

**Talent Academy 2023  
Preparation Notes and Checklist for Year 5 Visual Arts Applicants  
International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP)  
DSA-JC and Non-DSA**

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**TALENT ACADEMY 2023**

**(A) Checklist**

**(A.1) for Submission of Supporting Documents to be uploaded via the TA Portal**

- 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.
- Submit your applications early, as the TA Portal may experience slower connectivity due to high traffic towards the close of the application period.
- There will be no extension of deadline for submission of application. Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered.

S/N	Category	Document Title						
1.	DSA-JC	<p>(1) Applicant's Identification Document</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="536 633 1441 745"> <tr> <td data-bbox="536 633 943 667">Singaporeans</td> <td data-bbox="943 633 1441 667">Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="536 667 943 701">Singapore Permanent Residents</td> <td data-bbox="943 667 1441 701">Passport and Re-Entry Permit</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="536 701 943 734">Foreigners residing in Singapore</td> <td data-bbox="943 701 1441 734">Passport and Dependant or Student Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>(2) 1 Recent Passport-Sized Colour Photograph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be taken against plain white background.</li> <li>• Do not upload a full-length photograph.</li> </ul> <p>(3) Academic Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec 3E or 4NA EOY result slips.</li> </ul> <p>(4) Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter issued by MOE (if applicable)</p> <p>(5) Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter issued by MOE (if applicable)</p> <p><b>Instructions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Upload</b> items (1) and (2) directly in the online application form via the TA Portal.</li> <li>• <b>Save</b> documents for Items (3), (4) if applicable and (5) if applicable into 1 folder.</li> <li>• <b>Upload</b> folder to Google Drive. <b>Ensure</b> that the privacy setting is set to 'Anyone with the link'. <b>Paste</b> the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field</li> </ul>	Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate	Singapore Permanent Residents	Passport and Re-Entry Permit	Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass
Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate							
Singapore Permanent Residents	Passport and Re-Entry Permit							
Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass							
2.	Non-DSA	<p>(1) Applicant's Identification Document</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="536 1379 1441 1491"> <tr> <td data-bbox="536 1379 943 1413">Singaporeans</td> <td data-bbox="943 1379 1441 1413">Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="536 1413 943 1447">Singapore Permanent Residents</td> <td data-bbox="943 1413 1441 1447">Passport and Re-Entry Permit</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="536 1447 943 1480">Foreigners residing in Singapore</td> <td data-bbox="943 1447 1441 1480">Passport and Dependant or Student Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>(2) 1 Recent Passport-Sized Colour Photograph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be taken against plain white background.</li> <li>• Do not upload a full-length photograph.</li> </ul> <p>(3) Academic Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 9 End-of-Year results.</li> <li>• Any Latest Results, if any.</li> <li>• All original transcripts not in English must be accompanied with a translated document.</li> </ul> <p><b>Instructions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Upload</b> items (1) and (2) directly in the online application form via the TA Portal.</li> <li>• <b>Upload</b> Item (3) to Google Drive. <b>Ensure</b> that the privacy setting is set to 'Anyone with the link'. <b>Paste</b> the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field.</li> </ul>	Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate	Singapore Permanent Residents	Passport and Re-Entry Permit	Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass
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## TALENT ACADEMY 2023

### (B) Preparation Notes for Portfolio Submission in Visual Arts IBCP (for all applicants)

SOTA offers students specializing in Visual Arts the opportunity to develop deep knowledge and understanding in the techniques, theory, and history of visual arts. Students 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 will engage in a programme of study and will equip them with transferable and lifelong skills in applied knowledge, critical thinking, communication, and cross-cultural engagement as they prepare for professional pathways and vocations in the arts.

SOTA's IBCP qualification is recognized by arts colleges and conservatories worldwide. For a list of recognized institutions, visit <https://www.sota.edu.sg/why-sota/ib>.

You may consider applying if you demonstrate talent or potential in areas on 2-dimensional (2D) work, such as drawing and painting or design; 3-dimensional (3D) work, such as sculpture and ceramics; or electronic- or lens-based work, such as media arts or photography.

