

**Talent Academy 2018**  
**Preparation Notes and Checklist for Visual Arts Applicants**  
**International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP)**  
**DSA-JC**

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**TALENT ACADEMY 2018**  
**Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Visual Arts (for all applicants)**  
**International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP)**  
**DSA-JC Applicants**

SOTA offers pupils specializing in Visual Arts the opportunity to develop deep knowledge and understanding in the techniques, theory, and history of visual arts. Pupils will develop analytical and critical abilities as they learn to investigate, annotate, and document their ideas and processes, in art making.

SOTA offers the IB Career-related Programme (IBCP) in Year 5 and 6. IBCP students engage with a challenging programme of study that imparts transferable and lifelong skills in applied knowledge, critical thinking, communication, and cross-cultural engagement to prepare them for pathways as professional artists.

Applicants who demonstrated talent or potential in areas such as lens-based work, like media arts or photography, 2-dimensional (2D) work, like drawing and painting, or 3-dimensional (3D) work, like sculpture and design, or Design-related projects etc., may apply for our Talent Academy (TA).

**What to Submit for Visual Arts Portfolio**

All applicants are required to submit the following for their Visual Arts portfolio submission via the TA Portal:

1. Completed Artworks Portfolio
2. Sketchbook Pages
3. 800-word, typewritten essay
4. Relevant Visual Arts credentials (optional)

Item	Description
Completed Artworks Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>8 to 10</b> artworks completed within the last 3 years only. These may include artworks done in 2018</li> <li>• <u>Artworks that demonstrate:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A range of technical competencies and considerations</li> <li>b. Diversity of conceptual approaches, considerations, and development</li> <li>c. A combination of selected works done in school and at home during applicant's own time is recommended</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p><u>Each artwork should be clearly labeled with:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant's Full Name</li> <li>• Title of Artwork</li> <li>• Dimensions of Artwork (e.g. height, width and depth)</li> <li>• Date of Completion</li> <li>• Scan all artworks into 1 file</li> <li>• Complete <b>Annex A</b> (Cover Page) and attach to file (first page)</li> <li>• File Name: Full Name_VA_IBCP_Artworks</li> <li>• File Type Allowed: .pdf, .jpg, .jpeg</li> <li>• Maximum File Size: 20 MB</li> </ul>

Item	Description
Sketchbook Pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5 to 8</b> sketchbook pages created in the last 3 years only. These may include sketches done in 2018</li> <li>• A sketchbook page may show a record of images and/or writings as part of a creative process. For example, it can be made up of quick sketches or drawings done in preparation for an artwork, and a short paragraph to explain the art/process for the completed Artworks Portfolio</li> <li>• These works should <u>not</u> include the 8 to 10 completed artworks submitted</li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p><u>Each sketchbook page should be clearly labeled with:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant's Full Name</li> <li>• Title of each Image (if any)</li> <li>• Date of Completion</li> <li>• Scan all pages into 1 file</li> <li>• Complete <b>Annex A</b> (Cover Page) and attach to file (first page)</li> <li>• File Name: Full Name_VA_IBCP_Sketchbook</li> <li>• File Type Allowed: .pdf, .jpg, .jpeg</li> <li>• Maximum File Size: 20 MB</li> </ul>
800-word typewritten essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit an essay that highlights the applicant's art proposal on a specific area of interest and research</li> <li>• Indicate the reason(s) that would clarify or justify the relevance or importance</li> <li>• Share some possible approaches the applicant has taken to start the research as well as expected outcomes</li> <li>• Include reasons of applying for the IBCP programme as well as what the applicant hopes to pursue at higher education and as a career</li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Format: Typewritten, 12 pts – Arial font</li> <li>• File Name: Full Name_VA_IBCP_Essay</li> <li>• File Type Allowed: .pdf, .doc, .docx</li> <li>• Maximum File Size: 1 MB</li> </ul>
Relevant Visual Arts Credentials (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants may submit their most recent top 5 achievements / awards related to Visual Art, from the last 3 years only. These may include achievements / awards received in 2018</li> <li>• Examples of relevant credentials include the following items:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Letters of reference from schools or teachers, testifying to the applicant's artistic experience and merit</li> <li>b. Evidence of participation in Visual Arts related programmes/workshops/competitions</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combine all credentials, achievements, awards into 1 file</li> <li>• File Name: Full Name_VA_IBCP_Credentials</li> <li>• File Type Allowed: .pdf</li> <li>• Maximum File Size: 10 MB</li> </ul>
Note	Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records

**TALENT ACADEMY 2018**  
**Preparation Notes for Audition in Visual Arts (for shortlisted applicants)**  
**International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP)**  
**DSA-JC Applicants**

**What Shortlisted Applicants Will Experience During the Talent Academy**

All shortlisted applicants will be required to participate and complete the following activities:

