

18 November 2022 (revised on 24 March 2023)

Principals

All Primary Schools, Secondary and Independent Schools, Junior Colleges, Millennia Institute and Integrated Programme (IP) Schools, Specialised Independent Schools, Specialised Schools, Privately Funded Schools and SPED Schools

## **SYF2023 THE YOUTH STATION PROJECT OPEN CALL**

1. The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) is a series of events organised by the Ministry of Education (MOE) held annually, for students to showcase their talents, artistic expression and creative voice. The spirit and essence of the SYF are centred on encouraging our youth to discover their talents in the arts, and provide them with diverse opportunities to learn, collaborate, grow and engage with the community.
2. **The Youth Station Project** is a SYF platform dedicated to showcasing students' original creative work in music. Through this platform, student-musicians are provided with opportunities to further develop their interest and skills in songwriting, music arranging, production and performing, with relevant learning and exposure gained through mentorship by professional musicians.
3. The Youth Station Project **Open Call** consists of **three** categories:
  - i. Primary Category:
    - For original song entries submitted by individual students or student groups at the primary level.
  - ii. Lower Secondary Category:
    - For original song entries submitted by individual students or student groups at the lower secondary level.
  - iii. Open Category:
    - For original song entries submitted by individual students or student groups at the upper secondary level and above.
4. The Top 20 songs from the 2022 edition of "The Youth Station Project" are available for reference via these links:
  - i. [Primary School Category](#)
  - ii. [Lower Secondary Category](#)
  - iii. [Open Category](#)
5. Schools are advised to select the above categories based on the following:

- i. The academic level(s) of participating students will be according to the **academic year in which the songs are completed** (e.g., if a song is completed in term 4, 2022 when the student is in secondary 2, select the lower sec category).
  - ii. For group submissions comprising participants from mixed levels such as primary and secondary, lower and upper secondary or secondary and JC, the categories to select should be based on the levels of the majority in the group.
  - iii. In the event where equal number of participants from different levels are in the group (e.g., group comprising one lower secondary and one upper secondary participant), either level are acceptable.
6. The original song entries should be based on at least **ONE** of the following themes:
- i. Celebrate
  - ii. Encourage
  - iii. Environment
  - iv. Family
  - v. Friends
  - vi. Gratitude
  - vii. Inspire
  - viii. Moments
  - ix. Places
  - x. Reflect
7. All entries must be submitted by **Monday, 22 May 2023** via the **FormSG link** or **QR code**:



<https://go.gov.sg/theyouthstationproject2023>

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8. **Twenty songs** will be selected from **each category**: Ten “Top 10” songs and ten “Honourable Mention” songs

Schools of the selected songs will be notified through the teachers-in-charge via e-mail by **Monday 29 May 2023**.

These 20 songs from each category will be featured in the SYF YouTube Channel, Instagram and Facebook platforms. The student-participants of these songs will also be invited to **perform at the SYF Celebrations in July 2023**.

9. **ALL** participants with a valid submission will receive an e-certificate for their participation, which can be reflected in their CCA record.
10. The copyright of the songs shall remain with the participants. However, the copyright owners of the **Top 10** selected original songs shall grant MOE an exclusive licence until **31 July 2024** for use of the songs, including but not limited to the following: *reproduce, modify, adapt and perform the song in SYF performances*. Thereafter, the copyright owners shall grant MOE a perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, worldwide license to reproduce, modify, adapt and perform the song in all MOE materials and events.
11. By submitting an entry, participants are deemed to have accepted MOE's terms as set out above regarding the use of the selected song and song write-up.
12. Refer to **Annex A** for the Guidelines to The Youth Station Project Open Call.
13. Refer to **Annex B** for more details of the following support which will be provided for participating schools:
  - i. **Songwriting Basics Video Series**
  - ii. **Songwriting Workshop for Music Teachers**
  - iii. **E-mentoring for Lower Sec & Open Category**
14. For clarifications, please contact the following officers:

Name & Designation: Marvin Leung, Senior Specialist (Music)  
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15. Thank you.

**CLARA LIM-TAN (MRS)**  
**DIRECTOR, ARTS EDUCATION**  
**ARTS EDUCATION BRANCH**  
**STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CURRICULUM DIVISION 2**  
**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

## GUIDELINES TO THE YOUTH STATION PROJECT OPEN CALL

### 1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- i. The original song should be:
  - In English
  - Between 2.5 to 4 minutes in duration
  - An original work written and performed/produced by the participant(s)
- ii. The song may be written in any contemporary genre (e.g., Pop, Rock, Folk, R&B, Electronic, Fusion, etc.). Lyrics may be expressed through singing, rapping, or a combination of both. However, the song lyrics **MUST NOT** contain any explicit and/or offensive content. Any mention of brand names should also be avoided.
- iii. Participants are to ensure that their original song entries do not infringe copyright in any way.
- iv. All participants must be **current students** of their respective schools in 2023.
- v. Each student may participate in **up to one individual and one group entry OR two group entries**.
- vi. Teachers (including contract, relief, adjunct and trainee teachers), mentors under the NAC Artist-in-School or Artists-Mentor schemes, and AMIS and CCA instructors may assist students in the following:
  - Providing advice or suggestions for improvement
  - Helping to make **minor** edits to students' works
  - Recording of the various students' parts for the songs
  - Guiding students to use ICT-based music creating tools for the song arrangements or to produce the songs
- vii. The following forms of assistance by schoolteachers, NAC mentors, AMIS and CCA instructors, private music teachers, parents and family members are strictly **NOT PERMITTED**:
  - Writing the song lyrics for students
  - Creating / performing the accompaniment parts and/or vocal parts for students
  - Creating the song arrangements for students
  - Engaging external vendors or any form of professional music production services to refine, improve, edit, arrange, record or produce the songs

