts in piano introductions, piano interludes, piano music after the vocal solo is completed as well as internal cuts of opera arias are allowed as is common performance practice. Cuts of verse or verses of selections are not allowed. In the case of strophic pieces, all verses should remain that are traditionally included.

## Musical Theatre:

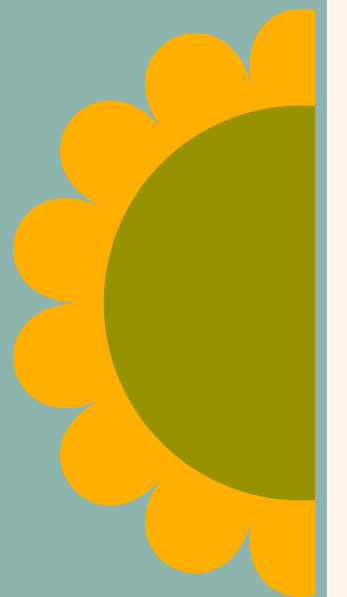
As found in common professional performance practice:

- Judicious cuts in piano introductions, piano interludes, piano music after the vocal solo is completed, and dance breaks in musical theatre selections are allowed.
- In the case of numerous verses, some verses may be cut.

\*please consult auditions chairs

## Commercial Music:

An entire song. No internal cuts of vocals; intros and outros may be abbreviated to accommodate audition's time limits; instrumental breaks as well as repeat and fade tags may be cut, abbreviated, or kept to accommodate the audition's time limits.

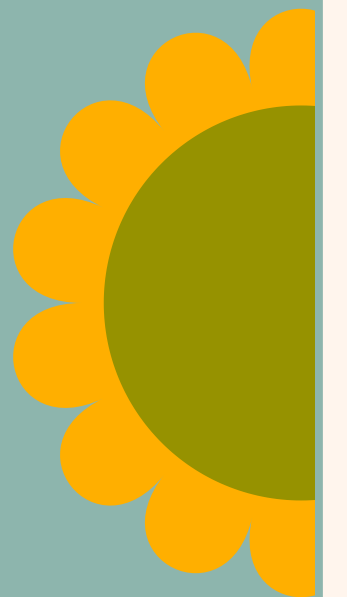


# Categories & Repertoire

If you have a question about repertoire, please reach out to:

[dfwchapternats@gmail.com](mailto:dfwchapternats@gmail.com)

After the Registration Period closes,  
any repertoire change request will utilize a Google Form.  
Changes will not be accepted after Friday, March 8th.



# Categories & Repertoire

## Recent Changes:

**MEMORIZATION:** All repertoire must be performed from memory with the exception of Oratorio, Mass, Requiem, and Cantata Arias.

Singers may hold music scores for these types of arias as is traditional performance practice.

**AGE LIMIT** is now determined by the age of the entered student on September 1, 2023, the first day of each audition cycle.

# Pianists

- Pianists may only play for a total of 10 student entries per day.
- This means you may have one pianist per 10 entries on Friday and per 10 entries on Saturday.
- This does not include the Jennifer Glidden Performer of the Year Award.

## Important Category Information:

Musical Theatre & Classical Categories must have live pianist for auditions. Commercial Music may have live pianist, live guitarist, or tracks. Tracks may have any instrumentation but no backing vocals.



# Copyright Policy

As a result of recent court rulings, the primary responsibility for following copyright law is being transferred from NATS to teachers, singers, and pianists. With our new copyright policy and teacher/student/pianist copyright acknowledgements, it is NO LONGER NECESSARY for administrators to check for original scores at NATS events.

Furthermore, the use of iPads and tablets as musical scores for collaborative pianists during all levels of NATS auditions has been approved, and they are held to the same standards of copyright as any other musical score used for auditions.

NATS still encourages its members, their students, accompanists and the general population to become educated about, and to comply with, all applicable copyright laws. Reproduction of a copyrighted work constitutes copyright infringement unless a license to reproduce such work has been obtained, the use is considered fair use, the work is in the public domain, or a valid exception to copyright infringement exists.

# Copyright Policy

NATS requires students, teachers and other participants in NATS affiliated events, auditions and competitions to affirm compliance with the NATS Copyright Policy, and to use only authorized reproductions of copyrighted works. NATS members, singers, and pianists will need to affirm that they will only use legal copies of music during NATS events as part of the registration process. Entrants will not be able to compete until they and their pianist complete this copyright acknowledgment.

