

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 1 Music Applicants
DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE)**

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Talent Academy 2020 - Important Dates to Note

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) artform, 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 • You are not required to submit a separate application to SOTA via MOE's DSA-Sec Portal
12 May to 5 June 2020 <i>-new</i>	All DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Applicants only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain a DSA Registration Number online. • Singapore Citizens / Singapore Permanent Residents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fill out and submit the form via this link: https://form.gov.sg/#!/5e8edfb42e0ab80011c19247 • International Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fill out and submit the form via this link: https://form.gov.sg/#!/5ea0fc4e5ab4a3001167c64d <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.</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 (SGT)	Shortlisted DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Applicants only	<p>Log in to the TA Portal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upload your latest 2020 results, if any • 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 DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Applicants only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the English and Mathematics entrance tests online • Make payment of S\$30.00 for the entrance tests fee • Modes of payment to be advised
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>
11 September 2020 6:00 pm (SGT)	All Shortlisted Applicants	<p>Log in to the TA Portal and check the status of your final TA Outcome (Confirmed Offer, Wait List, or Unsuccessful)</p>
October 2020 (tbc)	Confirmed Offers and Wait List Applicants	Attend SOTA's Cohort and Parents' Engagement Programme
October 2020 (tbc)	DSA-Sec Confirmed Offers and Wait List Applicants only	Exercise your option and indicate SOTA during the DSA-Secondary Exercise School Preference Stage
October 2020 (tbc)	DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Confirmed Offers Applicants only	Exercise your option and indicate SOTA during the DSA Secondary Exercise School Preference Stage at the MOE Customer Service Centre
November 2020 (tbc)	DSA-Sec Confirmed Offers and Wait List Applicants only	<p>Release of the PSLE and School Posting Results at your Primary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must qualify for the Express stream in order to be posted to SOTA
November 2020 (tbc)	DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) Confirmed Offers Applicants only	Collect your School Posting Result at the MOE Customer Service Centre
December 2020 (tbc)	Applicants who are Successfully Enrolled to SOTA	Complete your registration online

TALENT ACADEMY 2020**Checklist for Submission of Supporting Documents to be uploaded via the TA Portal**

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

FOR DSA-Sec and DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) 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>Singaporeans Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate</p> <p><u>Singapore Permanent Residents</u> Passport and Re-Entry Permit</p> <p>Foreigners 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>A. DSA-Secondary Applicants <u>3 April to 23 May</u> For all applicants: Primary 5 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><u>8 June to 14 June</u> No actions required</p> <p>B. DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants <u>3 April to 23 May</u> For all applicants: Grade 5 mid-year and end-of-year results. All original transcripts not in English should be accompanied with a translated document.</p> <p><u>8 June to 14 June</u> For Shortlisted applicants only: Log in to the TA Portal and upload your Grade 6 mid-year or any latest 2020 results (if any). 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-Secondary Applicants Only (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter issued by MOE Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter issued by MOE 	1 MB	PDF	

Note:

- It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for **ONE** (1) artform, 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) DSA-Secondary and DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) 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, 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 tracks.

Creating Track

You should consider applying to the Creating Track if your strength and interest is in the creative and conceptualization process.

Performing Track

You should consider applying for the Performing track if your strength and interest is on instrumental or vocal performance. Performing 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.

To apply, you 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. You should be able to sight-read or sight-sing in at least one clef.

What to Submit for Music Creating Track Portfolio

Creating Track applicants 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)

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.• You <u>must</u> present your programme with an accompanist if the piece requires one• Accompanists are <u>not</u> 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 score of the work you have recorded
Portfolio of 1 or 2 musical compositions (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You 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 preferredb. You 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> <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
<p>Note(s)</p>	<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>

What to Submit for Music Performing Track Portfolio

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

1. Video recordings of 2 performances

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 your best performance qualities ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your 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 your best performance qualities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For Carnatic, Classical Hindustani, Chinese Traditional voice applicants – please submit 2 contrasting pieces from this tradition) b. All other voice applicants - At least one song in 'Western Classical' ● You 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 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 <u>not</u> 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 ● Submit music scores of the 2 works you have recorded ● Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency.
Uploading and Sharing the videos and documents	<p><u>Instructions:</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 ● Save videos and 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)****DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants - Guide to the Entrance Tests**

You may refer to the local Primary 6 or PSLE assessment books for the following subjects to familiarise yourself with the topics and exercises.

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

Test	Information
English Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 45 minutes to complete the test● Choose 1 topic out of the 5 topics given● Write an essay on the topic you have chosen● The essay should be between 200 and 300 words
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour to complete the test● No calculator or Graphic Display Calculator is allowed● Candidates must complete 13 problem-solving questions that carry a total of 60 marks● The topics that will be covered are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Whole Numbers, Fractions and Decimals○ Measurement○ Data Analysis○ Geometry○ Distance, Speed and Time○ Ratio and Percentage○ Algebra

TALENT ACADEMY 2020

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

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

1. Online Questionnaires
2. Panel Interview
3. Entrance tests (for DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) applicants only)
4. Music Auditions:
 - a. Online Critical Listening Session
 - b. Musicianship
 - c. Be interviewed by a panel of music teachers

Creating Track applicants only

- a. Creative Performance Exercise

Performing Track Applicants only

- a. Programme submitted which should not exceed a total duration of 10 minutes. You will perform the 2 pieces that you have submitted via the TA Portal

<p>Creating and Performing Tracks</p>	<p><u>Online Critical Listening Session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You will take a 30-minute online critical listening class ● No prior knowledge is required for this class <p><u>Musicianship</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This segment is a 'call and response' activity where you will be asked to sing a melodic line and clap rhythms presented to you. <p><u>Interview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The panelists will ask you some questions ● Your attitude, receptiveness, and engagement during the session will be observed
<p>Creating Track only (60min)</p>	<p><u>Listening and Response Session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You will be given a short piece of music (45 seconds) to listen to, and our panelists will ask questions for you to respond to ● No prior knowledge is required for this class <p><u>Improvisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You will be asked to create a 30-seconds improvised piece. ● You will need your instrument with you for this exercise. <p><u>Creating Task:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● You will be asked to create a 45-seconds to 1-minute piece of music for your own instrument based on a visual stimulus or a text stimulus ● You will be asked to perform your piece and give an explanation of your work at the end of the class.
<p>Performing Track Only (30min)</p>	<p>You will undergo a 20-minute audition that includes two contrasting works and an interview.</p> <p><u>For all applicants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Perform the 2 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 <u>not</u> 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.
<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

Performing Track	<p><u>For all applicants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Be prepared and ready for the audition.● Practise the 2 pieces 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● 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.● Voice applicants: You must present your works from memory.
Creating Track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Come with an open mind and be ready for the audition

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

Introduction to Music Creating and Performing Tracks

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

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 provides 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 students get older (subject to successful audition/interview).

Creating Track

Students 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. Students 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

Students in 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 students' potential in the areas of musical performance, musical interpretation as well as musicianship. This programme includes hour-long weekly instrumental lessons for students as well as opportunities for performance in masterclasses and enrichment workshops.

Assessment Modes

Creating Track

Students will be required to submit a creating portfolio.

Performing Track

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

Options in Year 3

Students 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 students 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 offer Music at Standard Level.

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

Annex C

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