

City University of Hong Kong
Inter-hall Singing Contest 2025
Rules and Regulations

1. Format:

1.1.Preliminary Round – (Video Submission)

1.1.1. The singing contest includes two categories – Solo and Group.

1.1.2. A solo performance will be defined as a single singer who may choose to accompany themselves using a backing music track in mp3/WAV format or play a musical instrument themselves. Alternatively, the solo performer may invite accompanist(s) who must be CityUHK student(s) to play the background music.

1.1.3. A group performance will be defined as a minimum of 2 singers and a maximum of 20 residents. It is important to note that anyone who produces sound using their mouth will be considered as a singer for the purpose of this definition. The group performers, which include but are not limited to singers, dancers, and accompanists, must be current residents of the hall.

1.1.4. The duration of the accompanied music shall be less than 5 minutes.

1.1.5. The video must capture the face and mouth of the performers while singing. All singers are required to perform the songs in real time in sync with the video. Altering the tone and pitch (e.g., using Autotune or Melodyne) of the singing is strictly prohibited.

1.2.Final Round – (face-to-face)

1.2.1. The singing contest includes two categories – Solo and Group.

1.2.2. A solo performance will be defined as a single singer who may choose to accompany themselves using a backing music track in mp3/WAV format or play a musical instrument themselves. Alternatively, the solo performer may invite accompanist(s) who must be CityUHK student(s) to play the background music.

1.2.3. A group performance will be defined as a minimum of 2 singers and a maximum of 20 residents. It is important to note that anyone who produces sound using their mouth will be considered as a singer for the purpose of this definition. The group performers, which include but are not limited to singers, dancers, and accompanists, must be current residents of the hall.

1.2.4. The duration of the accompanied music shall be less than 5 minutes.

1.2.5. The schedule of contest (the sequence of singing) will be decided by drawing lots

2. Entries:

2.1.Preliminary Round – (Video Submission)

- 2.1.1. Each hall can submit a maximum of two entries, which may include one solo performance and one group performance. However, it is not allowed for the solo singer and the group contestants to be the same individuals.
- 2.1.2. All contestants, except for the accompanist(s) in the solo category, must be current residents (including staff and their family members) of their respective halls on the deadline of the preliminary round (i.e. 12th March 2025), as per the AIMS record.
- 2.1.3. Each hall shall organize its own elimination round for selecting and sending 2 entries at most to join the Preliminary Round.
- 2.1.4. Each hall, subject to the Hall's decision, may conduct its own mini hall-based singing contest elimination round to select and submit up to 2 entries to participate in the Preliminary Round of the Inter-hall Singing Contest. For instance:
 - Initiate a mini hall-based Singing Contest
 - Hold an intra-hall selection through video submissions
 - Accept self-recommendations from residents.
- 2.1.5. The team manager is required to submit the necessary information via:
 - QuestionPro by 12:00pm (noon) on Wednesday, 12 March 2025.
 - Additionally, Video files in MP4 format should be submitted to Mr. Yeung via sroreslife@cityu.edu.hk before 12:00pm (noon) on Wednesday, 12 March 2025.
- 2.1.6. Results of the preliminary round will be announced via email on Wednesday, 12 March 2025.

Final Round – (face-to-face)

- 2.1.7. The top 8 finalists from both the solo category and the group category (total: 16 performances) will automatically enter the final round.
- 2.1.8. If advance to the Final, the singer in the solo category and the participants in the group category must be the SAME. Failure to attend the final with any reasons or to show up will result in being dropped from the event.
- 2.1.9. All contestants, except for the accompanist(s) in the solo category, must be current residents (including staff and their family members) of their respective halls on the Final (i.e. 9th April 2025), as per the AIMS record.
- 2.1.10. Each contestant must complete a digital health declaration before their performance.
- 2.1.11. The team manager is required to submit the necessary information via:
 - QuestionPro by 12:00pm (noon) on Wednesday, 2nd April 2025.
 - Additionally, any MP3/WAV files should be submitted to Mr. Yeung via sroreslife@cityu.edu.hk before 12:00pm (noon) on Wednesday, 2nd April 2025.

