



INSPIRING FUTURE
GENERATIONS OF SINGERS

Schmidt Vocal Competition - Modified Virtual Submission Rules for Singers

Due to Covid-19 (Coronavirus), we are cancelling our live, in-person competitions at all locations through June 21, 2020. **However, Schmidt Vocal Arts still wants to provide an opportunity for aspiring singers to be able to showcase their talent.**

As a result, Schmidt Vocal Arts will be hosting an alternate competition model for the remaining 2020 Spring Season (and cancelled PA and NC competitions), in which singers will submit videos of their performances for review by our judging panel.

How does the modified competition work?

Eligibility rules remain the same:

- Singers must be high school sophomores, juniors, or seniors who are recommended by their choral directors or vocal teachers.
- Singers are allowed to enter only one Schmidt Vocal Competition per competition season, whether live or modified model.
- To be eligible for cash awards, contestants must have a United States Social Security Number and must be United States citizens, Green Card holders, or have DACA approved status.
- Participants are required to pay a non-refundable registration fee after submitting an application.
- Applications will be considered complete when the fee, both parts of the application form, and teacher recommendation have been received.

What do I need to do if I have already registered for a live competition?

- All singers who have completed their applications online for the SVA competitions in PA, NC, CA, IN, MN, MA, WA, IL and DC before March 23, 2020 and have paid their application fee are eligible to compete in the virtual submission model without an additional application.
- SVA will contact you to confirm your participation. If a previously registered singer chooses not to participate under the virtual submission model, they will be refunded their application fee. Application fees for the virtual submission model submitted after March 23, 2020 are non-refundable.
- Singers will be competing against the other singers who have registered for their competition location and who agreed to participate in the virtual submission model (i.e. the CA competition singers will compete against other registered CA singers).
- Each virtual submission model competition cohort will be limited to 30 singers.
- If there are fewer than 30 singers for any cohort, SVA will open remaining slots to other singers, including singers on competition wait lists.
- If there are fewer than 15 singers, SVA may combine two location cohorts.

What do I need to do if I have not already registered for a live competition?

- Singers who have not already registered for the live competitions may still register for the modified virtual submission if there is room in a cohort. Geography does not matter.
- The eligibility rules listed above still apply.
- There is a maximum number of 30 singers in each cohort.
- If there are fewer than 15 singers, we may combine two location cohorts.
- All application fees for the virtual submission model are non-refundable.
- Singers can apply via our website: www.schmidtvocalarts.org

What next?

- Once the singer is registered and confirmed in a cohort, each singer will be provided with a unique link to upload their performance videos into a private folder.
 - All submissions must be received by the corresponding deadlines.
 - Each singer must upload a copy/scan of their school ID (with picture) and SVA media consent form to their folder.
 - There is one "round" of competition under this model.
 - After successful submission, there will be a period of adjudication.
 - SVA will host a Facebook Live Awards Ceremony for each location cohort!
 - If you are an award winner, SVA will contact you to fill out payment paperwork.
 - All submissions must be received by the corresponding deadlines.
(see deadline PDF)
-

What are the Video Submission Requirements?

- Each singer is required to submit performances of two musical compositions from the standard “classical” vocal literature representing different periods and styles; one selection may be from Broadway theater repertoire. (Please note: the virtual submission model has two instead of the normally required three pieces required)
 - Combined, both performance videos should total no more than a maximum of seven (7) minutes in length.
 - Singers must perform with piano accompaniment, but it may be either a live piano or a recorded track, unless the chosen piece is meant to be performed without accompaniment (i.e. “The Singer” by Michael Head). Please see “accompaniment options” on our website.
 - Each video must only include the name of the singer and the title/composer of the selections, the singer may not include any other information (i.e. age or year in school) or narration.
 - Singers may use pieces that have been videotaped previously, as long as the recording was made within the past six months. If your previously recorded video does not have the introduction requirements listed above, please ensure you are using our standardized file naming.
 - Video files should use the standard file name: Last Name_First Name_Title of Song
 - Your video should represent, as closely as possible, what a listener would hear when you sing during a live performance with the piece performed in one take from start to finish. No mixing, voice amplification, sound enhancement, audio dubbing, or splicing of multiple “takes” together is allowed. SVA reserves the right to disqualify, at its sole discretion, any entries where judges believe the video has been enhanced in any way.
 - We recognize that many singers will use a smart phone or digital recording device to create videos for this modified competition model – that’s okay! Simply do your best to make the sound and picture clear. We do not expect participants to seek out video recording with professional equipment or within a professional recording studio (in fact, we would discourage it). We do suggest that you review our “Tips for creating a good video submission” located on our website.
 - Videos should be in a .mp4, .mov, or .avi format. Videos submitted in an unacceptable format and/or exceeding the time limit will be disqualified.
 - SVA is not responsible for late or unsuccessful attempts to upload videos.
 - Incomplete, corrupted, untimely, or unintelligible videos will be disqualified.
 - If for any reason a singer’s entry is confirmed to have been erroneously deleted, lost, or otherwise corrupted, singer’s sole remedy is to apply for next year’s competition, if eligible.
 - SVA reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, which entries have satisfied the entry requirements.
 - By entering, each singer represents and warrants that his/her entry is his/her own performance.
-

What has not changed in this modified format?

- Schmidt Vocal Arts is committed to supporting aspiring young singers by offering an educational and inspiring event.
- Cash awards and scholarships will still be offered at each location cohort including:
 - First Place (\$2,500), Second Place (\$2,000), and Third Place (\$1,500)
 - Finalists (\$250) (*Please note there will be no final round, although adjudicators will choose singers for these awards)
 - Most Promising Sophomore (\$100)
 - Encouragement Awards (\$100)
 - Host Institution Matching Scholarship - \$4,000 (\$1,000/year) to attend the host institution of your location cohort (open to first, second, and third place)
- Need-based college scholarships (open to first, second, and third place)
- Each cohort will be judged by adjudicators from the Schmidt Vocal Artist Network.
- Singers will receive written feedback from the adjudicators following the competition.
- Singers will become a part of the Schmidt Vocal Arts alumni network, making them eligible for alumni grants and programs.

Questions ?

**Call our office at 513-783-2583
or email info@schmidtvocalarts.org**