

Suggested Repertoire for PAA Musical Theatre Examinations

This document is a guide of suggested material that is suitable for a Performance Arts Awards Musical Theatre Examination. PAA exams encourage creativity and do not impose any compulsory performance material. Original material is permitted, however, each performance is required to adhere to the allocated performance time boundaries. Teachers and candidates are encouraged to closely consider the learning outcomes and assessment criteria for the specific qualification level they are entering, and use this guide of suggested repertoire in conjunction with the Musical Theatre Syllabus Specification.

Supporting Audio & Video

In addition to the syllabus specification, we have also provided supporting audio and video to give candidates additional help and guidance when studying for a PAA exam.



How to download your content

To download the supporting audio and video you'll need to create an RSL account. To create an RSL account visit: www.rslawards.com/create-account.

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All candidates should use the supporting audio and video alongside this syllabus specification before taking a PAA exam.

The Performance

The Performance can be assessed in the following ways:

Group Exam

A Group Exam is conducted in the style of a traditional performance examination. Candidates will present a short performance to the examiner which can include extracts from a musical or a selection of original work. Candidates must perform a range of acting, singing and dancing. Candidates must perform on stage for the specified time allocated per grade. If candidates are entered in their Examination Levels, the performance must meet the time allocated for the highest grade in the group. Candidates are permitted to wear costumes, with their assigned candidate number clearly visible on the front and back of their clothing. A Group Exam can have a minimum of two and a maximum of eight candidates examined at any one time. If there are more than eight candidates in the group, the performance will be repeated. Examiners may stop a performance if the time allocated is exceeded in the Group Exam.

OR

Show Exam

A Show Exam can be a whole school performance and can include candidates from Premiere to Grade 8. Candidates must perform a range of acting, singing and dancing throughout. The format and structure of the show is flexible and can include extracts from a musical or a selection of original work. Candidates must perform on stage for no less than the specified time allocated per grade. A Show Exam has no time limit or maximum number of candidates per show and an audience is permitted. Costumes may be worn with the candidate number clearly visible on the front and back of the candidates' clothing.

Note: Examiners may ask candidates to repeat sections of The Performance if clarification is needed for both a Group and Show Exam.

The nature of each performance will be unique to your particular centre; however, certain criteria must be met for candidates to be assessed successfully. It is the teacher's responsibility to read the grading descriptors and assessment criteria for each examination level. Teachers must ensure candidates are actively involved throughout the examination and perform a sufficient amount of material in all three disciplines for both a Group and Show Exam.

The Performance Material

A Group Exam

For a Group Exam, extracts of the correct duration can be taken from an existing musical with modifications to suit cast size, age, gender and the grade you are entering your candidates for. If you are using the full score you may need to simplify things (e.g. remove some harmony lines, or perhaps transpose into a more suitable key). If you are working from a 'Vocal Selection' highlights of the musical in a songbook with a script, you may need to add additional music and harmonies to recreate the feel of the original.

Below are just a few suggestions and examples of musical extracts suitable for the PAA Group Exam setting:

- **Bugsy Malone** – (PAA suggests - Grades 1-3)
Fat Sam's gang scene leading into 'Bad Guys'
- **Little Shop of Horrors** – (PAA suggests - Grades 4-8)
Prologue moving into opening scene with 'Skid Row'
- **My Fair Lady** – (PAA suggests - Grades 1-5)
Flower market scene incorporating the song 'Wouldn't it be Lovely'
- **Annie** – (PAA suggests - Grades 1-3)
Orphanage scene incorporating 'Maybe' 'Little Girls' and 'It's a Hard Knock Life'
- **Oliver** – (PAA suggests - Grades 1-3)
Excerpt from opening Work House scene incorporating 'Food Glorious Food' and 'Oliver!'

The Group Exam can also be in the style of a variety performance with a range of different musical numbers. This could have a theme such as 'The Road to Oz' with selections of songs, dances and scenes from The Wizard of Oz, Wicked and The Wiz. A seasonal theme may help provide a wider spread of material such as 'A Christmas Cabaret'. A theme is not required for a PAA examination, original or isolated collaborations of work is permitted but the performance must meet the assessment criteria published in the syllabus specification.

