

SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL 2025 CELEBRATIONS

OPEN CALL

THE YOUTH STATION PROJECT

About the SYF Celebrations

1. The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) is organised annually by the Arts Education Branch, Ministry of Education to celebrate the vitality and talents of our youth in the arts. Comprising three key platforms, namely Arts Presentation, Art Exhibition, and Celebrations, the SYF provides opportunities for the development of character and 21st Century Competencies through the arts.
2. The SYF Celebrations aims to provide a platform for student performers to showcase their passion in dance, drama and music and to engage with the community through the arts. It also offers opportunities for students to collaborate with local artists and practitioners to further develop artistic skills and dispositions.
3. To commemorate Singapore's 60th National Day, this year's SYF Celebrations shares the same theme as SG60, "Building Our Singapore Together". The platform encourages students to reflect on our nation-building journey and explore our shared future through their performances.

Information about *The Youth Station Project*

1. **The Youth Station Project** is a programme dedicated to showcasing students' original creative work in music. Through this programme, student-musicians are provided with opportunities to further develop their interest and skills in songwriting, music arranging, production and performing. Student-musicians also gain relevant learning and exposure through the mentorship by professional musicians, encouraging them to express themselves through music.
2. The Youth Station Project **Open Call** consists of **three main categories**:
 - i. Primary Category:
For original song entries submitted by individual students or student groups at the primary level.
 - ii. Lower Secondary Category:
For original song entries submitted by individual students or student groups at the lower secondary level.
 - iii. Open Category:
For original song entries submitted by individual students or student groups at the upper secondary and pre-university levels.
3. Schools are advised to select the above categories based on the following:
 - i. The academic level(s) of participating students according to the **academic year in which the songs are completed** (e.g., if a song was completed in term 4, 2024 when the student was in secondary 2, select the lower secondary category).

- ii. For group submissions comprising participants from mixed levels such as primary and secondary, lower and upper secondary or secondary and pre-university, the categories to select should be based on the levels of the majority in the group.
 - iii. If an equal number of participants from different levels are in the group (e.g., group comprising one lower secondary and one upper secondary participant), selecting either level is acceptable.
4. Participants will submit their original songs to two available pathways in each category based on their strengths:
- i. **Pathway 1 – Youth Station LIVE!**
Students with strengths in songwriting and performing all parts live will submit a video recording of a live performance of the original song (including all vocal parts and music accompaniment) with no post-editing.
 - ii. **Pathway 2 – Youth Station PRODUCED!**
Students with strengths in songwriting and creating songs using technology will submit an audio recording of the original song produced on the DAW (Digital Work Station) **AND** the DAW project file (or URL of online DAW).
- Students with strengths in live performing **AND** creating songs using technology have the option to submit their original songs to Pathways 1 and 2. Submission requirements for Pathways 1 and 2 will apply.
5. **[New for 2025!]** As part of **SG60** Celebrations, the original song entries should be based on at least **ONE** of the following themes inspired by or related to students' experiences in the Singapore context:
- i. Care
 - ii. Celebrate
 - iii. Connect
 - iv. Contribute
 - v. Encourage
 - vi. Environment
 - vii. Family
 - viii. Friends
 - ix. Gratitude
 - x. Inspire
 - xi. Places
 - xii. Reflect

You may refer to **ANNEX C** for curated playlists of videos related to the above themes for songwriting ideas.

