

YAA 2021 COMPETITION AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

All video submissions must be the work of the applicant, or by an entity producing the video at the behest of said applicant. All videos must be unaltered, with no edits during the audition performance. No audio or visual enhancements of the video (i.e. special video effects, enhanced equalization of the sound) will be permitted. To ensure that all submissions are “one-take” and not edited, all video submissions will have a clock visible in the video recording.

Submissions may be made electronically (preferred) or by hard copy (DVD). An electronic copy of the sheet music for each piece must be included with each submission. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

All electronic submission materials only should be sent to gaithersburgyaa@gmail.com

Any questions about the competition, including where to send a DVD audition recording should be sent to marc.wright@gaitersburgmd.gov

1) The video must feature two parts;

a) A one-minute introduction, in which you record yourself giving the following information:

Your name

Your instrument (i.e. flute, trumpet, guitar). Voice applicants should include your voice type (soprano, mezzo, tenor)

Your current music teacher

Your current school and grade level

Your current age

One fact that you want the faculty to know about you that they cannot learn from your application materials (e.g. my violin is a lost Pietro Guarneri violin; my father was my first music teacher, etc.)

b) Your audition. The audition performance should be a maximum of ten minutes, completed without edits or breaks. No camera movement is desired such as zooms or pans. A static shot, which shows all of you as you perform is the best and simplest.

2) Produce your video to the best possible technical quality you can. A good quality recording made at home with a quality video camera, or smartphone will be fine. If you have to make a choice, emphasize the sound quality of your audition over the video quality. While the jurors will need to see you performing, it is absolutely necessary that they can hear you performing clearly, without any interference.

The Technical Specifications of the Recording

For the Audio tracks

Audio codec: AAC

Sample Rate: 44.100 KHZ

For the audition, an Audio bitrate minimum of 128 kbps VBR (Variable Bit Rate)

For the performance an Audio bitrate minimum of 128kbps VBR; a 320 kbps CBR (Constant Bit Rate) is preferred

A monophonic recording is acceptable for the audition; a stereophonic recording is preferred for the performance.

For the Video track

Video codec: H.264 (.mp4)

Video Frame Rate: Native (No less than 23.98 FPS)

Video Bit Rate: At least 50mb/s

For auditions, an image size of 640X480 is the minimum, with a 4:3 aspect ratio (Standard Definition)

For performance; an image size of 1280x720 with a 16:9 aspect ratio is the minimum (High Definition), with a 1920x1080 size preferred, with a 16:9 aspect ratio

File Labeling

Your file must be named as per below;

Yourname_PerformancePieceTitle_Instrument.mp4

(First name last name, note the lack of spacing between names)

Example: JohnSmith_Maryhadalittlelamb_Bagpipe.mp4

No spaces and/or special characters allowed (: ! # , @ \$ % ? " ')

No accent marks or unique characters can be used for the file name (i.e. Cyrillic, Mandarin, Arabic).

Example (incorrect): Marie-Désiré Martin-Beaulieu_Céphale_voice.mp4

Example (correct): Marie-DesireMartin-Beaulieu_Cephale_voice.mp4

Example (incorrect): 谭盾_DewDropFalls_piano.mp4

Example (correct): Tan Dun_DewDropFalls_piano.mp4

Example (incorrect): عمرو دياب_Masr A'let_voice.mp4

Example (correct); Amr Diab_Egypt Said_voice.mp4

Winners will have their names and the names of their performance pieces listed in their preferred character alphabet.