



RISING STARS VOCAL SOLO

Each participant will perform two pieces, the required test piece and a choice piece. Participants may find links to purchase or download repertoire from the website:

www.samusiccentral.org/rising-stars

Note that there are high and low voice options for the required test piece. Be sure to pick the version that best suits your voice.

All participants must provide two copies of the choice piece score, with all measures numbered and any cuts clearly marked.

Uniform: Salvation Army summer uniform or black/blue dress bottoms and white dress shirt.

Time Limits: All participants have a total of 7 minutes. This time should include performance of both pieces and transition time. Choice pieces may have a cut if it is notated in the provided score to the judges.

Accompaniment:

Divisional Round - Divisional Music Directors can use their own discretion for soloists at the Rising Stars Divisional Round. While live accompaniment is always preferred, an accompanist may not be available, therefore using the accompaniment track at the corps or divisional level is encouraged. Participation at the corps level is the goal.

Territorial Round - All accompaniments for soloist must be live, no pre-recorded tracks. Each division should bring their own accompanist with them and have rehearsals completed prior to arrival at the Rising Stars Territorial Round. There will not be enough time to provide rehearsals on site.

Deadline for Territorial Round: All participants and information for the Territorial Round should be submitted via email to usc.thq.music@usc.salvationarmy.org by May 8, 2026.

| LEVEL | AGE RANGE | REQUIRED PIECE | CHOICE PIECE |
|-------|-----------|--|---|
| 1 | 7-10 | Do Lord (arr. Rollins), SS #3 | Any music from Salvation Army, Sacred or Classical Literature - Suggestions found on website. |
| 2 | 11-14 | Poor, Wayfarin' Stranger (arr. Mack), SS #7 | |
| 3 | 15-18 | The Maker of the Sun and Moon (Catherwood), SS #11 | |
| 4 | 19-25 | I'd Rather Have Jesus (adapt. Holz), SS #15 | |



VOCAL SOLO SCORING GUIDELINES

ACCURACY - 50 points

- Notes (20 points possible)
 - Are the notes presented smoothly and accurately?
 - Are the notes sung in the appropriate style?
 - Do they flow naturally rather than forced?
 - Is the soloist able to manage the range of the solo with ease?
- Rhythm (20 points possible)
 - Is the rhythm performed accurately?
 - Is the tempo steady?
- Diction (10 points possible)
 - Are the words presented clearly and easily understood?

TONE - 20 points

- Quality (10 points possible)
 - Is the tone quality full, open, and stylistically appropriate?
 - Is air used properly in sound production and breath support?
 - Is vibrato used in an appropriate manner?
- Intonation (10 points possible)
 - Does the soloist maintain the correct pitch through volume changes and articulations?

INTERPRETATION - 20 points

- Dynamics (10 points possible)
 - Are all dynamic choices appropriate to the text?
 - Does the soloist have a wide range of dynamic capabilities?
- Musicality/Phrasing (10 points possible)
 - Is there a sense of musicality/phrasing?
 - Is the music correctly represented in terms of tempo, style and phrasing?

PERFORMANCE - 10 points

- Stage Presence (5 points possible)
 - Does the soloist exhibit correct singing posture and position?
 - Does the soloist look neat and sharp?
- Suitability (5 points possible)
 - Has the soloist chosen a piece that demonstrates their abilities?