## 2. JUDGING CRITERIA

- i. The Top 10 and Honourable Mention songs for “The Youth Station Project” will be selected from each of the three categories based on the quality of the following:
  - Lyrics
  - Melody
  - Harmony & arrangement
  - Vocal(s) and accompaniment (live or sequenced)
  - Production
- ii. The judging criteria are as follows:

Criteria	Description
Lyrics	Quality and effectiveness of song lyrics for the chosen theme.
Melody	Quality and effectiveness of the melody for the chosen theme and how well the melody suits the lyrics.
Harmony & Arrangement	Quality and effectiveness of the chord progression and song arrangement in a chosen style or genre; and in supporting the melody.
Vocal(s) & Accompaniment	Quality of the vocal(s) and accompaniment parts, accuracy of pitch and rhythms, and how well they work together in the song.
Production	Quality of the audio track of the song submitted based on the clarity and balance of the parts in the song.

- iii. The organiser reserves the right to **disqualify** entries with any of the following:
  - Inappropriate, explicit and/or offensive content
  - incomplete or partially completed work
  - infringement of copyrights by using known melodic and/or lyric phrases from existing songs
  - assistance exceeding what is permitted

## 3. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

- i. The original song for submission should be a high quality mp3 or wave file (see the online submission form for more details). It is recommended that the song be recorded, arranged, and produced on the DAW (Digital Audio Workstation).
- ii. Each entry must be accompanied with a **short write-up** (in the online submission form) of no more than 100 words on the participant(s)' inspiration behind the song and the background or context of the song.
- iii. Each entry should include details of school, teacher-in-charge and participating student(s), lyrics & chord chart, and link to access song files.

- iv. All song entries should be the work of student(s) and any assistance rendered by teacher(s) are to be stated in the online submission form.
- v. All entries must be approved by the school's Principal to ensure that entries meet all the requirements (1i to 1vii) in the Rules and Regulations (more details may be found in the online submission form).
- vi. All song entries should be submitted **ONLY** by the teachers-in-charge. Song entries **SHOULD NOT** be submitted by students or their parents.
- vii. All entries must be submitted by **Monday, 22 May 2023** via the **FormSG link** or **QR code**:



<https://go.gov.sg/theyouthstationproject2023>

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## SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Participating schools will be supported with the following:

### i. **Songwriting Basics Video Series**

This video series is a resource for teachers and students to facilitate the songwriting process and prepare for the Youth Station Project submissions. The video series can be accessed via this link or QR Code: <https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-project-songwriting-basics>



<https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-project-songwriting-basics>

### ii. **Songwriting Workshop for Music Teachers**

This half-day songwriting workshop will be held in Term 1, 2023. The workshop is for music teachers who are relatively **new** to songwriting and the Youth Station Project, and who wish to learn more about approaches to guide students in the songwriting process and prepare for the song submission in The Youth Station Project.

There are two runs of this workshop:

- Wednesday, 1 March 2023, 2:30pm to 5:30pm (1<sup>st</sup> Run, for Primary Music Teachers)
- Thursday, 9 March 2023, 2:30pm to 5:30pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Run, for Secondary Music Teachers)

Both runs of the workshop will be held at the Academy of Singapore Teachers, STAR Music Room 1, Blk K, Level 1. Each workshop will be capped at 25 participants.

Register for the workshop via this link or QR Code by **Friday, 10 February 2023**: <https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-project-teachers-songwriting-workshop>



<https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-project-teachers-songwriting-workshop>

### iii. **E-mentoring for Lower Secondary & Open Categories**

An asynchronous 1-on-1 e-mentoring session with a songwriting mentor is available to the **first 20** successful applications **per category**.

To be eligible for the e-mentoring, participants are required to apply (through their teachers-in-charge) and provide the following:

- An audio or video recording of the original song with vocal parts and accompaniment being performed live, OR
- An audio recording of the original song and a DAW project file of the song.
- Song lyrics and chord chart

The following submissions will **NOT** be eligible for e-mentoring:

- Incomplete songs or songs with missing parts such as vocals or accompaniment
- Unclear video or unclear/muffled/distorted audio
- Songs which are disqualified due to them being professionally recorded, edited (including pitch-correction), arranged, mixed or produced.

The e-mentoring sessions will be held online asynchronously from **10 April to 21 April 2023**. The mentor will provide feedback via video/audio/text to help participants to improve on their songs for the actual submission.

Register for the e-mentoring session via this link or QR Code by **Friday, 31 March 2023**:  
<https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-project-e-mentoring>



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