6. All entries must be submitted by **Friday, 02 May 2025** via the **FormSG** link or **QR code**:



<https://go.gov.sg/syf2025celebs-theyouthstationproject>

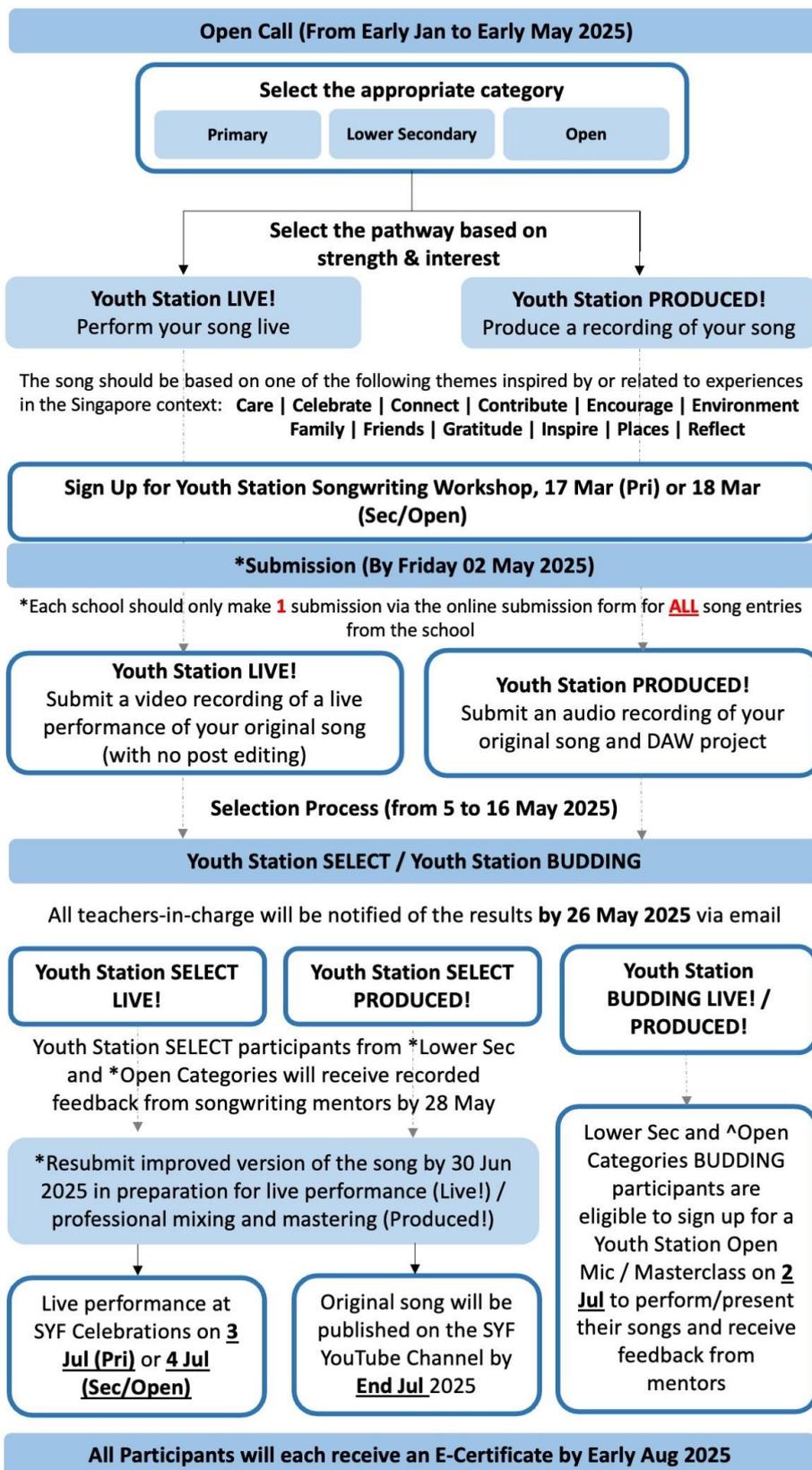
7. All song entries will go through a selection process to be placed in either **Youth Station SELECT** or **[New for 2025!] Youth Station BUDDING**. All teachers-in-charge will be notified of the results by **26 May 2025** via email.
8. **Youth Station SELECT** participants from the **Youth Station LIVE!** pathway will receive an invitation to perform live at the **SYF Celebrations** on **03 July (Primary Category)** or **04 July (Lower Secondary and Open Categories)**.
9. **Youth Station SELECT** participants from the **Youth Station PRODUCED!** pathway will have their original songs professionally mixed and mastered, and published on the SYF YouTube Channel by end July.
10. In addition, **Youth Station SELECT** participants in the **Lower Secondary and Open Categories** from the **Youth Station LIVE!** and **PRODUCED!** pathway will receive recorded video feedback by songwriting mentors.
11. **[New for 2025!] Youth Station BUDDING** participants from the **Youth Station LIVE!** and **PRODUCED!** pathways in the **Lower Secondary and Open Categories** can sign up for the **Youth Station Open Mic & Masterclass Session** on **02 July** to perform/present their songs and receive live feedback from mentors at the session.
12. **ALL** participants with a valid submission will receive an e-certificate for their participation, which can be reflected in their CCA record.
13. The copyright of the songs shall remain with the participants. By registering, the copyright owners of the **Youth Station SELECT** songs agree to **grant the Ministry of Education (MOE) a royalty-free, worldwide, irrevocable, perpetual, non-exclusive licence to use, modify, copy, publish, perform, communicate, and make available and / or broadcast the work (the “Licence”) for non-commercial purposes.**
14. Upon submitting an entry for the SYF 2025 Celebrations, participants consent to the use of their videos and photographs taken during the event for archival, publicity, and showcase purposes across all media platforms.
15. By submitting an entry, participants under the age of 21 years old are deemed to have sought parental consent and accepted MOE’s terms regarding the use of the selected song and song write-up.
16. Refer to **ANNEX A** for The Youth Station Project Flowchart and Timeline

17. Refer to **ANNEX B** for the Guidelines to The Youth Station Project Open Call.
18. Refer to **ANNEX C** for more details of the following support which will be provided for participating schools:
- a. **[New for 2025!]** Playlists of videos related to the songwriting themes.
 - b. Songwriting Basics Video Series
 - c. Songwriting Workshop for Students
 - d. Recorded Video Feedback for **Youth Station SELECT**
 - e. **[New for 2025!]** Youth Station Open Mic & Masterclass Session for **Youth Station BUDDING**

For clarifications, please email moe_syf_secy@moe.gov.sg .

