

**National Association of Teachers of Singing  
Ohio Chapter**



**COPYRIGHT POLICY**

**COPYRIGHT RULE:** "The use of photocopied music is prohibited at all NATS sponsored events, from the national to the chapter level." This is non-negotiable, comes from the directly from the national office (see below), and will be enforced at the 2016 Ohio NATS Student Auditions. Pianists can no longer play from photocopies, even if the original score is placed on the piano. This of particular importance to your pianists, so be sure they know well in advance of the auditions.

**NATS POLICY ON COPYRIGHT LAWS**

The National Association of Teachers of Singing endorses a strict policy regarding copyright laws. The use of photocopied music is prohibited at all NATS sponsored events, from the national to the chapter level.

Exceptions are:

1. Music that is out of print, still under copyright law, with permission from a publisher.
2. Sheet music or books for which the copyright has expired, but available in CD format. (e.g., CD Sheet Music). Performers must be prepared to present proof of ownership upon request.
3. Sheet music purchased legally from an online vendor. Such music should have either a separate page proving the performer has purchased such OR a copyright notice at the bottom of the music that includes the performer's name. Performers must be prepared to present proof of ownership upon request.
4. Music available from approved public domain websites. Performers should take particular care when accessing these sites as some do not guarantee that all works are indeed in the public domain.

Current approved online public domain sites are:

[www.imslp.org](http://www.imslp.org)

[www.sheetmusicarchive.net](http://www.sheetmusicarchive.net)

[www.jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/handle/1774.2/2085](http://www.jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/handle/1774.2/2085)

**SUGGESTION: Pianists** playing from IMSLP or other approved sites: print the search page showing the results where the PDF was found. Bring this page to the audition in the event there is a question.

**Pianists using an iPad or similar device cannot use music from scanned scores**, but may use from IMSLP or other approved sites.

**SUGGESTION: Students** who purchase music through an online download: print the page of your receipt, granting you permission. For online scores (IMSLP), print a screen shot of the search page showing the results where the PDF was found. Bring this page or these pages to the audition in the event there is a question.

**ORIGINAL KEY** – All arias from opera, oratorio, mass, cantata, operetta, works titled “concert aria”, or music theatre selections must be sung in the original key or in a key published and copyrighted. [Often pieces are published in several different books, scores, forms in different keys. Any of these are fine.]

**PERFORMANCE CUTS:** In order to accommodate the time limits, cuts may be made from the accompaniment of an art song or aria. Accompaniment preludes, interludes and postludes of repertoire may all be cut, but nothing may be cut from the vocal part. Strophic pieces must keep all the verses in tact. These rules also apply to stage Broadway or Off-Broadway works. Traditional cuts or “vide” cuts marked in opera scores may be observed as tradition dictates.