A Show Exam

This is a unique option of assessment from PAA and would be suitable for those schools wanting to coincide their annual show with the examination performance. The Show Exam has no time limit or no maximum number of candidates and an audience is permitted for a Show Exam.

A Show Exam could be a full production of a musical such as 'Mary Poppins'. Like The Group Performance, The Show Performance can take many forms including a cabaret show with a theme, a variety show with independent acting, singing and dancing numbers, or a selection of original work. The learning outcomes and assessment criteria for the specific qualification level must be considered.

An Original Performance – Group or Show Performance

Original work created by the teacher or learners is another option for a PAA performance, as long as a sufficient amount of acting, singing and dancing is performed by each candidate, and the learning outcomes and assessment criteria for the specific qualification level is adhered to.

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 1

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'I Don't Need Anything But You'	Annie	1	An energetic number with good opportunity for basic choreography.	Vocal Selections
'It's a Hard Knock Life'	Annie	1	A character song with opportunity for a number of solo lines.	Vocal Selections
'You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile'	Annie	1	A character song adaptable for a large or small group. Opportunity for choreographed movement.	Vocal Selections
'Bigger Isn't Better'	Barnum	1	A character song for young performers. A good alternative to 'Little People' from Les Misérables.	Vocal Selections from Barnum
'Hushaby Mountain'	Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	1	A song useful for showcasing long phrases.	Vocal Selections (Updated Edition)
'Food Glorious Food'	Oliver!	1	A character song adaptable for a large or small group. Opportunity for choreographed movement.	Vocal Selections
'Any Dream Will Do'	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	1	A song that can be easily adapted for a large or small group of performers.	Vocal Selections
'Colonel Hathi's March'	The Jungle Book	1	A character song for young voices with opportunity for choreographed movement.	A variety of versions are available
'I Whistle a Happy Tune'	The King and I	1	A simple and effective song with opportunity for choreography.	Vocal score available

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 2

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'Fat Sam's Grand Slam'	Bugsy Malone	2	A high energy song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selections ('Our Singing School' backing CD also available)
'Toot Sweets'	Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	2	A high energy song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selections (Updated Edition)
'No One Is Alone'	Into the Woods	2	A song with challenging phrases.	Vocal Selections
'Little People'	Les Misérables	2	Provides a good opportunity to feature young performers.	The legendary musicals of Boublil with plenty of character and Schönberg
'Not While I'm Around'	Sweeney Todd	2	Opportunity to display emotion within the song.	Vocal Selections
'The Bare Necessities'	The Jungle Book	2	A character song adaptable for a large or small group. Opportunity for choreographed movement.	A variety of versions are available
'Hakuna Matata'	The Lion King	2	An upbeat character song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	A variety of versions are available
'Do-Re-Me'	The Sound of Music	2	A character song adaptable for a large or small group. Opportunity for choreographed movement.	Vocal Selections
'Whistle Down the Wind'	Whistle Down the Wind	2	Melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases.	A variety of versions are available

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 3

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'Tomorrow'	Annie	3	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases.	Vocal Selections
'Bad Guys'	Bugsy Malone	3	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selections ('Our Singing School' backing CD also available)
'Macavity'	Cats	3	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Cats: Vocal Selections
'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang'	Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	3	A high energy song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selections (Updated Edition)
'Doll on a Music Box'	Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	3	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selections (Updated Edition)
'Flash, Bang, Wallop'	Half a Sixpence	3	A fun character song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Vocal score available
'Into the Woods'	Into the Woods	3	Melodic song giving opportunity for characterisation.	Vocal Selections
'Feed the Birds'	Mary Poppins	3	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases.	Piano/Vocal Selection
'Consider Yourself'	Oliver!	3	An energetic character song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selections
'Circle of Life'	The Lion King	3	Melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases.	A variety of versions are available
'We're Off to See the Wizard'	Wizard of Oz	3	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	The Wizard of Oz Vocal Selections