#### (B.1) What to Submit for the Visual Arts Portfolio

3 Items to Submit	Description
(1) Final Artworks Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>10</b> final artworks completed between 2021 – 2023.</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. A diversity of conceptual approaches, considerations, and development in 2D, 3D or electronic- or lens-based final artworks that are completed and resolved.</li> <li>c. A combination of selected works done in school and at home during your own time is recommended.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>Scan <u>all</u></b> artworks and <b>combine</b> into 1 PDF document. File size not exceeding 20 mb.</li> <li>• <b>Save</b> the PDF document with your full name.</li> <li>• <b>Complete</b> Annex A (Cover Page)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the order of artwork listed should follow the order of the scanned artworks)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
(2) Sketchbook Pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5 to 8</b> selected sketchbook pages of A4 – A3 size, created between 2021 – 2023.</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>• <b>Scan <u>all</u></b> sketchbook pages and <b>combine</b> into 1 PDF document. File size not exceeding 1 mb.</li> <li>• <b>Save</b> the PDF document with your name.</li> <li>• <b>Complete</b> Annex A (Cover Page)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the order of artwork listed should follow the order of the scanned artworks)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
(3) 500-word typed essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit an essay that highlights your 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 of your art proposal.</li> <li>• Share some possible approaches you have taken to start the research as well as expected outcomes.</li> <li>• Include reasons of applying for the IBCP as well as what you hope to pursue at higher education, career, and your aspirations.</li> <li>• Format: Typewritten, font size 12 points, Arial font, double-spacing.</li> <li>• Save as a word document or .pdf.</li> <li>• Size of document should not exceed 1 mb.</li> </ul>

How to Submit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Save</b> items 1, 2 and 3 into a 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 it is set to 'Anyone with the Link'.</li><li>• <b>Paste</b> the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field.</li></ul>
Notes	<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 <u>not</u> required.</li></ul>

## TALENT ACADEMY 2023

### (C) Entrance Tests – Information for Non-DSA IBCP applicants

You may refer to the local GCE 'O' level assessment books for the following subjects to familiarise yourself with the topics and exercises.

The entrance tests will be scheduled on 20 June. Only shortlisted Non-DSA 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 Comprehension and Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 15 minutes to complete the test.</li><li>● Based on an expository text, candidates will answer a variety of questions testing close reading and comprehension skills, vocabulary in context and the use of language for impact.</li><li>● Based on an expository text, students will respond to an author's key arguments.</li></ul>
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour 30 minutes to complete the test.</li><li>● No calculator or Graphic Display Calculator is allowed.</li><li>● Formula Booklet will be provided.</li><li>● Candidates must complete 10 problem-solving questions that carry a total of 80 marks.</li><li>● The topics that will be covered are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Prior Knowledge of Year 1 to 4 Mathematics (Elementary Mathematics and some Additional Mathematics) is required</li><li>○ Functions and Graphs</li><li>○ Quadratic Functions and Graphs</li><li>○ Nature of roots for Quadratic Functions</li><li>○ Logarithms</li><li>○ Trigonometry: Identities, Double Angle Formula and Trigonometric Graphs</li><li>○ Differentiation of Polynomials, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions</li><li>○ Applications of Differentiation: Increasing and Decreasing Functions and Equations of Tangents and Normals</li><li>○ Integration of Polynomials</li><li>○ Applications of Integration: Area</li></ul></li></ul>

## (D) Audition Details

### (D.1) What You Will Experience During the Talent Academy

You will be required to participate in and complete the following compulsory activities in SOTA:

1. Entrance Tests (for Non-DSA candidates only)
2. Panel Interview and Online Questionnaires (no preparations required)
3. Arts Auditions:
  - Creative Activity
  - Portfolio Interview

