

**Talent Academy 2022**  
**Preparation Notes and Checklist for Year 1 Music Applicants**  
**DSA-Sec Non-MOE (Grade 6 Applicants)**

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**TALENT ACADEMY 2022****Checklist for Submission of Supporting Documents to be uploaded via the TA Portal**

Apply online via the TA Portal between 8 April 12:00 noon to 17 May 2022, 5:00 pm (SGT).

No	Document Title (to be uploaded directly to the TA Portal)	Maximum File Size	File Type
1	<p><b>Applicant's Identification Document</b></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 residing in Singapore</u> Passport and Dependant or Student Pass</p>	1 MB	PDF
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
3	<p><b>Academic Results</b></p> <p><b>A. DSA-Secondary Applicants</b> <u>8 April to 17 May</u> For <b>all</b> applicants: Primary 5 End-of-Year results.</p> <p><u>June (date to be confirmed)</u> For <b>Shortlisted</b> applicants only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Log in to the TA Portal and upload your Primary 6 mid-year result</li> <li>• Please make a photocopy of your results before returning your report book to your primary school. If you did not make a copy, you may request for one from your school. The General Office is open during the school term break.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. DSA-Secondary (Non-MOE) Applicants</b> <u>8 April to 17 May</u> For <b>all</b> applicants: Grade 5 end-of-year results and any latest results if any. All original transcripts not in English should be accompanied with a translated document.</p> <p><u>June (date to be confirmed)</u> For <b>Shortlisted</b> applicants only: Log in to the TA Portal and upload your Grade 6 mid-year or any latest 2022 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><b>DSA-Secondary Applicants Only</b> (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter issued by MOE</li> <li>• Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter issued by MOE</li> </ul>	1 MB	PDF

**Note:**

- It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for **ONE** (1) artform, provided that the portfolio submission and all supporting documents 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 towards the close of the application period
- Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered
- The TA Portal opens from 8 April 12:00 noon to 17 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 2022

### Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Music (for all 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 Track and the Performing Track.

#### 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 and 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

Item	Creating Track
1 video recording of a spontaneous improvisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A video recording between 1-2 minutes of a spontaneous improvisation on any five pitches.</li> <li>Please state the five pitches at the start of the recording.</li> </ul>
1 video recording on your principal instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The performance of 1 piece on your principal instrument. This piece should not exceed 5 minutes.</li> <li>'Principal instrument' refers to the instrument on which you are most comfortable to perform and audition for SOTA. You will not be permitted to switch your principal instrument upon successful enrolment to SOTA.</li> <li>You <u>must</u> present your programme with an accompanist if the piece requires one</li> <li>Accompanists are <u>not</u> required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Music Scores/Sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit music score/sheet of the works you have recorded</li> </ul>
Portfolio of 1 or 2 musical compositions (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may also submit a portfolio of 1 or 2 musical compositions.</li> <li>Audio files alone are acceptable, but the inclusion of scores in any notational style are preferred.</li> <li>You may also choose to include composer's notes with the pieces.</li> </ul>
Uploading and sharing the video, audio and/or documents	<p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Videos must be recorded in a single take (no editing); cannot be professionally produced</li> <li><b>Save</b> videos, audios, music scores into 1 folder</li> <li><b>Name</b> the folder with your full name</li> <li><b>Upload</b> the folder to Google Drive</li> <li><b>Privacy Setting:</b> ensure that it is set to 'Anyone with the Link'</li> <li><b>Paste</b> the shared link of the folder on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' fields</li> </ul>
Note(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records.</li> <li>Certificates, achievement records, testimonials, recommendation letters are not required.</li> </ul>

## What to Submit for Music Performing Track Portfolio

Item	Performing Track
Video recordings of 2 performances on your principal instrument	<p><u>For all applicants (except voice):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video of <b>two (2)</b> contrasting works on your principal instrument that demonstrate your best performance qualities</li> <li>• 'Principal instrument' refers to the instrument on which you are most comfortable to perform and audition for SOTA. You will not be permitted to switch your principal instrument upon acceptance into SOTA.</li> <li>• Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency</li> </ul> <p><u>Voice applicants only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video of <b>two (2)</b> contrasting works that demonstrate your best performance qualities</li> <li>• For Carnatic, Classical Hindustani, Chinese Traditional voice applicants – please submit 2 contrasting pieces from this tradition)</li> <li>• All other voice applicants - At least one song in 'Western Classical'</li> <li>• Voice is included as a 'principal instrument'. You will not be permitted to switch your principal instrument upon acceptance into SOTA.</li> <li>• You are <u>not</u> permitted to present 2 pop / jazz or musical theatre songs</li> <li>• A choir piece will <u>not</u> be accepted</li> <li>• Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency</li> </ul> <p><u>For all applicants (including voice):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You <u>must</u> present your programme with an accompanist if the pieces require one</li> <li>• Accompanists are <u>not</u> required for piano, traditional Chinese instrumentalists and traditional Indian instrumentalists</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Select the pieces with great care. Present the pieces of contrasting nature, which display your musicianship and technical proficiency.</li> </ul>
Music Scores/Sheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit music score/sheet of the works you have recorded</li> </ul>
Uploading and sharing the videos and documents	<p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 video performances which should not exceed a total duration of 10 mins</li> <li>• Recorded in a single take (no editing) and cannot be professionally produced</li> <li>• <b>Save</b> videos and music scores into 1 folder</li> <li>• <b>Name</b> the folder with your full name</li> <li>• <b>Upload</b> the folder to Google Drive</li> <li>• <b>Privacy Setting:</b> ensure that it is set to 'Anyone with the Link'</li> <li>• <b>Paste</b> the shared link of the folder on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' fields</li> </ul>
Note(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records.</li> <li>• Certificates, achievement records, testimonials, recommendation letters are not required.</li> </ul>

Shortlisted woodwind and brass applicants are required to present a 3<sup>rd</sup> set piece given by SOTA during the audition. In total, they will perform the 2 songs submitted in their portfolio submission as well as the 3<sup>rd</sup> set piece.

## TALENT ACADEMY 2022

### Entrance Tests – Information for DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) applicants

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

Only shortlisted applicants are required to take the tests. More information will be shared with shortlisted candidates on how the tests will be conducted.

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

## 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 Music at Higher level 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](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.

#### Convert word document to pdf document

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

#### Compress / Resize pdf documents

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

#### Merge individual pdf documents into 1 document

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