# Overture Awards
## Vocal Music Competition
### Judging Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Scores: 8-10 per category; Total: 40-50</th>
<th>Scores: 6-7 per category; Total: 30-39</th>
<th>Scores: 4-5 per category; Total: 20-29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Beauty/Quality of Tone** | - Beautiful clear timbre, focused, not breathy  
- Negotiates passaggio well  
- Sound is not pushed or manufactured | - Vocal quality is present  
- May exhibit production problems such as occasional breathiness or nasality  
- Occasional passaggio problems | - Inconsistency in vocal producing technique  
- Voice may be breathy or nasal in certain registers  
- May push, may not support, tension obvious |
| **Technique** | - Voice is well supported in all registers  
- Excellent intonation  
- Good flexibility  
- Sings legato beautifully | - Voice is well supported in most registers  
- May push occasionally, some tension present  
- Some minor intonation problems  
- Limited flexibility  
- Inconsistent in legato singing | - Voice is breathy, pushed, or nasal, tension present  
- Obvious intonation problems  
- Has difficulty with flexibility  
- Lack of legato in singing |
| **Communication: Interpretation, diction** | - Excellent diction  
- Performer clearly understands every word they sing  
- The text is interpreted in a sensitive manner | - Good diction  
- Performer understands most of the words they sing  
- The text is interpreted in a satisfactory manner | - Faulty diction  
- Performer doesn’t always understand what they are singing  
- Lack of text interpretation |
| **Musicianship: Dynamics, rhythm, tempo, phrasing, style** | - Sensitive use of dynamics  
- Excellent rhythm & tempo  
- Phrasing follows the text and makes sense vocally  
- Musicianship supports and enhances interpretation  
- Awareness of good ensemble with accompanist | - Follows most of the dynamics  
- Good Rhythm  
- Tempo is appropriate but may vary  
- Phrasing does not always make sense  
- May not always be in sync with accompanist | - Dynamics contrast missing  
- Faulty rhythm and tempo  
- Poor sense of phrasing  
- Lacks ensemble with accompanist |
| **Stage Presence** | - Is at ease and confident  
- Facial expressions & gestures make sense dramatically  
- Is appropriately dressed  
- Sustains mood of piece throughout performance | - Facial expressions & gestures don’t always reflect text or mood of song  
- Dress may not be totally professional  
- Performance dramatically inconsistent  
- May not hold the moment through the end of the aria/song | - Nerves may show  
- May be preoccupied with vocal aspects of performance  
- Facial expressions lacking, gestures inappropriate or extraneous  
- Dress is inappropriate  
- Uninvolved in song during introductions, interludes & postludes |

Rev.: October, 2014