



ALLAN A. C. GRIFFITH, SR. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NATIONAL UNITED CHURCH USHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

National "Vocal" Contest

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE NATIONAL "VOCAL" CONTEST

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

...any Junior Usher or Young Adult Usher who is a member of an Usher Board whose Senior Usher Board is a member of a local organization; that Local is a member of a State organization; and that State is a member of the National United Church Ushers Association of America, Incorporated.

...scholars from the second year high-school {10th Grade} through the **1st year of college** inclusive.

...non-professionals in the field contested, i.e., cannot have received a salary or stipend as a writer, editor, or journalist. Participation in a religious, social, or political competition for which a contestant may have received a one-time monetary **award is not** disqualifying.

...must have served on the Local board for at least **2 years** before entering the Contest, and active. In the event of relocation within the United States, the junior or young adult usher must request a transfer to the Local board of his/her choice within 1 year.

...must have won 1st or 2nd place in the Competitions held in each Region. Payment of contestant travel, housing, and expenses to the National Contest is left solely to the discretion of each Region.

...must perform with at least 80% accuracy at all levels of competition to be eligible to participate in the National Competition.

...a participant who has **(previously)** received one of the National Scholarship prizes will **not** be eligible to enter the Contest again.

**The National "Vocal" Contest will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the
Host Hotel on Thursday of the Convention week at 7:00 PM**

THE NATIONAL CONTEST

The National “Vocal” Contest will be held during the National Convention week at a place and time designated by the Convention **presently** on Thursday evening of the Convention week at 7:00 PM. In order to compete in the National Contest, the contestant must be the **1st and 2nd place winners** of the highest level of competition within the Region represented. Payment of contestant travel, housing, and expenses either to the National Contest or to intermediate competition{s} within a State is left solely to the discretion of each State and Region.

PRIZES TO BE AWARDED

Four scholarships will be awarded at the **National Contest**:

■ 1 st Place Scholarship	\$5,000
■ 2 nd Place Scholarship	\$4,000
■ 3 rd Place Scholarship	\$2,500
■ 4 th Place Scholarship	\$1,500

All scholarship awards will be made in **four** equal installments directly to the winning contestants’ college / university / school upon verification of admission / enrollment. A second year high school winner must start to use his/her scholarship not later than 3 years from the date of award or the scholarship is forfeited. A third year high school winner must start to use his/her scholarship not later than 2 years from the date of award, or the scholarship is forfeited. A winner in the first year of college is expected to begin use of his/her scholarship in the impending academic year. In case of military service, the above-listed times for use of scholarship may be waived. Those contestants not placing in the Contest receive a \$500.00 Cash Book Grant. In addition, the R. E. Harshaw, Jr. Foundation Board of Trustees provides yearly grants of \$250.00 to be matched by State funds for a total of \$500.00 awarded to deserving students in member states.

CONTEST REQUIREMENTS

Contestants must comply with the following:

1. Each Contestant who will compete in the National “**Vocal**” Contest must complete the National “Vocal” Contest Application Form. **The application must be typewritten.** Contestants must make certain that their completed forms are in the hands of the Education Chairman in their Region well before the due date so that the applications can be mailed by the Regional Education Chairman in a timely manner. The completed and signed applications must reach the National Education Chairman **No Later Than June 1st of the Contest year.**

2. Each contestant who will compete in the National Contest must have achieved a minimum of **80 points** at the Local, State, and Regional levels.
3. Each contestant is required to perform two vocal selections of contrasting works. For example: one selection from **Category I** and one selection from **Category II**. See the attached list of suggested music literature.
 - *One sacred and one secular piece
 - *Two works in contrasting tempos
 - *One 19th Century and one 20th Century piece

A list of **SUGGESTED** music literature suitable for competition is included for your perusal. However, this list should not be viewed as all-inclusive or an only source. Prospective contestants are urged to explore a variety of options before finalizing their selections.

Each contestant must perform their same selection at all levels of the competition, i.e., Local, State, Regional, and National. Failure to do so will result in his or her disqualification from the National Contest. The only accompanying instrument for the performance will be a piano.

4. All contestants must **submit five {5} original copies** of his or her Contest music to the National Education Chairman on the day of the National Contest. One copy will be kept by the Department, and the **four** remaining copies will be returned to the contestant. No xeroxed or otherwise duplicated copies of published music will be accepted. Please be aware of this requirement when choosing your selection.
5. The appropriate salutation for the contest is: **“Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen.”** In addition, each contestant should introduce each work to be performed, citing such information as the title of the work, composer; arranger, and type of composition {e.g., spiritual, classical, etc.}. However, **ALL SUCH INTRODUCTORY REMARKS ARE INCLUDED IN THE 10-MINUTE TIME LIMIT.**
6. **All works must be performed from memory.** Contestants are not permitted to perform their own original works or alter the works of other composers.
7. The time limit for performance of each contestant is **10 minutes**, and will be strictly enforced. No selection should be under **3 minutes in length**. An official timekeeper will be present for the competition. Any contestant who exceeds or falls under the time limit will be allowed to complete his or her performance, but will be disqualified prior to computation of the Judges’ scoring sheets. The brief salutation identified in #5 above will be included in the 10-minute time limit.

