

Talent Academy 2018
Preparation Notes and Checklist for Music Applicants
DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE)

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TALENT ACADEMY 2018

Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Music (for all applicants) DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants

Pupils specialising in Music will experience the spectrum of music, from voice and instrumental study, to music theory and analysis, and composition. They will discover music from around the world and examine the development of music across traditions and history. They will also develop craft, perspectives and dispositions of a musician, which will enrich their journey in any field beyond SOTA.

The Music Faculty offers two tracks – the Creating and Performing.

Applicants whose strength and interest is in the creative and conceptualization process should apply to Creating Track. Applicants whose strength and interest is on instrumental or vocal performance should apply for the Performance Track. Performance Track applicants may receive an offer to attend the Creating Track during the Talent Academy. Both tracks lead to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Group 6 Subject Music.

Music applicants should have completed at least two (2) years of musical training or involvement in a musical activity (e.g. school band, choir, ensemble) on any instrument. 'Instrument' here refers to voice and instruments of all cultures and traditions. All applicants should be able to sight-read or sight-sing in at least one clef.

What to Submit for Music Creating Track Portfolio

Applicants applying to the Creating Track are required to submit the following for their Music portfolio submission via the TA Portal:

1. 1 video recording of a spontaneous improvisation
2. 1 video recording of a performance on a primary instrument
3. Portfolio of 1 or 2 musical compositions (optional)
4. Relevant Credentials (optional)

Item	Creating Track
1 video recording of a spontaneous improvisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A video recording between 1-2 minutes of a spontaneous improvisation on any five pitches. Please state the five pitches at the start of the recording.
1 video recording on a primary instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The performance of 1 piece on the primary instrument. This piece should not exceed 5 minutes. • Applicants <u>must</u> present their programme with an accompanist if the pieces require one • The accompaniment <u>cannot</u> be from a music recording of a minus-one CD or iPod with the <u>exception</u> of drummers • Accompanists are <u>not</u> required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists • Submission of music score of the work they have recorded
Portfolio of 1 or 2 musical compositions (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants may also submit a portfolio of 1 or 2 musical compositions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Audio files alone are acceptable, but the inclusion of scores in any notational style are preferred b. Applicants may also choose to include composer's notes with the pieces

<p>Uploading and Sharing the video, audio and/or documents</p>	<p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p><u>Video Submission:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 videos (improvisation and performance) ● Recorded in a single take (no editing); cannot be professionally produced ● Upload videos to any video uploading websites (e.g. YouTube, Google Drive) ● Title of Videos: Full Name_DSA_Improvisation, Full Name_DSA_Performance ● Privacy Setting: 'Public' or 'Anyone with the Link' ● Share video links on the TA Portal <p><u>Audio Submission:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upload audio files to Google Drive ● Title of Audios: Full Name_DSA_Creating_Audio 1 or 2 ● Privacy Setting: 'Public' or 'Anyone with the Link' ● Share audio links on the TA Portal <p><u>Music Scores:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Combine scores into 1 file ● File Name: Full Name_DSA_Creating_Scores ● File Type Allowed: .pdf ● Maximum File Size: 2 MB ● Upload file to the TA Portal
<p>Relevant Music Credentials (Optional)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applicants may submit their most recent top 5 achievements / awards related to Music only. These may include achievements / awards received in 2018 ● Examples of relevant credentials include the following items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Letters of reference from schools or teachers, testifying to the applicant's artistic experience and merit b. Evidence of participation in Music performances in and/or out of school (e.g. Singapore Youth Festival, competitions, concerts or workshops) <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Combine all works, credentials, achievements, awards into 1 document file ● File Name: Full Name_DSA_Creating_Credentials ● Format: .pdf ● Maximum File Size: 2 MB
<p>Note(s)</p>	<p>Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records</p>

What to Submit for Music Performing Track Portfolio

Applicants applying to the Performing Track are required to submit the following for their Music portfolio submission via the TA Portal:

