

Sundays at Four

P. O. Box 61
Smithfield, VA 23431

...providing a venue where area professionals and recognized students can perform and share their art

Terrific Teen Talent Selection Process for the Annual August Recital

History:

The Terrific Teen Talent Recital was a recommendation by Heidi Bloch, the Artistic Director for the Sundays at Four concert series established in the spring of 2008. This recital quickly became more than a show of talent at a concert, but rather a music education process for already recognized teens with the dedication and potential to pursue a career as a professional musician or to continue serious music study at the college level. Like the Sundays at Four professional concert series, the focus of this Terrific Teen Talent Recital is on classical music and secondarily, pure jazz.

A process was established to support outstanding teen musicians within a professional environment that would increase each student's understanding of programming, collaborative teaching, recital expectations, and professional responsibilities (applicants need not be intending to apply to music schools). Studio teachers, schools and organizations are contacted to get the word out about this recital offering. Live performances and competitions are attended by Sundays at Four board musicians as they scout for potential outstanding teen performers. Professional recommendations are valued. Electronic auditions are received through a YouTube, CD, or other link. Those selected by Sundays at Four are sent an invitational letter about the recital, and a summary of expectations. Students who accept the invitation are sent a detailed letter of expectations. Only 5-6 teens will be selected for each August Terrific Teen Talent recital.

Requirements:

1. Must be a teenager (13-19) within six weeks of the August recital date.
2. Must show outstanding and already recognized musical potential.
3. Must be studying with a private, recognized, professional teacher during the year prior to the recital and continue studying through the recital date.
4. Must receive the approval and recommendation of the teen's private teacher to participate.
5. Must audition for a position on the recital by submitting a YouTube link, CD, video, or other method that can be heard by the SAF board for evaluation, or be accepted through a live performance.
6. The recital program must be developed in collaboration with the studio teacher.
7. The accompanist must be a pianist approved by SAF. This accompanist is to be a collaborative professional. The teen accepts that this recital experience is a collaborative effort among SAF, his private professional teacher, and his accompanist.
8. Must meet all due dates for submitting audition and materials as requested, and agree to all requirements.

Recital Preparations and Expectations:

1. The teen develops a 12-15 minute program for the recital with his private teacher and has that teacher's and SAF's final approval by the due date given. The program is to be classical or pure jazz in development. (Singers may have a program of 2/3rds Classical and 1/3 Broadway. Jazz artists must show their ability to improvise freely upon main themes)
2. The teen is required to send a bio and a jpeg picture taken with his instrument. Provide a neutral background whether inside or outdoors. Or the picture can be a close up action shot while performing, or pretending to perform. Upon sending this picture, the teen agrees with their parent that it can be used by SAF for marketing the recital.
3. The teen must deliver his program to SAF by the date specified and it must contain complete information as required for the printed program: title of each piece, name of movements, composer and the composer's dates. Vocalists should include if the piece is from an opera, oratorio, operetta, or Broadway musical. And, vocalists should include translations ready for printing.
4. Music is to be delivered to the accompanist three months in advance of the recital. SAF offers to help match performer and accompanist.
5. SAF will pay each teen performer and will cover the fee of his/her accompanist, for one rehearsal and the day of performance. The teen must communicate the accompanist's fee to SAF by the day required.
6. Adding duets, or instrumentalist to a vocal program can only be with the approval of the studio teacher and SAF.
7. For the concert, teens are instructed to dress "Sunday-best" – guys in suits or tux and ladies in attire appropriate for the recital, which may be a long gown.
8. Teens will be given multiple opportunities to rehearse at the recital facility.
 - a. On the day of the recital, 15-minute slots can be scheduled for rehearsing beginning at 12:30 with all rehearsing complete by 3:30.
 - b. Collaborating Accompanist will be paid by SAF for one full rehearsal and the performance. The full rehearsal must take place on a day other than the recital date. The teen should plan to practice with their accompanist at least several days prior to the performance date. It is expected that the teen be recital ready when he practices with their accompanist during this full rehearsal time. Paying the accompanist for additional rehearsals, if needed, are the responsibility of the teen and their parent.

Note: SAF reserves the right to withdraw its invitation to any teen at any time whose behavior is not in accordance with our stated goals, and who does not follow procedures, requirements, and meet the expected dates.

Student applying to perform on the Terrific Teen Recital agrees they understand and will abide by the rules and expectations for this opportunity.

Signature _____ Date _____