8. The type of attire to be worn at the Local, State, and Regional Contest may vary. However, the attire for all contestants at the National Contest **must be formal attire**. Young men will wear a black suit or black tuxedo with a white shirt, black tie, and black shoes. Young ladies will wear evening gowns {floor length}. **No strapless gowns are to be worn. There are no exceptions!**
9. The dress code for Judges is as follows: **men will wear business attire** – suit or jacket and slacks, shirt, and tie; **ladies will wear business attire**.
10. **All contestants must arrive at the National Convention on or before 12:00 Noon Tuesday of the Convention week. They must contact the National Chairman at the time of their arrival.**
11. **All contestants must be registered for the National Convention as a Delegate from the State they are representing, and must attend and participate in the daily business session of the Junior and Young People's Department during the National Convention.**
12. A student / participant who has **(previously)** received a National Scholarship may not enter the National Contest again.
13. Videotaping, **Recording, and Pictures of any type** are not allowed at the National Contest.
14. There shall be a Timekeeper, three Tally Persons {one of the three must be the Head Tally Person}, and one Runner.
15. Judges should be briefed on the Rules and Regulations by a knowledgeable Education Department worker and / or the National / Region Education Chairman before the Contest begins.
16. There shall be three Judges and one Alternate Judge, making a total of four Judges. There shall be a Head Judge to be decided amongst the Judges to give the scores – starting with the lowest to the highest score – of all Contestants, and then declaring the 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st Place winners.
17. The Judges will be given a donation of \$100.00 coming from the National Education Department funds. **Special Note:** the specific donation amount is subject to be changed based on current economics. Each Region / State can determine what donation is to be given to their Judges.
18. The Judges' dress code will be **Business Attire**.
19. The contestants are allowed to use a microphone for the Contest.
20. Contestants are allowed to use gestures, expressions, drama, and movements.

ADDITIONAL CONTEST INFORMATION:

1. A rehearsal room will be made available at the National Convention for use by the contestants. An equal amount of time per day will be allotted to each contestant.
2. The order of performance for the National Contest will be determined by drawing numbers on the night of the Contest.
3. The Tally Persons will calculate the scores of the Judges for each contestant. The Master Tally Person will record the results on the Contest Summary Tally Sheet and sign at the bottom on the form. The Master Tally Person will then transfer the necessary information to the Contest Winners' Form. The Judges and the three Tally Persons will sign the form to certify its authenticity. The Contest Winners' Form is then given to the Head Judge for announcement of category placements.
4. There will be four {4} winners announced. The Head Judge will announce the runners up, and then the winners from the Contest Winners' Form beginning with 4th Place. **THE JUDGES' DECISION IS FINAL.**
5. The categories of competition in the National "Vocal" Contest will be: Spirituals and Classical.
6. **If the** contestant **cannot** provide his or her own accompanist, one will be provided and charged to the contestant's Region.
7. Each person attending the National Education Contest must give a donation of \$5.00 through registration. Non-registered attendees must give a donation of \$5.00 at the door, and receive a ticket from the National Education Department or the National Board of Directors. **Special Note:** The specific donation amount is subject to be changed based on current economics.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONS AND STATES

1. Each State is responsible for a donation of **\$200.00**, whether they have a contestant or not, to the R. E. Harshaw, Jr. Foundation.
2. Each Region may have two contestants.
3. All Region and State Chairmen are responsible for distributing all Contest materials to their local Chairmen.
4. All contestants must be a member of the Junior and Young People's Department, and must be registered and attend their meetings to be eligible to participate in the National Education Contests.

5. All contestants must have competed at the State level, and pass with an 80% score to be eligible for the Regional and National Contests.
6. All contestants must be at the National Convention before 12:00 Noon on Tuesday of the Convention week. They must check in with the National Chairman before this time.
7. All parents should be given the Rules and Regulations in writing prior to the Contest. They must also be given the Pre-Condition Form to be signed by the contestant before the Education Contest.
8. All Region Chairmen are responsible for getting the completed, typewritten application to the National Chairman on or before the deadline dated as stated by the National Chairman, or your contestant can be disqualified.





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NATIONAL UNITED CHURCH USHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

NATIONAL “VOCAL” CONTEST JUDGING CRITERIA

Based on a maximum of 100 points

Accuracy

Adherence to score; Notes	6 Points
Tempo	6 Points
Rhythm	6 Points
Expression Marks	6 Points
Dynamics	<u>6 Points</u>
Total Points Possible	30 Points

Technique

Tone Quality	8 Points
Intonation	6 Points
Breathing and Phrasing	6 Points
Memorization	6 Points
Diction	<u>8 Points</u>
Total Points Possible	34 Points

Interpretation

Ability to convey the composer, intentions – i.e. literal translation of his/her notation presented through vocal execution	10 Points
Conceptual awareness – i.e. demonstrates an awareness of the historical, conceptual, and systematic framework of the piece he/she is performing	10 Points
Stylistic freedom and vocal flexibility	<u>10 Points</u>
Total Points Possible	30 Points

Presentation

Appropriateness of selections to showcase presenter's talents and versatility	4 Points
Command of Audience	<u>2 Points</u>
Total Points Possible	6 Points

SUGGESTED LITERATURE SUITABLE FOR VOCAL COMPETITION

CATEGORY I – SPIRITUALS

NOTE: This list is an example of the type of composition to select. The contestant may select from this list or choose a composition of his or her choice, which is comparable.