As you register, please review the updated NATS Copyright Laws to which we must adhere. For additional information please refer to the NATS Copyright Resource Center.



# Copyright Policy

Students and collaborative pianists must sign the NATS Copyright policy document. It might come from AuditionNow, or it will come via a Google Form, as it did at Texoma.

- o ANY student who has not signed the acknowledgement by 5:00 PM on Friday, 8 March, will be taken out of the competitive categories and will sing for COMMENTS ONLY.
- o The student or students of a Collaborative Pianist who fails to sign the acknowledgement by 5:00 PM on Friday, 8 March, will also be moved from the competitive categories and will sing for COMMENTS ONLY.
- o Any MINOR Students whose teacher does not submit a completed Chaperone Form by 5:00 PM on Friday, 8 March, which includes ALL portions of the document are filled out with the requisite numbers, names, and signature, will NOT be allowed to sing.

# Judging

## Preliminary Round Judging:

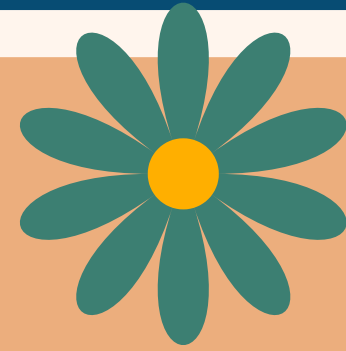
During the preliminary round ONLY, the judges will write constructive comments on their scoring sheets. These sheets will be returned to the singers in order that the singers may benefit from the written comments.

All singers participating in the auditions should be rated according to the following levels during the preliminary round (please review specifics and adjust to be applicable for age/grade categories):

90 – 100 “Mastering”

80 – 89 “Advancing”

70 – 79 “Developing”



# Special Awards

## Classical Awards:

Lanelle Blanton Stevenson Award- Outstanding High School Treble Vocalist

Joanne Clowe Award- Outstanding High School TBB Vocalist

Betty Utter Award- Outstanding Lower College/Independent Studio College Vocalist

James Mckinney Award- Outstanding Upper College/Independent Studio College Vocalist

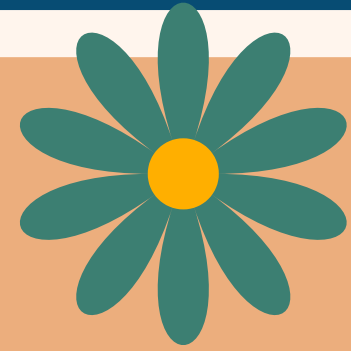
## Musical Theatre Awards:

Louise Lerch Award- Outstanding HS Musical Theatre Treble Vocalist

Louise Lerch Award- Outstanding HS Musical Theatre TBB Vocalist

Anne Weeks Jackson- Outstanding Collegiate/Independent Studio Musical Theatre Treble Vocalist

Anne Weeks Jackson- Outstanding Collegiate/Independent Studio Musical Theatre TBB Vocalist



# Special Awards

**Commercial Singer Award:** This new category award will be available to the finalist selected by the judging panel. There is no age or grade requirement for this award.

**Jennifer Glidden Performer of the year:** Students can choose to compete if they earn ranking as a finalist in two of the three categories. (One of which must be classical)

—The audition runs in a NATSAA or SOTY style, allowing singers to perform 12 minutes each, beginning with a song of their choice.

—Then next song(s) is chosen by the panel from the singers repertoire lists (must include rep from both lists)

—The singer is stopped at 12-minutes by the timekeeper.

—After all singers have finished, the judges rank the finalists, and a winner is named.

# Registration Reminders

*Registration is through AuditionNow, accessed through the Member Home page of the NATS website:*

*[www.nats.org](http://www.nats.org)*

*Please have the NSA Pre-Registration Form for each of your students to help you with having all needed information for registration.*

*Registration is February 19-February 26*



## **Contact Info**

**Casey Carter, Auditions Chair**  
**214-681-5278**

**Susan Hanlon Ferrer, Auditions Chair**  
**214-564-8051**

**DFW Nats general email:**  
**[dfwchapternats@gmail.com](mailto:dfwchapternats@gmail.com)**

**\*please allow 24 hours for response time**