1. Video recordings of 2 performances
2. Relevant Credentials (optional)

Item	Performing Track
Video recordings of 2 performances	<p><u>For all applicants (except voice):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video of two (2) contrasting works that demonstrate the applicant's best performance qualities ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display the applicant's musicianship and technical proficiency <p><u>Voice applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video of two (2) contrasting works that demonstrate the applicant's best performance qualities ● At least one song in 'Western Classical' tradition ● Applicants are <u>not</u> permitted to present 2 pop / jazz or musical theatre songs ● A choir piece will <u>not</u> be accepted ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display the applicant's musicianship and technical proficiency <p><u>Jazz Instrumental Studies:</u> Applicants may apply for Jazz Instrumental Studies through the following instruments only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bass ● Guitar ● Piano ● Saxophone ● Voice <p><u>For all applicants (including voice):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applicants <u>must</u> present their programme with an accompanist if the pieces require one ● The accompaniment <u>cannot</u> be from a music recording of a minus-one CD or iPod with the <u>exception</u> of drummers ● Accompanists are <u>not</u> required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists ● Submission of music scores of the 2 works they have recorded ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display the applicant's musicianship and technical proficiency.
Uploading and Sharing the videos and documents	<p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p><u>Video Submission:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 video performances which should not exceed a total duration of 10 mins ● Recorded in a single take (no editing); cannot be professionally produced ● Upload videos to any video uploading websites (e.g. YouTube, Google Drive) ● Title of Video: Full Name_DSA_Performing_1 or 2 ● Privacy Setting: 'Public' or 'Anyone with the Link' ● Share video links on the TA Portal <p><u>Music Scores:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Combine scores into 1 file ● File Name: Full Name_DSA_Performing_Scores ● File Type Allowed: .pdf ● Maximum File Size: 2 MB ● Upload file to the TA Portal

<p>Relevant Music Credentials (Optional)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants may submit their most recent top 5 achievements / awards related to Music only. These may include achievements / awards received in 2018 • Examples of relevant credentials include the following items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Letters of reference from schools or teachers, testifying to the applicant’s artistic experience and merit b. Evidence of participation in Music performances in and/or out of school (e.g. Singapore Youth Festival, competitions, concerts or workshops) <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combine all works, credentials, achievements, awards into 1 document file • File Name: Full Name_DSA_Performing_Credentials • Format: .pdf • Maximum File Size: 2 MB
<p>Note(s)</p>	<p>Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school’s records</p>

TALENT ACADEMY 2018
Preparation Notes for Audition in Music (for shortlisted applicants)
DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) 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. Entrance tests (for DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) applicants only)
4. Music Auditions:
 - a. Group Music Activities
 - b. Critical Listening Class
 - c. Be interviewed by a panel of music teachers

Creating Track applicants only

- d. Creative Performance Exercise

Performing Track Applicants only

- e. Programme submitted which should not exceed a total duration of 10 minutes.

<p>Creating and Performing Tracks</p>	<p><u>Group Music Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This segment allows applicants to experience how musicianship classes are conducted at SOTA. The activities include group singing and movement which lay the foundation for the training of innate musicianship within pupils • Applicants' attitude, receptiveness, and engagement during the lessons will be observed, along with important musicianship skills like maintaining tempo, reproducing rhythm correctly, good intonation in singing, musical responses, independence of performance, and the ability to perform collaboratively with others <p><u>Critical Listening Class</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will take a 45-minute interactive critical listening class and a reflective exercise • No prior knowledge is required for this class
<p>Creating Track only</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will undergo a creative performance exercise • Applicants will be given a 90-minute hands-on exercise with SOTA faculty members, which culminates in a short performance at the end of the class • The exercise will include improvising in a group, creating a new melody and writing in any form of notation
<p>Performing Track Only</p>	<p>Applicants will undergo a 20-minute audition that includes two contrasting works, the set piece (where applicable), sight-reading/singing and an interview</p> <p><u>For all applicants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform the 2 pieces that he/she has submitted via the TA Portal • Applicants must bring their own instrument except for piano, double bass, drum kit (and specified percussion instruments) and harp • 2 hard copies of music scores of the works they have recorded • Applicants <u>must</u> present their programme with an accompanist if their music pieces require one • Accompanists are <u>not</u> required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists • A minus-one CD or iPod will not be permitted (except for drummers) • Applicants must be able to speak about the pieces they have performed, how they have prepared for the audition and other interesting points that they would like to share with the panelists • Sight-sing or sight-read a short idiomatic passage with their voice or instrument

<p>Performing Track Only</p>	<p><u>For Piano, Violin, and Voice applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will perform the 2 pieces that they have submitted and the <u>prescribed piece</u> set by SOTA • The respective prescribed pieces will be available for <u>download via the TA Portal</u> on 4 June 2018 • Voice applicants must present their songs from memory • 2 hard copies of music scores of the works they have recorded <p><u>For Jazz Instrumental Studies applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will perform the 2 set pieces that they have submitted and the <u>prescribed piece</u> set by SOTA (for Voice and Piano). • The respective prescribed pieces will be available for <u>download via the TA Portal</u> on 4 June 2018
<p>Note(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panelists are looking for musicianship, talent, and an ability to learn. • The audition panel includes a teacher from SOTA's Faculty of Music and an external specialist. • The panel may not always listen to the entire musical performance.