19. Thank you.

The Youth Station Project 2025



GUIDELINES TO THE YOUTH STATION PROJECT OPEN CALL

1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- i. The original song should be:
 - In English
 - Between 2.5 to 4 minutes in duration
 - An original work written/composed and performed/produced by the participant(s)
- ii. The song may be written in any contemporary genre (e.g., Pop, Rock, Folk, R&B, Electronic, Jazz, Fusion, etc.). Lyrics may be expressed through singing, rapping, or a combination of both. However, the song lyrics **MUST NOT** contain any explicit and/or offensive content. Any mention of brand names should also be avoided.
- iii. Participants are to ensure that their original song entries do not infringe copyright in any way.
- iv. All participants must be **current students** of their respective schools in 2025.
- v. Each student may participate in **up to one individual and one group entry OR two group entries**.
- vi. Students from different schools may form a group and submit an entry through the teacher-in-charge of **ONE** of the schools.
- vii. Teachers (including contract, relief, adjunct and trainee teachers), mentors under the NAC Artist-in-School or Artists-Mentor schemes, and AMIS and CCA instructors may assist students in the following:
 - Providing advice or suggestions for improvement
 - Helping to make **minor** edits to students' works in the DAW
 - Recording of the students' live parts for the songs to the DAW
 - Video recording of the students' live performance
 - Guiding students to use music technology tools/applications to record, arrange, sequence or produce the songs
- viii. The following forms of assistance by schoolteachers, NAC mentors, AMIS and CCA instructors, private music teachers, parents and family members are strictly **NOT PERMITTED**:
 - Writing the song lyrics for students
 - Creating or performing the accompaniment parts and/or vocal parts for students
 - Creating the song arrangements or sequencing parts in the DAW for students
 - Engaging external vendors or any form of professional music production services to refine, improve, edit, arrange, record or produce the songs

ix. Use of the following technology-mediated assistance which may support ideation in the songwriting process **MUST** be declared and the extent of its assistance **MUST** be documented* and submitted:

- AI applications for writing lyrics such as ChatGPT or equivalent
- AI applications for generating music accompaniment or instrumental music such as BandLab SongStarter, SOUNDRAW, AIVA, Soundful or equivalent
- Auto-accompaniment applications such as Band-in-a-Box, SessionBand, or equivalent
- Auto-accompaniment features on electronic keyboards and arranger keyboards

**Documentation should include one or more of the following to substantiate the extent of technology-mediated assistance:*

- *Screenshots of prompts and responses history in ChatGPT which are related to the song*
- *Screenshots of music generating AI application(s) used and audio/MIDI file(s) exported from these applications for the song*
- *Photo(s) of the keyboard(s) with the auto-accompaniment feature in use and audio/MIDI file(s) exported from these keyboard(s) for the song*

x. Use of AI applications which generate complete songs with lyrics, melody, sung vocals and full music accompaniment are **NOT PERMITTED**, such as (and not limited to the following):

- Suno
- Udio
- LoudMe
- Brev AI
- Remusic
- AI Song Generator
- iLoveSong.ai
- Tad.ai

2. SELECTION CRITERIA

i. The **Youth Station SELECT** songs from each of the three categories (primary, lower secondary and open) will be selected based on the following revised criteria to reflect musical and emerging 21st century competencies:

- Create
- Communicate

ii. The selection criteria are as follows:

Criteria	Description
Create	Creativity and originality
	Quality and effectiveness of song lyrics for the chosen theme.
	Quality and effectiveness of the melody for the chosen theme and how well the melody suits the lyrics.

