



TAKE THE MIC

SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT

SINGING COMPETITION (VICTORIA ONLY) CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

CALLING ALL SINGERS – PEOPLE OF ANY EXPERIENCE LEVELS,
AND VOCAL STYLES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

REGISTER BY MONDAY JULY 31 (10:00PM)

*Applications are reviewed weekly, subject to availability.

OUR STORY: Founded in 2013, Take the Mic embraces 1000+ performers nationally each year, offering invaluable stage experience, and industry exposure through singing competitions and musical theatre productions.

The Competition has awarded more than \$250,000 value in prizes, including music videos, photoshoots, record deals, concerts, and more! Supported by top industry professionals, aspiring singers receive personalised feedback and professional video production & photography of their performances.

During the lockdowns, Take the Mic mounted a nationwide online competition event which featured over 800 individual performances, with more than 50,000 audience members streaming the event live. The Take the Mic team are thrilled to be able to return the competition to the stage in 2023, in its original live format.

Take the Mic's expansion into Musical Theatre has given upwards of 300 young performers the opportunity to perform in fully staged musical productions, including the Australian community premiere of Disney's The Lion King Jr, and award-winning productions of Disney's High School Musical Jr and Xanadu Jr.

HOW TO ENTER

1. Submit a video audition. This could be from a previous performance, or a simple recording at home. (Further instructions on page 2)
2. Nominate two song options for the competition. The Take the Mic team will choose one for you to perform live.
3. Complete the online application form at www.takethemic.com.au/apply

4. Applications close Sunday July 31 (10:00pm) subject to availability. Applications will be reviewed weekly to it is advised to apply as soon as possible.

NEW: CATEGORIES

- Contemporary
- Musical Theatre & Classical

**You may only apply for one category*

AGE DIVISIONS

Junior Division 8-12
Teen Division 13-17
Young Adult Division 18-24
Open Division 25+

COMPETITION BREAKDOWN

Video Audition: The Take the Mic team will review all video auditions and select Contestants for the live performances. Entry to the competition is not guaranteed on application.

Live Performance: All successful Contestants will go straight to the stage, with a live performance in front of a panel of judges & audience.

The Grand Final: Top placing Contestants from previous rounds will battle it out to see who will take home the Grand Prize.

COMPETITION DATES

Applications Close Sunday, July 31 10:00pm

It is HIGHLY recommended to apply ASAP, as places are strictly limited and subject to availability. The Take the Mic team will be reviewing applications as they come in.

Musical Theatre Category Saturday, August 19

Contemporary Category Sunday, August 20

Grand Final Sunday, October 15

**it is advised to keep both days available, as competition dates are subject to change.*

VENUE

Chapel off Chapel, 12 Little Chapel Street, Prahran. 150 seat theatre.
One of Melbourne's most popular live performance venues for arts, music, and theatre.



VIDEO AUDITION DETAILS

1. Upload your audition video to YouTube (no other formats accepted)
2. Make sure the privacy is set to Unlisted.
3. Click share, and copy the link into your Take the Mic application form.

You can submit a video from a previous performance of yours, or even just record something at home. It must be performed with music, such as a live instrument or backing track. This does not have to be the song that you'd like to perform in the competition.

This singing competition is open to all skill levels & vocal styles. We want to make sure you're best represented on stage, and place you with singers of similar experiences. The team are not expecting any sort of professional video production or performance for your audition, we just want to get to know you!

SONG CHOICE

Contestants are to provide 2 song choices, which must include at least 1 up-tempo song. The Take the Mic team will select 1 of these options for you to perform.

SHOW FEE

The show fee is \$59, payable upon acceptance into the Competition. Includes competition entry, personal written critique from two professional industry judges, professional video recording and photography of each performance.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Optional Extra Performance Feedback Package - \$19

An additional personal critique of your performance by a Take the Mic representative or industry judge, which also reviews the previous judges' feedback, and provides a breakdown of your score. This will be sent as an audio recording.

Tickets to each performance are from \$25 for U18s, and \$35 for 18+.

*transaction fees may apply

JUDGING CRITERIA

Vocals (scored out of 10): Including but not limited to; technique, tone, breath, timing, diction, vocal range.

Song Choice (scored out of 10): Arrangement, interpretation, and suitability.

Performance & Story Telling (scored out of 10): Nonverbal communication including stage presence, audience engagement, entertainment value, and truthful delivery of the lyrics.

AUDIENCE VOTING

Audience votes will not disrupt the fair nature of judges scores. These votes will be used for tiebreakers only.

PRIZES

To be announced shortly! Previous prizes have included professionally produced music videos, recording deals, musical recording equipment, and masterclasses (to name a few). Take the Mic have awarded over \$250,000 of value in prizes over the last 10 years.

PREVIOUS JUDGES

TAYLOR HENDERSON Australia's Got Talent, and X-Factor Winner.

THANDO SIKWILA Pop and R&B singer-songwriter, Top 4 Voice Finalist 2022.