### (D.2) How to Prepare for Visual Arts Audition

Activity	Description
Creative Activity	No preparation required. You will be assessed for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composition</li> <li>• Imagination</li> <li>• Manipulation of medium</li> </ul>
Portfolio Interview <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Final Artworks Portfolio</li> <li>2. Sketchbook</li> <li>3. Annex B Declaration of Authenticity of Portfolio for Shortlisted Candidates</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Final Artworks Portfolio (Compulsory)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 final artworks created within 2021 – 2023 that were submitted in your Talent Academy application.</li> <li>• You may include artworks done for media works, design works, jewellery pieces, sculpture and ceramics.</li> <li>• Artworks produced in school or during your own free time are acceptable.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Selecting the Artworks</b></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>• You should include in your portfolio, where possible:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>2 to 3 artworks based on observation.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ These should show your ability to observe, apply formal qualities effectively through a number of techniques and mediums to represent something realistic.</li> <li>○ You 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. <u>2 to 3 artworks based on imagination.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ These artworks should show your 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>c. <u>2 to 3 artworks that demonstrate where you derive inspiration from, and how it leads you to a diversity of conceptual approaches, considerations, and development. For example:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A series of works that is inspired by music, demonstrating how you 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 set of illustrations which you have created that show character creations, plot development, and composition refinement. The work should show originality and not be just a direct copy of the inspirational source.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> </li> </ul>

d. 2 to 3 artworks that demonstrate a range of technical competencies and considerations.

- These artworks should reflect your artistic and skill-based abilities in 3 different mediums to create a composition.
- The media can be 2-dimensional, 3-dimensional, time-based, lens-based or electronic-based art forms, such as painting, sculpture, graphic novel, or video, etc.

Instructions:

Each artwork should be clearly labelled with:

- Your full name
- Your TA Index Number (you would have received the TA index number upon successful submission of your TA application via the TA Portal. Eg. DSAJC/2024/VA123)
- Title of artwork
- Dimensions of artwork in centimetres (e.g. height, width and depth)
- Date of completion and/or duration of execution
- An indication on whether the artwork was done in your current school
- A short description of each artwork

**2. Sketchbook (Compulsory)**

- Sketchbook containing the 5 to 8 selected sketchbook pages of A4 – A3 size that were submitted in your Talent Academy application and created between 2021 – 2023.
- 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 Final Artworks Portfolio.

**3. Annex B: Declaration of Authenticity of Portfolio for Shortlisted Candidates (Compulsory, Page 11)**

- Complete and print hardcopy of Annex B, to be presented together with your portfolio.

**What to Expect and How to Prepare**

You will be assessed for:

- Motivation and engagement
- Communication of ideas, processes, and personal opinions
- Art proposal
- Approaches to research

You should be prepared to share with the panelists about:

- The extent and diversity of your explorations and experimentation in the visual form.
- Your artistic responses towards the selected topic/theme and reflection on the different approaches taken.
- Involvement in projects or activities you may have undertaken as an art student in school or during your own time.
- Your intention for choosing the Visual Arts IBCP as expressed in your 500-word essay.

Do put thought into the selection of works for your portfolio as the TA Panel will not view artworks beyond the stated number during the Portfolio Interview session. The TA Panel will only consider artworks presented during the Portfolio Interview session.

### (D.3) What to Bring

Entrance Tests (Non-DSA/Grade 10 candidates only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A copy of your TA Schedule.</li><li>• Student Concession Card (studying in Singapore) or a copy of your Passport (residing overseas).</li><li>• All writing materials will be provided for you.</li><li>• Wear comfortable clothing. Bring a sweater/jacket as you will be in air-conditioned venues. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed.</li></ul>
TA Schedule 1 (Page 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A copy of your TA Schedule.</li><li>• Student Concession Card (if you're studying in Singapore) or a copy of your Passport (residing overseas).</li><li>• Wear comfortable clothing. Bring a sweater/jacket as you will be in air-conditioned venues. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed.</li></ul>
TA Schedule 2 (Page 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A copy of your TA Schedule.</li><li>• Student Concession Card (if you're studying in Singapore) or a copy of your Passport (residing overseas)</li><li>• Art Portfolio, Sketchbook, Completed <b>Annex B: Declaration of Authenticity of Portfolio for Shortlisted Candidates.</b></li><li>• Wear comfortable clothing. Bring a sweater/jacket as you will be in air-conditioned venues. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed.</li></ul>
Note	<p><b>Food</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The canteen will be operating from 21 June – 23 June.</li><li>• At least 1 halal stall and 1 drink stall will be operating (vegetarian stall not opened).</li><li>• You may bring packed food and drink.</li></ul> <p><b>Movement &amp; Safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A group of SOTA students will be accompanying you throughout your day in SOTA.</li><li>• You will also be with a group of other candidates.</li><li>• Always remain with your group.</li><li>• Always inform one of the SOTA students if you need to use the restroom or if you have left any items at the previous venue. Most importantly, have fun and make friends.</li></ul> <p><b>Release from SOTA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All candidates who have completed all scheduled activities for the day will return to the assembly hall.</li><li>• When you're ready to leave, present your TA schedule to the SOTA staff.</li><li>• The SOTA staff attending to you will stamp and date your release time on your TA Schedule.</li><li>• Make your way to the level 5 gantry to exit the school. You will be asked to show your TA schedule by the security officer at the gantry for proof of stamp and release time.</li><li>• You are strictly not allowed to use your mobile phone for the entire duration of the TA.</li></ul>