	Quality and effectiveness of the chord progression and song arrangement in a chosen style or genre; and in supporting the melody.
	Quality of the vocal(s) and accompaniment parts, accuracy of pitch and rhythms, and how well they work together in the song.
Communicate	Effectiveness of the video or audio recording in communicating the message, mood and expressions of the song.
	[Youth Station LIVE! only] Ability to deliver an engaging rendition of the original song as captured in the video recording, including evidence of the parts performed live with acoustic, electric and/or electronic instruments/devices (including live looping, live sampling and live remix) *WITHOUT using any backing tracks (or music minus ones) and pitch correction tool/software.
	[Youth Station PRODUCED! only] Ability to produce an engaging audio recording of the original song with effective use of various performing, recording, sequencing and production techniques.

iii. The organiser reserves the right to **disqualify** entries with any of the following:

- Inappropriate, explicit and/or offensive content
- Incomplete or partially completed work
- Infringement of copyrights by using known melodic and/or lyric phrases from existing songs
- Assistance exceeding what is permitted (see para 1vii)
- **[Youth Station LIVE! only]** Use of backing track, audio overdubbing, audio editing or processing, and splicing multiple takes to form a single take
- **[Youth Station PRODUCED! only]** Failure to include relevant DAW project file (or URL to online DAW)
- Failure to declare any use of technology-mediated assistance and/or submit the required documentation

3. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

- For **Youth Station LIVE! Pathway**, the original song submitted should be a high quality mp4 or mov video recording. The submission must be a single continuous video/audio recording of the performance with all parts in the song performed live. Use of backing track, audio overdubbing, audio editing or processing, and splicing multiple takes to form a single take is **NOT PERMITTED**. All performers and instruments played should be visible in the video recording with adequate lighting.
- For **Youth Station PRODUCED! Pathway**, the original song submitted should be a high quality mp3 or wave audio recording. A DAW should be used to record and produce the original song.

- iii. Each school should only make **ONE** submission via the online submission form for **ALL** the song entries from the school (see the online submission form for more details).
- iv. All entries must be approved by the school's Principal to ensure that entries meet all the requirements (1i to 1viii) in the Rules and Regulations.
- v. Song entries must be submitted through the school's teacher. Song entries submitted directly by students or parents will **NOT BE ACCEPTED**.
- vi. All entries must be submitted by **Friday, 02 May 2025** via the **FormSG link** or **QR code**:



<https://go.gov.sg/syf2025celebs-theyouthstationproject>

SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Participating schools will be supported with the following:

i. **Curated Playlists of Videos for Songwriting Ideas**

You may refer to the videos in the playlists for songwriting ideas:

- i. [Youth Station Project Songwriting Ideas for SG60](#)
- ii. [Roar! A 2-Part Mini-Series on Singaporean Musicians](#)

ii. **Songwriting Basics Video Series**

This video series is a resource for teachers and students to facilitate the songwriting process and prepare for the Youth Station Project submissions. The video series can be accessed via the FormSG link or QR code:



<https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-project-songwriting-basics>

The **YOUTH STATION SELECT PRODUCED!** songs from the 2024 edition of The Youth Station Project are also available for reference via these links:

- i. [Primary School Category](#)
- ii. [Lower Secondary Category](#)
- iii. [Open Category](#)

iii. **Songwriting Workshops for Students**

The following songwriting workshops will be held to provide mentoring for aspiring student songwriters with some songwriting experience in preparation for their Youth Station Project original song submissions (both LIVE! And PRODUCED! Pathways):

- Songwriting workshop for Primary 4 to 6 students, **Monday 17 March 2025, 9am to 4pm**
- Songwriting workshop for students at Secondary Level and Above, **Tuesday 18 March 2025, 10am to 4pm**

Lunch and light refreshments will be provided and each workshop will be capped at 30 participants.

Pre-requisites:

- Students **MUST** have some songwriting experience and be able to sing **AND** play a chordal instrument (keyboard/piano, guitar or ukulele).
- To qualify for the workshop, students are required to submit an unlisted YouTube video of a performance of a completed or work-in-progress original song with live vocals and music accompaniment on a chordal instrument (use of backing tracks is not permitted).

Students are to register for the songwriting workshop through their schoolteacher by **Monday, 17 February 2025** via the FormSG link or QR code:



<https://go.gov.sg/youth-station-songwriting-workshop>

iv. **Recorded Video Feedback by Mentors for Youth Station SELECT (Lower Secondary and Open Categories only)**

All lower secondary and open categories participants in the **Youth Station SELECT** will receive recorded video feedback from a songwriting mentor to facilitate refinement/improvement of students' original songs for resubmission by **30 June 2025** (for Produced! Pathway) and performance preparation (LIVE! Pathway).

The recorded video feedback will be available after the announcement of the **Youth Station SELECT** songs by **28 May 2025**.

v. **[New for 2025!] Youth Station Open Mic & Masterclass Session for Youth Station BUDDING (Lower Secondary and Open Categories only)**

Youth Station BUDDING participants in lower secondary and open categories can sign up for the Youth Station Open Mic & Masterclass Session on 02 July to perform/present their songs and receive feedback from mentors at the session.

Youth Station BUDDING participants in the Live! pathway will perform their original song while those in the Produced! pathway will playback their original song from their laptops.