CALLUM FRANCIS is an international musical theatre star, best known for his portrayal as 'Lola' in Kinky Boots on Broadway, London's West End, and the Australian Tour.

KATIE WESTON Pop/Rock vocalist and composer, with a Master's Degree in Contemporary Voice (Melb Uni/MCM), a Bachelor's Degree in Music Composition (VCA).

ALINTA CHIDZEY is an acclaimed jazz vocalist, songwriter, recording artist, and musical theatre leading lady. Currently stars as 'Satine' Moulin Rouge the Musical (Australia)

GRAEME ISAACO The voice Finalist 2020, Pop/Soul Vocalist, and Musical Theatre performer. Stared as 'Aladdin' in Disney's Aladdin the Musical throughout the Australia, New Zealand, and Asia tour.

JOSH PITERMAN Musical Theatre performer and classical crossover artist. West End (UK) debut as 'The Phantom' in The Phantom of the Opera in 2019, and Australian Tour 2022 - 2024. Currently playing Jean Valjean in Les Misérables, London's West End.



If you need assistance with your application or have any additional questions, please email competition@takethemic.com.au



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

WHAT SHOULD I SING?

You may sing any style within your category. It must not contain explicit language, and should be appropriate for the age range of your division. Most importantly, choose a song that will entertain your audience.

CAN I PERFORM IN BOTH CATEGORIES?

Unfortunately, at this time you can only perform in one category. Either Contemporary, or Musical Theatre & Classical.

DO I HAVE TO BRING PEOPLE TO WATCH THE SHOW?

There is no obligation to sell tickets to the show. However, we highly encourage everyone to bring friends/family to watch the performance as the show is designed for a live audience, and is a lot more fun with someone cheering you on from the audience. This event is not on sale to the general public.

HOW MUCH IS THE COMPETITION?

The show fee is \$59 which includes competition entry, personal critique from two professional industry judges throughout your competition journey, and professional video recording and photography of each performance.

HOW MUCH ARE AUDIENCE TICKETS TO THE SHOW?

Tickets range from \$25 - \$35. + transaction fees

DO I HAVE EVER HAVE TO PERFORM LIVE?

Yes. All performances are live.

WHAT IS THE AGE LIMIT?

Junior Division 8 – 12

Teen Division 13 – 17

Young Adults 18 - 24

Open Division 25+

WHERE DO I APPLY?

www.takethemic.com.au/apply

CAN I HAVE SOMEONE ACCOMPANY ME, OR PLAY A LIVE INSTRUMENT?

No. To keep the competition fair and to focus on vocals, live instruments are not permitted. All performances are to backing tracks only.

CAN THE MUSIC HAVE BACKING VOCALS?

The backing track is NOT permitted to have any backing vocals.

WHAT IS THE SKILL LEVEL?

Take the Mic is open for all experience levels and vocal styles. We aim to group people of similar experience levels together.

WHO CANNOT ENTER?

Contestants must be unsigned, and do not making a living wage from performing.

I'VE WON A PREVIOUS TAKE THE MIC COMPETITION. CAN I ENTER?

Grand Final winners are not permitted to re-enter unless they've moved into a new age division or category.

DO I HAVE BE AN AUSTRALIAN RESIDENT?

You may apply as long as you live in Australia. Non-residents may not be eligible for prizes.

IS THERE A TIME LIMIT?

Under 4 minutes per song is our preference.

CAN I SING AN ORIGINAL?

Yes, we love to hear original work.

CAN I SING ACAPELLA (without music)?

No. Must be with a backing track.

DO I GET TO SEE THE SCORES?

No. We do not find providing the scores constructive, but all Contestants will receive personal written feedback. You can view a more comprehensive breakdown of your scores by purchasing the Extra Performance Feedback Package.

ONE OF MY QUESTIONS ISN'T ANSWERED HERE. WHO CAN I CONTACT?

competition@takethemic.com.au

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Contestants under 18 years old must have a parent or guardian attend the event with them.
- Contestants must be unsigned, and do not make a living wage from performing.
- The show fee is non-refundable, however it may be transferred for entry in another season, at the sole discretion of Take the Mic.
- The Judges' decision is final, and audience voting will not disrupt the fair nature of the scoring.
- Take the Mic reserves the right to add/reduce the number of contestants at any time.
- Take the Mic reserves the right to change the dates and times of the Event for any reason.
- All prizes are subject to availability, and may change at any time. It is the responsibility of the Contestant to collect any allocated prizes within a 3 month period.

MEDIA RELEASE & CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

1.1 MEDIA RELEASE: I give full permission to Take the Mic to use my name and image in any aspect in relation to the singing competition event or Take the Mic general use. I understand that any part of this production may be filmed and photographed, and I give full permission to Take the Mic to use these recordings in all media including print, broadcast, radio, and social media, at any stage during or after the production has concluded.

1.2 CONFIDENTIALITY: I understand and agree to maintain this confidentiality agreement for anything in relation to the company of Take the Mic and its competition event. I agree to keep all aspects of the production confidential, including conversations in person or online, any contracts or documents, music materials, or intellectual property.

