



## Vocal Contest Guidelines & Rubric

### I. General Guidelines

#### A. Competitions and Participants

1. Solo - consisting of one vocalist
2. Small Ensemble - consisting of no more than 5 vocalists
3. These are two separate categories and will be judged only against like entries.
4. This contest is not subdivided into *minores*, *maiores* and *optimates*.
5. Schools/Teams may submit 1 entry per category.

#### B. Music Selection Guidelines

1. Piece must be performed in Latin.
  - a) Classical and Ecclesiastical are both welcome.
  - b) The pronunciation should be stated when presenting the piece before the judges.
2. Time Period and Composer
  - a) Any time period or composer, including the performer, is permissible.
  - b) These should be identified when presenting the piece before the judges.
3. Performance Length should be no more than 4 minutes.

#### C. Required Materials

1. Contestants must present a copy of the music with lyrics to the judges before they begin their performance.
2. Any musical accompaniment must be provided by the participants.
  - a) HCU will provide a single piano.
  - b) Students may bring an audio player with pre-recorded music.
  - c) It is the participants' responsibility to retrieve all materials used after their performance.
3. Costumes are not permitted and the name of the team/school should not be visible during the performance.

D. Memorization

1. Memorization is expected and will be considered on the judging rubric (see below).
2. Participants who have not memorized their piece, may compete and use their music. However, they will lose all points for memorization in the rubric.

II. **Presentation**

- A. Introduction - The participant should give a brief introduction (time limit) of their piece stating.
  1. The introduction should be given by the soloist or an appointed member of the ensemble.
  2. The introduction should include the title, composer, time period, and pronunciation.
  3. The judges should be presented with a copy of the music at this time.
  4. The introduction should be no more than two minutes.
- B. The soloist or ensemble member should each present themselves with decorum.
  1. Consider: stage presence, posture, poise

III. **Rubric**

See following page.

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>SCORE (1-5)</b>
<b>Tone Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tonal accuracy</li> <li>● Control</li> <li>● Clarity</li> <li>● Consistency</li> </ul>	
<b>Rhythm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rhythmic accuracy</li> <li>● Appropriate tempo</li> </ul>	
<b>Technique</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Artistry</li> <li>● Control</li> <li>● Musical Skill</li> </ul>	
<b>Musicianship?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Style</li> <li>● Phrasing</li> <li>● Dynamics</li> <li>● Interpretation of piece</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Vocal clarity of lyrics</li> <li>● Pronunciation of Latin</li> </ul>	
<b>Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction</li> <li>● Stage Presence (poise/posture)</li> <li>● General conduct and appearance</li> </ul>	
<b>Memorization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Piece was memorized</li> </ul> <p>These points should be omitted if the participant(s) used sheet music.</p>	
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>		