1. Cognitive Exercises
2. Panel interview
3. Visual Arts Auditions:
  - a. Drawing Activity
  - b. Problem Solving Activity
  - c. Individual Portfolio Interview with Visual Arts teachers (see Page 5 for more details)

Activity	What Applicants Will Be Assessed On
Group Activity: Drawing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants will be assessed for:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Observation – how applicants perceive the object(s)</li> <li>b. Imagination – how the object(s) is/are set up</li> <li>c. Technical ability – approaches taken in the process of drawing</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Art materials will be provided</li> <li>• Applicants should be prepared to share with the group about their processes and considerations</li> </ul>
Group Activity: Problem-Solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants will be assessed for:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Engagement with activity</li> <li>b. Approach towards problem-solving</li> <li>c. Applicants should be prepared to share with the group about their approach and various considerations made</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Individual Portfolio Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants will be assessed for:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Imagination</li> <li>b. Research and idea development</li> <li>c. Technical ability</li> <li>d. Engagement level</li> <li>e. Communication of ideas, processes, and personal opinions</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Applicants should be prepared to share with the panelists about:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The extend and diversity of their explorations and experimentation in the visual form</li> <li>b. Artistic responses towards the selected topic/theme and reflection on the different approaches taken</li> <li>c. Involvement in projects or activities they may have undertaken as an art student in school or during their own time</li> <li>d. Applicants’ intention for choosing the IBCP as expressed in their 800-word essay</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Attire	Dress comfortably as applicants will be required to move around. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed

### What Shortlisted Applicants Must Bring for the Individual Portfolio Interview

Item	Description
Completed Artworks Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>15 to 18</b> completed artworks created in the last 3 years only. These may include artworks done in 2018</li> <li>• May include artworks that were submitted in applicant’s Talent Academy application</li> <li>• Applicants may include artworks done for media works, design works, jewelry pieces and ceramics</li> <li>• Artworks produced in school or during applicant’s own free time are acceptable</li> </ul> <p><u>Selecting the Artworks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key qualities that the interview panel will look for include: a keen sense of observation, imagination, inspiration, and self-motivation.</li> <li>• Applicants should include in their portfolio, where possible:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. 4 to 5</b> artworks based on <u>observation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These should show their ability to observe, apply formal qualities effectively through a number of techniques and mediums to represent something realistic</li> <li>• Applicants may use digital software to render images in this category</li> <li>• The final outcome should not be direct copies of copyrighted works, e.g. popular characters from commercial cartoon, American Comics, or Japanese Manga franchise</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>b. 4 to 5</b> artworks based on <u>imagination</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These artworks should show their ability to imagine and create original works from research and deliberations</li> <li>• The artworks should not encompass major portion and details from the original reference source but should incorporate some form of originality in the works</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>c. 4 to 5</b> artworks that demonstrate where the applicant derives <u>inspiration</u> from, and how it leads the applicant to a diversity of conceptual approaches, considerations, and development. For example:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A series of works that is inspired by music, demonstrating how the applicant achieved resolution between music, the choice of medium, materials used, and technique applied, together with the consideration of the elements and principles of art; or</li> <li>• A Manga story, which the applicant has created that show character creations, plot development, and composition refinement. The work should not be just a direct copy of the inspirational source.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>d. 3</b> artworks that demonstrate a range of technical competencies and considerations               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These artworks should reflect the applicant’s artistic and skill-based abilities in 3 different mediums to create a composition.</li> <li>• The media can be 2-dimensional, 3-dimensional, time-based, or electronic-based art forms, such as painting, sculpture, graphic novel, or video, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p><u>Each artwork should be clearly labeled with:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant’s Full Name</li> <li>• Applicant’s TA Index Number (applicant would have received the TA index number upon successful submission of their TA application via the TA Portal)</li> <li>• Title of Artwork</li> <li>• Dimensions of Artwork (e.g. height, width and depth)</li> <li>• Date of Completion and/or Duration of Execution</li> <li>• A Short Description of each Artwork</li> </ul>

