

Notice Update – 18 May 2020

In view of Covid-19, the audition process has been updated. Please refer to the following pages:

- 1) Important dates to note
- 2) What shortlisted applicants will experience during the TA
- 3) What Shortlisted applicants must prepare and do for the portfolio submission

Notice Update – 11 May 2020

In view of Covid-19, the following has been updated:

- 1) Application Period extended to 23 May, 5:00 pm (SGT)
- 2) Release of the Shortlisting Outcome changed to 8 June 2020, 6:00 pm
- 3) TA Auditions from 23 June to 18 July 2020
- 4) All TA activities will be conducted online

Notice Update – 6 May 2020

Video Submission

In view of the current Covid-19 situation, applicants are allowed to perform with a recording of the accompanist as a backing track. This is applicable to all singers and instrumentalists who require an accompanist.

Audition for Shortlisted Applicants

In view of the current COVID-19 situation, we are currently reviewing the selection process and criteria for this year's TA. Updates will be posted on the website.

Notice Update – 27 March 2020

The Talent Academy is currently scheduled for 23-26 June 2020. However, in view of the current COVID-19 situation, these dates may change. More information will be provided as soon as possible. Applicants are advised not to make travel plans in June. Shortlisted applicants must attend and complete all scheduled TA activities. Incomplete attendance will result in disqualification.

**Talent Academy 2020
Preparation Notes and Checklist for Year 5 Music Applicants
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)
DSA-JC and Non-DSA**

No.	Items
1.	All Applicants – Important Dates to Note
2.	All Applicants – Checklist of Submission of Supporting Documents via the TA Portal
3.	All Applicants – Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Music via the TA Portal
4.	Shortlisted Non-DSA (IBDP) Applicants – Guide to the Entrance Tests
5.	All Shortlisted Applicants – What You Will Experience During the TA
6.	Annex A – List of Instruments allowed for Music Application
7.	Annex B - Guide to uploading and compressing videos and/or documents for submission via the TA Portal

TALENT ACADEMY 2020
Important Dates to Note
DSA-JC and Non-DSA IBDP Applicants

Date	For	What to Do
3 April to 23 May 2020 5:00 pm (SGT)	All Applicants	<p>Apply Online</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register for an account and submit the application online via the TA Portal • Application closes on 23 May 2020, 5:00 pm (SGT) • It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for ONE (1) art form, provided that the supporting documents and portfolio submission have been prepared in advance • Submit your application early, as the TA Portal may experience slower connectivity due to high traffic during the application period • Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered <p>13 May - In view of the COVID-19 situation, all International Students who are not residing in Singapore are not eligible to take part in this year's DSA-Sec Exercise, and will not be able to apply for the Talent Academy. Please refer to https://go.gov.sg/nmsdsa-sec-application for more details. As such, the same will apply for Year 5 admission via Non-DSA.</p>
8 June 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	All Applicants	<p>Log in to the TA Portal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the status of your Shortlisting Outcome
8 June to 14 June 2020 12:00 noon (GST)	Shortlisted Non-DSA Applicants Only	<p>Log in to the TA Portal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upload your most recent academic results • skip this process if you do not have any latest results to upload
16 June 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	All Shortlisted Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Log in to the TA Portal and download your TA schedule • Check your TA schedule to find out your allocated audition days/dates • Check the 'announcement' tab for more information about your TA
23 June to 18 July 2020	Shortlisted Non-DSA Applicants only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the English, Mathematics and Science entrance tests online • Make payment of S\$60.00 for the entrance tests fee <p>Modes of payment to be advised</p>
23 June to 18 July 2020	All Shortlisted Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete all scheduled TA activities online comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individual auditions or portfolio presentations ○ Panel Interviews ○ Online Questionnaires <p>More information will be shared with shortlisted applicants about how the activities will be conducted.</p> <p>11 May 2020: The Talent Academy will start from 23 June. Shortlisted applicants must complete all scheduled TA activities within the stipulated time. Incomplete attendance will result in disqualification.</p>
7 August 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	Shortlisted Applicants	<p>Log in to the TA Portal and check the status of your final TA Outcome (Confirmed Offer or Unsuccessful)</p>
August 2020 (tbc)	Confirmed Offer Applicants	<p>Submit Acceptance Form to SOTA</p>
November 2020 (tbc)	Confirmed Offer Applicants	<p>Complete your registration at SOTA</p>

TALENT ACADEMY 2020

Checklist for Submission of Supporting Documents to be Uploaded via the TA Portal DSA-JC and Non-DSA IBDP Applicants

Apply Online via the TA Portal between 3 April to 23 May 2020, 5:00 pm (SGT)

