

HELPFUL HINTS

1. Always choose a song that is well within your vocal range and ability to perform.
2. Choose a song with which you are comfortable and one you know well.
3. Be early enough to hear other competitors perform and learn from what they do well.
4. Present yourself as well as you are able and always look confident and acknowledge the adjudicator and the audience with a small bow before you announce the item.
5. Rehearse as often as possible with your accompanist for a smooth and confident performance.
6. See each performance as a practice for a further performance.
7. Don't rush onto the stage.
8. The performance begins the moment you walk onto the stage, so take your time and take deep breaths.
9. Don't let noise in the hall distract you.
10. Don't be put off if something goes wrong.
11. Don't disclose mistakes.
12. Go to the front of the stage to announce your item.

Pianists

13. Check the height and position of the stool.
14. Check that the music stand is secure.
15. Put the stand down if you are not using music – you will be more aware of your sound.

Singers and Instrumentalists

16. If playing a solo instrument or singing with accompaniment, check that your accompanist can see you.
17. Make sure you have sufficient space on stage. Check the height of the music stand.
18. Wear comfortable shoes and clothes.
19. Keep playing whatever happens!