<p>Sketches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 to 3 sketchbooks and created in the last 3 years. These may include sketches done in 2018</li> <li>• Up to 4 A4-sized pages of support/research materials for <u>each of the artworks</u> (total of 15 – 75 pages)</li> <li>• May also include other sketchbooks that demonstrate what the applicant like to draw or sketch regularly</li> <li>• Should include a minimum of 3 artworks or design works created by artists or designers that have inspired the applicant and his/her own work</li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u> Each sketchbook or sketch page should be clearly labeled with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant’s full name</li> <li>• Applicant’s TA Index Number (applicant would have received the TA index number upon successful submission of their TA application via the TA Portal)</li> <li>• Title of each Image and/or Sketchbook (if any)</li> <li>• Date of Completion and/or Duration of Execution</li> </ul>
<p>800-word typed essay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 800 words of a typewritten essay that is similar to the essay that the applicant has submitted for their Talent Academy application via the TA Portal</li> </ul> <p><u>Instructions:</u> Essay should be printed out and clearly labeled with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant’s Full Name</li> <li>• Applicant’s TA Index Number (applicant would have received the TA index number upon successful submission of their TA application via the TA Portal)</li> <li>• Title of the Essay (if any)</li> </ul>
<p>Packing the Artworks to bring on Audition Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2D artworks:</b> Placed in plastic sheets in a file or a portfolio case for easy flipping</li> <li>• <b>3D artworks:</b> Bubble wrapped securely and placed in a box (e.g. ceramics, jewelry, and/or sculpture pieces)</li> <li>• <b>Big/Bulky artworks:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Take clear photos that would best represent the artworks</li> <li>b. Avoid unnecessary use of filters and cropping of the images</li> <li>c. Include close-up shots that show fine details of the artworks</li> <li>d. Label the artworks with the dimensions and the mediums used</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

**CHECKLIST FOR SUBMISSION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO BE UPLOADED VIA THE TA PORTAL**

FOR APPLICANT				
No.	Document Title	Maximum File Size	Acceptable File Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	<p><u>Singaporeans</u> Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate</p> <p><u>Singapore Permanent Residents</u> Passport and Re-Entry Permit</p> <p><u>Foreigners</u> Studying in Singapore: Passport and Dependant or Student Pass Studying overseas: Passport</p>	1 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<p>1 recent passport-sized colour photograph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should be taken against plain white background</li> <li><u>Do not</u> upload a full-length photograph</li> </ul>	2 MB	JPEG, JPG	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<p>Academic Results</p> <p><b>DSA-Secondary:</b> Primary 5 mid-year and end-of-year results; Primary 6 mid-year results*</p> <p><b>DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE):</b> Grade 5 mid-year and end-of-year results; Grade 6 mid-year or any latest 2018 results*</p> <p><b>DSA-Junior College:</b> PSLE Results (with aggregate scores); Secondary 3E/4NA mid-year and end-of-year results; Secondary 4E/5NA mid-year results*</p> <p><b>Non-DSA:</b> 2016/17 mid-year and end-of-year results and any latest 2018 results</p> <p>*You will be required to submit this if you are shortlisted to attend the audition. Please ensure you've made a photocopy of the result slip before returning your report book to your school.</p>	2 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<p><b>DSA-Secondary and DSA-JC Only</b> (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter</li> <li>Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter</li> </ul>	1 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>

FOR PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS				
	Document Title	Maximum File Size	Acceptable File Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<p><u>Singaporeans</u> NRIC (Pink)</p> <p><u>Singapore Permanent Residents</u> NRIC (Blue)</p> <p><u>Foreigners</u> Residing in Singapore: Passport and Work Permit or Dependant Pass Residing overseas: Passport</p>	1 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Note:**

It will take about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for one art form, provided that the supporting documents and portfolio submission have been prepared in advance.

The TA Portal will be open from 6 April to 19 May, 12:00 pm (SGT). There will be no extension of deadline for submission of application. Do ensure you have ample time to complete the necessary.

**Annex A**

**COVER PAGE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTWORKS PORTFOLIO VIA TA PORTAL**

<b>NO</b>	<b>TITLE OF WORK</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>	<b>DIMENSIONS (E.G. HEIGHT x WIDTH x DEPTH)</b>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			



## Annex B

Guide to uploading and compressing videos and/or documents for submission via the TA Portal

### 1. How do I upload videos and files to Google drive?

You may refer to the [Google Support page](#) for assistance

#### Direct Link:

<https://support.google.com/drive/answer/2424368?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>

#### Google Search Engine

In google search engine, type the following keywords: *How to upload files or folders to google drive*

### 2. How do I upload videos to YouTube?

You may refer to the [YouTube Support page](#) for assistance

#### Direct Link:

[https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?hl=en&ref\\_topic=7505892](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?hl=en&ref_topic=7505892)

#### Google Search Engine

In google search engine, type the following keywords: *How to upload video to YouTube*

### 3. How do I convert, compress or merge documents to PDF?

There are many free online websites you can use. Below are a few suggestions. Please note that SOTA is not affiliated to any of these sites. The links below will bring you to an external website not hosted by SOTA.

#### a. Convert word document to pdf document

1. [www.freepdfconvert.com](http://www.freepdfconvert.com)
2. <https://smallpdf.com/word-to-pdf>

#### b. Compress / Resize pdf documents

1. [http://www.ilovepdf.com/compress\\_pdf](http://www.ilovepdf.com/compress_pdf)

#### c. Merge individual pdf documents into 1 document

2. [http://www.ilovepdf.com/merge\\_pdf](http://www.ilovepdf.com/merge_pdf)