

SCNATS Virtual Student Auditions Video Adjudication – Important Information and Reminders

Important Points for Judges

In addition to all of the rules regarding judging posted on the national website

<https://www.nats.org/nsaresources.html>, here are some key points to keep in mind when you are evaluating our students.

- **Be Positive and Encouraging!**
 - Be gracious with technical and ensemble difficulties.
 - Not everyone was able to have the best set up for their recordings.
 - Listen for the singing and not the ensemble. Some of them may be working with a accompaniment tracks. This should not affect their scores.
 - Remember we have made specific exceptions this year for these difficulties.
 - Don't be distracted by suboptimal accompaniment tracks, bad camera angles, etc.
 - If you feel that a student has violated a rule or guideline that may disqualify them, please contact me ASAP and do not comment on it in your adjudication. Keep your focus on the student, and let me handle the rest.
 - Your scores should reflect the comments and the sliding scale indications. For example, if you docked their score for issues related to breathing, your comments should reflect that.
 - Consider the age level and maturity of the singer and score accordingly.
 - This is especially important for High School students. Do not expect them to be at the same level of maturity and repertoire as a college student.
 - Average scores of 90 and above (or 2 out of 3 scores of 90 and above) will advance to the regional level. Anything below an 80 is unnecessary at this level. Assume that students are an 85 before beginning, and then, adjust by what you hear/see.
 - Be constructive, not destructive in your comments.
 - Stick to the singing.
 - Please ignore any discrepancy in the format of the title or description of their videos. Please don't comment on their slate (introduction or lack thereof) or camera angles. **NO SINGER** should be penalized for not doing the slate, not showing their full body, or not having the correct format for the title/description in their videos. These are new rules and if the student moves to the region level, it will be addressed again.
 - Comments about the repertoire are not needed.
 - Comments on dress, make-up, and fashion are not needed.
 - If breath is affected by shoe height, you can focus on breath issues and recommend trying to find the best footwear to facilitate this technical issue.
- **Follow Directions**
 - Be sure to stick to the timing for the category. If it is an 8-minute category, watch the * indicated piece first and in its entirety. Then, move on to the next piece of your choice. You should not listen to all pieces in their entirety unless in falls within the time limit for that category.
 - ****TIP** - keep two screens open side-by-side so that you can make comments and watch the audition simultaneously as we do in our in-person auditions.
 - Do not discuss with your fellow judges. Once I look at the scores, I may contact a judge if the scores are really far apart.
 - Be sure to complete ALL adjudications. Mark a score on every sheet and click the submit button each time. The system does allow you to start a category, save, and come back to finish. However, once you have submitted for the entire category, it is complete.
 - Turn your materials in on time or early.
 - No solicitations to students or teachers to recruit for your school, studio, or business is allowed.
 - Keep results and information confidential.
- **When in Doubt, Score Anyway**
 - **If you think a student may be disqualified for any reasons, score the student anyway as if there is no issue.**
 - Make a note of your concern and bring it to my attention after you have scored the categories. shillaroche@mozart.sc.edu, (803) 467-1069 cell.
 - There are a few students that are in the system that are auditioning for comments only. Just give comments and don't worry about the score if that part is blocked.