

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can make a submission?

Any student performing artist (currently enrolled in an institution of elementary, secondary, or post-secondary education or an accredited trade school), the artist's parent or legal guardian, or any school official may submit information regarding talent. A "school official" is an individual (e.g., teacher, band director, principal, faculty member, professor, vice-principal, art director, or dance instructor) who provides oversight or instruction to students currently enrolled in institutions of elementary, secondary, or post-secondary education or accredited trade schools. All students must be actively enrolled in academic courses at the time of submission.

Why make a submission?

Making a submission offers the potential opportunity for recognition of student performers and their talents before diverse audiences. The Department also may post, with the submitter's consent, recorded performances on the Department's social media channels, allowing for additional exposure. The Department and its leadership will provide a written acknowledgment of appreciation for the performance.

What are the eligibility requirements for submission?

All student performing artists must be enrolled in an institution of elementary, secondary, or post-secondary education (e.g., charter schools, Department of Defense Education Activities (DODEA), home schools, private/parochial schools, public schools) or in an accredited trade school at the time of submission.

All eligible student performing artists and submitters, must also be able to:

- give the Department access to a high-quality recorded sample of the talent;
- provide a performance suitable for all ages;
- meet the time, location, theme, and purpose requirements for the specific Department-hosted event for which they may be selected;
- produce a performance in the required Department-hosted event format (e.g., in-person performance for a live or hybrid event, a high-quality recording of the performance for a virtual event); and
- submit completed submission form and all appropriate release and consent forms for all student performing artists in the submission.

Will the performance be remote or in-person?

Performances may be featured at in-person, hybrid (both in-person and virtual audience), and virtual Department-hosted events. If the Department determines that a live performance is needed during a virtual or hybrid event, the Department will provide the virtual platform link and remote technical support. Additional release forms may be required for recorded performances and will be provided as necessary.

How do I submit information about talent?

To submit information about talent, you must complete a submission form, which includes details such as contact information, performance availability, type of talent, and the instructions for uploading the appropriate consent and release forms.

How do I prepare to submit a performance demonstration?

To submit a performance demonstration, please share with us a link as instructed below.

When preparing a performance demonstration, keep in mind the following:

1. There should be nothing else on the video recording(s) besides the demonstration.
2. Demonstrations must be recorded in an area without background noise and anything that could distract from the performance.
3. Please dress appropriately. No marketing of brand names or companies is permitted. School names and mascots are acceptable. We recommend, but don't require, that if you typically wear a uniform or costume during the actual performance, you do so in the video. We want the video to be as close as possible to the actual performance you would be able to provide to the Department.
4. Each demonstration video should not exceed five minutes in length.

Please upload the demonstration video to an "unlisted" YouTube file (see below). Be sure to include the school/organizations name in the file title and description. Please also include the date and time of the performance.

Please check the URL to ensure it is functioning properly before submitting. YouTube accepts any of the following video formats: .MOV, .MPEG4, MP4, .AVI, .WMV, MPEGPS, .FLV, 3GPP, and WebM.

Follow these directions to upload the completed video to an unlisted YouTube file:

1. Go to www.youtube.com and sign in. If you don't already have an account, please create one.
2. Click the "UPLOAD" button at the top.
3. Either click on the "Select files to upload" box and select your video file from the directory or drag/drop your video file into the box.

4. In the "Basic Info" screen, enter the appropriate title (see requested format below) in the box where the filename appears.
5. In the box below the title, enter the name of your school/organization as the description along with the date and time of the performance.
6. Change the privacy setting from "Public" to "Unlisted."
7. Click "Done."
8. When the video is finished, copy the URL and paste it into the online submission form.
9. To access your video later, be sure to copy the URL:
 - a. Go to YouTube and sign in.
 - b. Click on your user icon (the blue silhouette box at the top right) and select "Creator Studio." Your video(s) will be listed.

Please also note that all submissions must be suitable for audiences of all ages, and the Department reserves the right to reject entries that are violent, vulgar, or otherwise offensive.

What is the deadline for submission?

At this time, there is no deadline for submissions, since this an ongoing request for talent. We are accepting submissions starting March 15, 2022.

What happens after submission?

A confirmation email will be sent to the submitter upon completion of the submission to acknowledge receipt. As specific Department-hosted events and initiatives arise, the Department will, in its sole discretion, review and match submissions with event requirements and availability.

Submissions can be renewed on an annual basis by emailing studentart@ed.gov, with the subject line, "Call for Student Performing Artists Submission Renewal."

Does the submission guarantee selection to perform?

No, submission does not guarantee that applicants will be selected to perform.

The Department does not guarantee that applicants will be selected to perform. Selection does not constitute an endorsement or the recommendation by the Department of any school, individual student and/or group, or the talent itself. Any opinions expressed during any performance do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of the Department.

If selected to perform, can performances be promoted?

If selected, the Department will provide you with official guidance about sharing participation in the project with school communities, media, and social media. Please refrain from making any public announcements regarding the performance opportunity until such guidance is provided.