FOR DSA-JC and Non-DSA Year 5 APPLICANTS				
No.	Document Title (to be uploaded directly to the TA Portal)	Maximum File Size	Acceptable File Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1	<p>Applicant's Identification Document</p> <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	
2	<p>1 recent passport-sized colour photograph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be taken against plain white background Do not upload a full-length photograph 	2 MB	JPEG, JPG	
3	<p>Academic Results</p> <p><u>3 April to 23 May (All Applicants)</u></p> <p>DSA-JC: Sec 3E/4NA mid-year and end-of-year results. The general office is open during the circuit breaker period and the term break. Please email the school to request for a softcopy and specify that you are applying for DSA to SOTA and the application period ends on 23 May, 5:00 pm.</p> <p>Non-DSA: 2019 academic results. All original transcripts not in English should be accompanied with a translated document.</p> <p><u>8 June to 14 June (Shortlisted Applicants Only)</u></p> <p>DSA-JC: No actions required.</p> <p>Non-DSA: Log in to the TA Portal and upload your most recent 2020 academic results. All original transcripts not in English should be accompanied with a translated document. You may skip this step if you do not have any latest results to upload.</p>	2 MB	PDF	
4	<p>DSA-JC applicants (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter 	1 MB	PDF	

Note:

- It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for **ONE** (1) art form, provided that the supporting documents and portfolio submission have been prepared in advance
- Applicants are advised to submit their applications early, as the TA Portal may experience slower connectivity due to high traffic during the application period
- Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered

The TA Portal opens from 3 April to 23 May, 5:00 pm (SGT). There will be no extension of deadline for submission of application. Do ensure you have ample time to complete and submit your application.

TALENT ACADEMY 2020

Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Music (for all applicants)

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)

DSA-JC and Non-DSA Year 5 Applicants

Students 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, perspective and dispositions of a musician, which will enrich their journey in any field beyond SOTA.

SOTA’s IB Diploma qualification is recognized by top universities worldwide. Armed with their IB Diploma and extensive arts portfolio, SOTA pupils can look forward to the arts as a career or leverage their arts-enriched educational experience to embark on diverse career options such as journalism, law, architecture and more.

To apply, you will need to have a range of musical experiences. You need to be highly motivated and committed to embracing all aspects of music study including the creative, technical, historical, and theoretical facets. You will be expected to be imaginative, enthusiastic, expressive, co-operative, open-minded and flexible thinkers, and self-driven learners. A strong command of English, spoken and written, is a key pre-requisite. A keen interest in all aspects of the arts is clearly essential.

In addition to being strong performers on your instruments, you need to have a good knowledge of Western analysis and music theory and need to be able to read bass, alto, and treble clef. You also need to be able to demonstrate an ability to create music yourself. You are also expected to have some awareness of non-western music cultures.

What to Submit for Music Portfolio

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

1. Video recordings of a contrasting programme
2. A portfolio of 2 compositions

Item	
Video recordings	<p><u>For all applicants (except voice):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video recordings of a contrasting programme that demonstrate your best performance qualities. ● The duration of the programme should be between 10-15 minutes in total ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency <p><u>For voice applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Video recordings of performances which demonstrate your performance qualities ● The duration of the programme should be between 8-10 minutes in total ● If you applied as a Western Classical singer, the presented songs / arias must be in at least two (2) different Western languages ● A choir piece will not be accepted ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency <p><u>For all applicants (including voice):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You must present your programme with an accompanist if the pieces require one ● Accompanists are not required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists ● In view of the current Covid-19 situation, applicants are allowed to perform with a recording of the accompanist as a backing track. This is applicable to all singers and instrumentalists who require an accompanist ● Submission of music scores of the works you have recorded ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency <p><u>Jazz Instrumental Studies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You may apply for Jazz Instrumental Studies through the following instruments only: ● Bass ● Guitar ● Piano ● Saxophone ● Voice

Portfolio of 2 compositions	<p>Each composition should consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum three (3) minutes long and maximum of six (6) minutes • To include music scores and recordings • Live recording is preferred but a midi version is acceptable
Uploading and Sharing the video, audio and/or documents	<p>Instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Videos must be recorded in a single take (no editing); cannot be professionally produced • Save videos, audios, music scores into 1 folder • Name the folder with your full name • Upload the folder to Google Drive • Privacy Setting: 'Public' or 'Anyone with the Link' • Paste the shared link of the folder on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' fields
Note(s)	<p>Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records.</p> <p>Certificates, achievement records, testimonials, recommendation letters are not required.</p>

TALENT ACADEMY 2020

Preparation Notes for Audition in Music (for shortlisted applicants)

Non-DSA Applicants - Guide to the Entrance Tests

You may refer to the local GCE 'O' level assessment books for the following subjects to familiarise yourself with the topics and exercises. You are required to take only 1 Science subject – Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.

Due to Covid-19, more information will be provided to shortlisted candidates on how the tests will be conducted.