**(D.4) How to Read Your TA Schedule**

Below is a sample of the downloaded TA Schedule.

<b>Talent Academy 2023 Schedule</b>			
Name :			
Index No :			
<b>TA Schedule 1</b>		<b>TA Schedule 2</b>	
Date		Date	
Reporting Time		Reporting Time	
Release Time		Release Time	
Warm-Up Time (Music performance only)		Group	
Solo Performance Time (Music performance only)		Panel	
<b>TA Schedule 3 (Not Applicable)</b>		<b>TA Schedule 4 (Not Applicable)</b>	
Date		Date	
Reporting Time		Reporting Time	
Release Time		Release Time	
Warm-Up Time (Music performance only)		Group	
Solo Performance Time (Music performance only)		Panel	

**A. How to Read Your Schedule**

**TA Schedule 1**

- Dance: Group activities, performance and interview. Wear your dance attire.
- Film: Group activities, audition and interview. Bring your portfolio.
- Literary Arts: Group activities, portfolio presentation and interview. Bring your portfolio.
- Music (Creating): Group activities and interview.
- Music (Performance): Group activities, solo performance and interview. Bring your instrument.
- Theatre: Group activities, monologue presentation and interview.
- Visual Arts: Group activities. Materials provided. Online Questionnaires. No preparations required.

**TA Schedule 2**

- Dance, Film, Literary Arts, Music, Theatre: Panel interview and Online Questionnaires. No preparation required.
- Visual Arts: Portfolio presentation and interview. Bring your portfolio. Panel interview. No preparation required.

**B. What to Bring for verification of candidates**

- Candidates studying in Singapore – Student Concession card (school issued ezlink card).
- Candidates studying overseas – a copy of your passport.

**C. Things to Note**

- Refer to the [TA Notes](#) for more information on what to prepare and bring.
- Check the 'Announcement' page via the TA Portal for more information about your TA.

**D. Reporting Venue**

- Level 2 (Ground Floor) in front of the escalator.

**ANNEX A**

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

<b>NO</b>	<b>TITLE OF WORK</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED (MM/YY)</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>DIMENSIONS (HEIGHT x WIDTH x DEPTH) IN CENTIMETRES</b>
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

**ANNEX B**

**VISUAL ARTS – DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY OF PORTFOLIO FOR SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES**

**Instructions**

- a. To be completed by the applicant’s parent or legal guardian
- b. **Complete and sign** the Declaration of Authenticity
- c. **Print** the Declaration of Authenticity and bring along to submit to the Panel at your audition

<b>Applicant’s Full Name:</b> (As per birth certificate /Re-Entry Permit/Passport /Student Pass)	
<b>Date:</b>	

I hereby declare that the following submitted for my child/ward’s application via the Talent Academy audition was 100% created by my child/ward from 2021 to the date of submission. I understand that my child/ward will NOT be considered for or eligible for admission to SOTA should the above be falsely declared.

- Art Portfolio (Compulsory)\*     Sketchbook (Compulsory)\*\*

\*\*\* as described on pages 6 – 7.

Parent’s/Guardian’s Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **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**

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