How to prepare for Music Audition

Below are some pointers on preparing for the audition

<p>Performing Track</p>	<p><u>For all applicants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared and ready for the audition • Practice the 2 pieces well • Applicants must present their programme with an accompanist if the pieces require one • Accompanists are not required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists • Applicants must make their own arrangements to bring their accompanist along on their audition date <p><u>For Piano, Violin, and Voice applicants and Jazz Instrumental Studies (Piano and Violin only) applicants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep practising the additional 3rd set prescribed piece set by SOTA • Voice applicants must present their works from memory <p><u>For Percussion applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants should bring his/her own mallets and beaters • Applicants should inform SOTA in advance to discuss instruments and specifications • SOTA will provide, within reasonable limits, the agreed instruments • Standard instruments include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chinese percussion instruments b. Congas c. Drum-kit (standard 5-piece kit) d. Snare drum e. Xylophone f. 4.3 octave marimba (5-octave marimba available upon request) • Email SOTA at sa@sota.edu.sg with the subject 'TA2018 – Percussion Specifications for <Applicant's Full Name & Applicant's TA Index Number¹> <p>¹Applicants would have received the TA Index Number upon successful submission of their TA application via the TA Portal</p>
<p>Creating Track</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No preparation required • Come with an open mind and be ready for the audition
<p>Attire</p>	<p>Performance Track: Treat the audition like a performance. Dress neatly yet comfortably, as applicants will be required to move around. Avoid uncomfortably tight clothes and shoes with heels.</p> <p>Creating Track: Dressed comfortably as applicants will be required to move around. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed</p>

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 type="checkbox"/>
1	<u>Singaporeans</u> Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate <u>Singapore Permanent Residents</u> Passport and Re-Entry Permit <u>Foreigners</u> Studying in Singapore: Passport and Dependant or Student Pass Studying overseas: Passport	1 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	1 recent passport-sized colour photograph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be taken against plain white background Do not upload a full-length photograph 	2 MB	JPEG, JPG	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Academic Results DSA-Secondary: Primary 5 mid-year and end-of-year results; Primary 6 mid-year results* DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE): Grade 5 mid-year and end-of-year results; Grade 6 mid-year or any latest 2018 results* DSA-Junior College: PSLE Results (with aggregate scores); Secondary 3E/4NA mid-year and end-of-year results; Secondary 4E/5NA mid-year results* Non-DSA: 2016/17 mid-year and end-of-year results and any latest 2018 results *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.	2 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	DSA-Secondary and DSA-JC Only (if applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter 	1 MB	PDF	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Introduction to Music Creating and Performing Tracks

The Music Faculty offers the Creating and Performing Tracks to our music pupils.

Music is an art form which requires both the conceptualization and development of ideas, as well as the ability to express those ideas through an instrument/voice. The Creating and Performing tracks provided students with potential in both or either of these aspects at the point of audition to be given the opportunity to be part of the SOTA Music community. Both tracks are pathways which prepare pupils for the IBDP music curriculum. There are also opportunities to participate in summer programmes in the areas of composition, music technology as well as music performance as pupils get older (subject to successful audition/interview).

Creating Track

Pupils in the Creating Track are selected based on their conceptual, creative, expressive and improvisational potential. The Creating Track aims to hone and develop their creative abilities and skills as well as further their potential as composition specialists.

The programme offers opportunities for development in this area, including Specialized Arts classes in composition and future opportunities to participate in enrichment workshops. Pupils in the Creating Track will also be offered a 30-minute Instrumental Study lesson each week. The Music Faculty will determine the instrument of study.

Performing Track

Pupils offered the Performing Track would have displayed strengths in their performance skills, technical precision and knowledge of their pieces. The Performing Track programme aims to develop pupils' potential in the areas of musical performance, musical interpretation as well as musicianship. This programme offers hour-long weekly instrumental lessons for pupils as well as opportunities for performance in masterclasses and enrichment workshops.

Assessment Modes

Creating Track

Pupils will be required to submit a creating portfolio.

Performing Track

Pupils will be required to perform in front of an assessment panel at the end of each year.

Options in Year 3

Pupils in either track may apply for a transfer to the other track if they have shown good progress in their music studies. As time is needed to build up enough competence and sound understanding, it is the faculty's recommendation that application for transfer will only be considered at the end of the second year of study.

Options in Year 5 and 6

The possibility of pupils in the Creating Track offering Music at Higher Level for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) will be dependent on them acquiring commensurate performance abilities over the first 4 years. Otherwise they are likely to be pupils offering Music at Standard Level.

Outstanding pupils in the Creating Track may also be considered for the International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP) and will specialize in composition.

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

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
2. <https://smallpdf.com/word-to-pdf>

b. Compress / Resize pdf documents

1. http://www.ilovepdf.com/compress_pdf

c. Merge individual pdf documents into 1 document

2. http://www.ilovepdf.com/merge_pdf