3. Registration and show up:

- 3.1. The RT(ICFD) or Team Manager of each hall should submit the Student Identification cards of contestants at registration booth for checking by 6pm on 9 April 2025.
- 3.2. It is required that contestants arrive the dressing room 15 minutes before the scheduled start time of their respective categories. In the event that a contestant fails to report to the dressing room on time, refuses to participate or fails to assign contestants will be considered withdrawn from the respective categories. This ensures a smooth and organized flow of the contest.
- 3.3. The RT(ICFD) or Team Manager of each hall is responsible for settling any issue regarding within hall contestant's arrangement.

4. **Weather**

- 4.1. In case of adverse weather (e.g Typhoon 8, Black Rainstorm Warning), SRO has the rights to postponement/cancel the contest.

5. **Reference Marking Criteria:**

- 5.1. **Technique** – Pitch accuracy, tone quality, control, range, dynamics, sense of rhythm, timing and overall vocal technique etc.
- 5.2. **Interpretation** – Ability to convey emotions, connect with the lyrics, and deliver a heartfelt performance. It includes aspects like phrasing, storytelling, stage presence, and engaging the audience.
- 5.3. **Stage Performance** –ability to engage the audience through their stage presence, charisma, confidence, and overall performance skills. It includes factors like movement, gestures, facial expressions, and overall entertainment value.
- 5.4. **Song Choice** –the appropriateness and suitability of the song choices for the contestant's voice, style, and the overall theme of the contest. Originality and creativity in song interpretation may also be considered.
- 5.5. **Creativity** – whether innovative elements are added to the performance, whether the performance is more than a duplication/imitation of the original artist's work.
- 5.6. **Overall Impact and Audience Reaction** – Judges may consider the overall impact of the performance, including the contestant's ability to captivate and engage the audience. Audience response, such as applause and crowd interaction, may be used as an indicator of the contestant's connection with the listeners.

6. **Prize:**

In each category, a champion, first runner-up and second runner-up will be awarded for a trophy.

7. **Officials:**

- 7.1. SRO appointed qualified judges such as music teacher, singer-songwriter or experienced singing performer.
- 7.2. The judging panel reserves the right to modify the above criteria.
- 7.3. The decisions of the judges are to be respected and considered final.

8. **Conduct:**

- 8.1. Contestants should conduct themselves in a respectful manner, showing respect to their opponents and officials.
- 8.2. Misconduct, such as using offensive language or intentionally distracting the opponent, may result in penalties or disqualification decided by the judges.

9. Equipment list:

- 9.1. Student Residence Office will provide the following during the singing fun day.
 - 9.1.1. microphone x 4
 - 9.1.2. Cajon x 1
 - 9.1.3. 88 keys Keyboard x 1
 - 9.1.4. Grand Piano x 1
 - 9.1.5. Drum set x 1
 - 9.1.6. Electric guitar amplifier
 - 9.1.7. bass amplifier
 - 9.1.8. keyboard amplifier

10. Others:

- 10.1. All contestants are obliged to respect intellectual property. Student Residence Office will not be responsible for any dispute related to the copyright of songs submitted.
- 10.2. The chosen song must not contain foul languages and politically offensive lyrics
- 10.3. The performances of all contestants may be recorded and become the property of the University and they may be reproduced without the permission of contestants.
- 10.4. Any participants with an infectious disease are not allowed to enter the venue.
- 10.5. Student Residence Office reserves the right to change the rules and regulations without notification.
- 10.6. Participants take part in the contest at their own risk; CityUHK and the Student Residence Office (SRO) will bear no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any accidents.
- 10.7. It is highly recommended that all participants arrange for their own individual medical insurance.
- 10.8. A First Aid kit will be available at the venue in case of any emergencies. Each hall is recommended to bring additional supplies for their contestants.