COMPOSITION

COMPOSER/ARRANGER

1. He's Got the Whole World in His Hands	Margaret Bonds
2. Wade in De Water	Harry Burleigh
3. Go Down Moses	Harry Burleigh
4. Honor! Honor!	Hall Johnson
5. Joshua Fit De Battle of Jericho	Harry Burleigh
6. Witness	Hall Johnson
7. His Name So Sweet	Hall Johnson
8. I Want Jesus to Walk With Me	Clarence C. White
9. I Want Jesus to Walk With Me	Edward Boamer
10. City Called Heaven	Hall Johnson
11. On Ma Journey	Edward Boamer
12. I Got A Home on That Rock	Margaret Bonds
13. Deep River	Harry Burleigh
14. Jesus Lay Your Head in De Winder	Hall Johnson
15. Way Up in Heaven	Hall Johnson
16. Hold On!	Hall Johnson
17. There Is A Balm In Gilead	William Dawson
18. Mary's Little Boy Child	Jester Hairston
19. Sweet Little Jesus Boy	McGimsey
20. Fi-yer! Fi-yer! {Fire}	Hall Johnson
21. Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit	Harry Burleigh
22. Give Me Jesus	Harry Burleigh
23. Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveler	Harry Burleigh
24. My Lord, What A Morning	Harry Burleigh
25. Nobody Knows De Trouble I've Seen	Harry Burleigh
26. Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child	Harry Burleigh
27. Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray	Harry Burleigh
28. Sinner, Please Doan Let Dis Harves' Pas	Harry Burleigh
29. O Rocks Don't Fall On Me	Harry Burleigh
30. I Want To Be Ready	Harry Burleigh
31. By An' By	Harry Burleigh
32. Ain't Goin' To Study War No Mo'	Harry Burleigh

SUGGESTED LITERATURE SUITABLE FOR VOCAL COMPETITION

CATEGORY II – CLASSICAL {Sacred and Secular}

NOTE: This list is an example of the type of composition to be used. The contestant may select from this list or choose other material which is comparable.

{**H**-high; **MH**-medium high; **ML**-medium low; **L**-low}

<u>COMPOSITION</u>	<u>COMPOSER/ARRANGER</u>	<u>VOCAL RANGE</u>
Cantique de Noel {O Holy Night}	Adolphe Adam	H, MH, ML, L
Holy City	Adams/Weatherly	H, M, L
The Lord Is My Light	Frances Allitsen	H, ML, L
Lass with the Delicate Air	Thomas Arne	H
Bist du bel mir {Thou Art My Joy}	J. S. Bach	H, M, L
My Heart Ever Faithful	J. S. Bach	H, M, L
Agnus Dei {Lamb of God}	Georges Bizet	H, M, L
O What A Beautiful City	Edward Boamer	H, ML
Calm As the Night {Still wie die Nacht}	Carl Bolm	M, L
Sleep That Flits on Baby's Eyes	John Carpenter	
Clouds	Ernest Charles	M
Let My Song Fill Your Heart	Ernest Charles	L
When I Have Sung My Songs	Ernest Charles	H, L
Funiculi, Funicula	Luigi Denza	H
Music When Soft Voices Die	David Diamond	
By the Bend of the River	Claire Edwards	L
Into the Night	Claire Edwards	H
The Palms	Jean Faure	H, M

SUGGESTED LITERATURE SUITABLE FOR VOCAL COMPETITION {Cont'd.}

CATEGORY II – CLASSICAL {Sacred and Secular}

<u>COMPOSITION</u>	<u>COMPOSER/ARRANGER</u>	<u>VOCAL RANGE</u>
O Rest in the Lord {from Elijah} On Wings of Song	Felix Mendelssohn Felix Mendelssohn	M
The Black Swan {from the Medium} Alleluia from Exsultate Jubilate	Carlo Menotti Wolfgang A. Mozart	H, M, L
Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair Go 'Way from My Window I Wonder As I Wander Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head Wayfaring Stranger	John J. Niles John J. Niles John J. Niles John J. Niles John J. Niles	H, M H, L H, L H, L
I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked	Geoffrey O' Hara	M, L
O mio babbino caro UN bel di {from Madame Butterfly}	Giacomo Puccini Giacomo Puccini	
Trees La Danza {Tarantella Napoletana}	Oscar Rasbach Giacchino Rossini	H, M, ML H, M
An die musik {to music} Avé Maria Du bist die Ruh	Franz Schubert Franz Schubert Franz Schubert	M
Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled On the Road to Mandalay	Oley Speaks Oley Speaks	

The Compositions included on this list are available at:

HAL LEONARD MUSIC / SHEET MUSIC PLUS

MUSIC DISPATCH

OR

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