



## CAP NATS COMMERCIAL MUSIC TERMINOLOGY

<b>Arrangements</b>	Original or published arrangements of songs created for Musical Theatre productions are not accepted in CM categories in NATS Student Auditions but may be entered in the Musical Theatre Categories.
<b>Commercial Music</b>	Commercial music includes all genres of vocal music performed by recording artists, not included in the classical and musical theatre NATS Student Auditions categories. Commercial music includes bluegrass, blues, contemporary Christian, country, folk, gospel, jazz, pop, rap, rock, rhythm and blues (R&B), soul, and all ethnic music, <i>etc.</i>
<b>Cover Song</b>	A cover song is a selection performed by someone other than the composer or original recording artist. Performing a cover does not imply an imitation of the original recording artist.
<b>Diva Microphone</b>	A smaller microphone attached to the singer's head.
<b>Microphone Technique</b>	When using a microphone, the singer needs to make intentional choices of the microphone's placement (handheld, on a stationary stand, diva microphone, off-camera), which influences interpretation. When choosing to use a handheld microphone, the singer will make intentional choices in the distance of the microphone from their mouth to create stylized effects.
<b>Rhythmic Groove</b>	An organic embodiment of the beat that goes beyond specific notation or time signature, often referred to as the feel of a song.
<b>Vocal Stylisms*</b>	Commercial music's genre-specific elements of vocal interpretation. Vocal stylisms are often not notated in the music. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate onsets vary among fry, slide, yodel, growl, breathy, cry, creak, flip, scream, <i>etc.</i></li> <li>• Appropriate releases vary among abrupt glottal stops, breathy, fall-off, fall-up, shadow vowels, fry, creaky, gaspy, <i>etc.</i></li> <li>• Appropriate nuances/embellishments including riffs/runs, licks, flip, pop-appoggiatura, yodel/register shifts, bends/scoops, <i>etc.</i></li> </ul> Visit _____ to hear specific examples.
<b>Memorization</b>	All selections must be performed from memory.
<b>Comments Only</b>	Any registered student may elect to sing for comments only and participate in the preliminary audition. The judges will not score auditions entered for comments only.

<b>Off Camera</b>	Not visible on video, placed beyond the edge of the camera's frame.
<b>Full Song</b>	An entire song, no internal cuts. Intros and outros may be abbreviated to accommodate audition's time limits.

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<sup>\*</sup>Edrie Means Weekly coined this term in her teaching of Commercial Music and Musical Theatre.