Test	Information
English Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 15 minutes to complete the testBased on an expository text, answer a variety of questions testing close reading and comprehension skills, vocabulary in context and the use of language for impactResponse Writing – responding to an author's key arguments
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 30 minutes to complete the testNo calculator or Graphic Display Calculator is allowedCandidates must complete 11 problem-solving questions that carry a total of 90 marksThe topics that will be covered are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prior Knowledge of Year 1 to 4 Mathematics (Elementary Mathematics and some Additional Mathematics) is requiredFunctions and GraphsQuadratic Functions and GraphsNature of roots for Quadratic FunctionsLogarithmsTrigonometry: Identities, Double Angle Formula and Trigonometric GraphsDifferentiation of Polynomials, Exponential and Logarithmic FunctionsApplications of Differentiation: Increasing and Decreasing Functions and Equations of Tangents and NormalsIntegration of PolynomialsApplications of Integration: Area
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 45 minutes to complete the paperThe paper consists of 2 sections. Section A contains multiple-choice questions. Section B contains structured questions. The paper carries a total of 70 marksThe topics include: digestive system, circulatory system, gaseous exchange, cell respiration, homeostasis, nervous system, variation and genetics and molecular geneticsA calculator is required for this paper
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 30 minutes to complete the paperThe paper consists of 2 sections. Section A contains multiple-choice questions. Section B contains structured questions. The paper carries a total of 60 marksThe topics include: writing chemical equations, mole concept and calculations, chemical bonding, acids and bases, oxidation and reduction, electrolysis, kinetics, energetics and organic chemistryA calculator is required for this paperThe Periodic Table will be provided
Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 45 minutes to complete the paperThe paper consists of 2 sections. Section A contains multiple-choice questions. Section B contains structured questions. The paper carries a total of 70 marksThe topics include: physical quantities and measurements, temperature and thermal transfer, kinetic theory and thermal properties, vectors and kinematics, dynamics, pressure, energy, work and power, waves, optics, electricity and circuits, electric fields, electromagnetism, electromagnetic induction and radioactivityA calculator is required for Section B of this paperA list of constants and formulas will be provided

TALENT ACADEMY 2020

**Preparation Notes for Audition in Music (for shortlisted applicants)
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)
DSA-JC and Non-DSA Year 5 Applicants**

What Shortlisted Applicants Will Experience During the Talent Academy

If shortlisted, you will be required to participate and complete the following activities online:

1. Online Questionnaires
2. Panel Interview
3. Music Auditions:
 - a. Online Critical Listening Paper
 - b. Performance of programme, which includes a mini-lesson and interview by a panel of music teachers
 - c. Composition Session

Audition	<p>a. Online Critical Listening Paper (45 Minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be asked to listen to musical excerpts and write an analysis of the works • No preparation is required <p>b. Performance:</p> <p>1. 30-minute audition</p> <p><u>For all applicants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform the pieces that you have submitted via the TA Portal. • You must present the programme with an accompanist if your music pieces require one. • Accompanists are not required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists. • In view of the current Covid-19 situation, applicants are allowed to perform with a recording of the accompanist as a backing track. This is applicable to all singers and instrumentalists who require an accompanist. • You must be able to speak about the pieces that you have performed, how you have prepared for the audition and other interesting points that you would like to share with the panelists. • You are required to memorize your programme <p><u>For Jazz Instrumental Studies applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will also be required to do an improvisation on a 12-bar Blues Form, with multiple choruses <p>2. Mini Lesson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be asked to present your pieces a second or a third time • You may be asked to perform the pieces again with a fresh emphasis, emotion or attitude in order to encourage you to display flexibility <p>3. Interview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be asked questions about all facets of music, and given an opportunity to share your portfolio, past learning experiences and interest in music <p>c. Composition Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be given 40 minutes to do a composition exercise.
Note(s)	<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>For all applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be prepared and ready for the audition• Practise the programme well• You must present your programme with an accompanist if the pieces require one• Accompanists are <u>not</u> required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists• All <u>voice</u> applicants must present their works from memory• In view of the current Covid-19 situation, applicants are allowed to perform with a recording of the accompanist as a backing track. This is applicable to all singers and instrumentalists who require an accompanist
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Annex A

List of Instruments available for Application

1. Bass – Double Bass
2. Bass - Double Bass – Jazz*
3. Bass - Electric Bass
4. Bassoon
5. Cello
6. Clarinet
7. Dizi
8. Erhu
9. Euphonium
10. Flute
11. French Horn
12. Gambus
13. Guan
14. Guitar
15. Guitar – Jazz*
16. Guzheng
17. Harp
18. Mridangam
19. Oboe
20. Percussion - Chinese
21. Percussion - Western
22. Piano
23. Piano – Jazz*
24. Pipa
25. Ruan
26. Saxophone
27. Saxophone – Jazz*
28. Sheng
29. Sitar
30. Suona
31. Tablas
32. Trombone
33. Trumpet
34. Tuba
35. Veena
36. Viola
37. Violin - Carnatic
38. Violin - Western Classical
39. Voice - Carnatic
40. Voice - Chinese Traditional
41. Voice - Classical Hindustani
42. Voice – Jazz*
43. Voice - Western Classical
44. Yangqin

*Applicable to Year 5 Applicants only

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