NYOS: LAB

Application Guidance for Video & Audio Recordings

Video Recording

You must upload a video of you playing your instrument, no longer than five minutes in length. You may submit up to three videos to support your application.

- Aim for the **best quality possible** – presentation matters.

- Film in **landscape orientation** using your device's back camera. Front/selfie cameras are lower quality.

- Make sure that you **check the sound**, and that the microphone is not covered or obstructed.

- Test the video before you record and make sure that everything important can be seen. Also check that the camera isn't recording anything you don't want it to (for example, if someone else is in the background of your video). You might find it helpful to have a friend or family member check this for you.

- Test the audio before you record and **make sure that all dynamics and nuances can be heard**. Your device should be pointed towards your instrument. You may need to practise the distance required to get the best sound quality without distortion.

- Make sure that you and your instrument are **always in the frame**.

- Use a **quiet space**, away from any disturbances.

- Make sure you are **well-lit**, and not silhouetted (for example, with a window behind you)

- Review the video before you upload it.

- Other than stopping and starting the camera between pieces, **you must not edit the audio or video**. Any recording that has been edited will not be accepted. You are however permitted to use the best, unedited version from multiple takes should you wish.

- You are required to upload the videos to YouTube or Vimeo as an unlisted video – this is so the panel can review your submission more easily.

  - Have your video file(s) ready for upload on your chosen device. If you do not have a YouTube or Vimeo account, you will need to create one.

  - Open YouTube or Vimeo on the same device i.e. your phone, tablet, or desktop

  - Click the upload arrow or camera icon at the top right of the screen. You may be asked to login.

  - Please select the option to upload as unlisted (this means your video cannot be searched for without the direct link).

  - Click upload and locate your file or drag your file into place.

  - Once complete, double check your film is unlisted and is not set to private.

Once you have uploaded your video to YouTube or Vimeo, click the "share" button on your video's page, and copy the URL into the relevant field(s) on the application form.

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Audio Recording

If you would prefer to submit your answers to the personal statement questions as a video or audio recording, please follow the above guidelines for video, or the below for audio only. You can also submit a written response to these questions on the application form.

- You do not need professional recording equipment. The voice note or voice recording app on most mobile phones is high-enough quality so long as your voice is **audible** (loud enough) and **clear** (we can understand what you're saying.

- Use a **quiet space**, away from any disturbances.

- Avoid **echo**. Curtains and blankets can help reduce echoes and make you easier to hear.

- Test the audio to make sure you can be heard.

- **Take your time**. Sometimes we rush our speech when nervous, which can make you hard to understand. Relax and do you best to use your normal speaking voice.

- **Listen** to your audio before you share it. Re-record it if you need to.

- We would like you to upload your recording to Soundcloud as a private track. This makes it easy for us to review your recording without it being available to the public.

  - Have your recording ready to upload on your chosen device. If you do not already have a Soundcloud account you will need to create one.

  - Click or tap the upload button (desktop) or upwards pointing arrow (mobile app) and select the file you want to upload.

  - Set availability to private.

  - Once complete, double check your upload is set to private.

  - Once your track has finished unloading click the share button and copy and paste the link provided into the relevant field(s) in your application form.

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