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 4

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'What I Did for Love'	A Chorus Line	4	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variation.	Vocal Selections
'Comedy Tonight'	A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum	4	A fun ensemble song easily adaptable for a small or large group.	A variety of versions are available
'One Brick at a Time'	Barnum	4	An excellent song for intermediate level performers.	Vocal Selections from Barnum
'Razzle Dazzle'	Chicago	4	A stylistic song with opportunity for choreographed movement/dance.	Chicago: The Musical (Vocal Selections)
'We Go Together'	Grease	4	An energetic song which lends itself to choreographed dance/ movement.	Vocal Selections (Updated Edition)
'I Don't Know How to Love Him'	Jesus Christ Superstar	4	A song with long sustained phrases, good tone with plenty of dynamics.	Vocal Selections
'Go, Go, Go Joseph'	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	4	A scene within a song. Opportunity to highlight multiple performers..	Vocal Selections
'Dancing Queen'	Mamma Mia	4	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Abba Gold or Mamma Mia - highlights from the movie (SSA)
'I Have a Dream'	Mamma Mia	4	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variation.	Abba Gold or Mamma Mia - highlights from the movie (SSA)
'Thank You for the Music'	Mamma Mia	4	A fun, upbeat song with opportunity for ensemble work.	Abba Gold or Mamma Mia - highlights from the movie (SSA)
'Get Me to the Church on Time'	My Fair Lady	4	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement/ dance.	Vocal score and Vocal Selection available
'You've Got to Pick a Pocket of Two!'	Oliver!	4	A character song that lends itself to movement.	Vocal Selection/Full Piano Score
'The Ballad of Sweeney Todd'	Sweeney Todd	4	Character song with many opportunities for dynamic variation.	Vocal Selections
'Can You Feel the Love Tonight?'	The Lion King	4	A melodic song with opportunity for sustained phrases.	A variety of versions are available
'The Time Warp'	The Rocky Horror Picture Show	4	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Vocal Selections
'Edelweiss'	The Sound of Music	4	A song with long sustained phrases and dynamics.	Vocal Selections

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 5

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'Anything Goes'	Anything Goes	5	A song with stylistic opportunities.	Cole Porter Songbook
'Bright New Day'	Blood Brothers	5	An action driven song – ideal for adaptation into an ensemble piece.	Blood Brothers: Vocal Selections
'Tell Me It's Not True'	Blood Brothers	5	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variation.	Blood Brothers: Vocal Selections
'Cabaret'	Cabaret	5	A character song with opportunity for individual style and movement.	Vocal Selection and full piano score available
'Mr Mistoffelees'	Cats	5	A character and energetic song with opportunities for choreographed movement.	Cats: Vocal Selections
'Empire State of Mind'	Glee	5	An opportunity for rapping with backing vocals.	Glee version available as sheet music or download
'Summer Nights'	Grease	5	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	A variety of versions are available
'Luck be a Lady'	Guys & Dolls	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Guys & Dolls (Vocal Score) and Vocal Selections
'Good Morning Baltimore'	Hairspray	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Hairspray: Vocal Selections
'You Can't Stop the Beat'	Hairspray	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Hairspray: Vocal Selections
'Benjamin Calypso'	Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Full Vocal Score (not in Vocal Selections)
'At the End of the Day'	Les Misérables	5	An emotional ensemble number with many opportunities for dynamic variation.	Piano/Vocal Selections
'Master of the House'	Les Misérables	5	A character song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Piano/Vocal Selections
'Prologue'	Little Shop of Horrors	5	Requires high energy, diction and choreographed movement.	Vocal Selections
'Mamma Mia'	Mamma Mia	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Abba Gold or Mamma Mia - highlights from the movie (SSA)
'Money, Money, Money'	Mamma Mia	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Abba Gold or Mamma Mia - highlights from the movie (SSA)
'Seasons of Love'	Rent	5	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variations.	Rent: Vocal Selections
'I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major General'	The Pirates of Penzance	5	A patter song with opportunities for characterisation and movement.	Original score with junior versions readily available
'Mack the Knife'	The Threepenny Opera	5	An opportunity for dynamics and mood variation.	Kurt Weill: Berlin to Broadway
'Somebody to Love'	We Will Rock You (Queen)	5	A high energy song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	A variety of versions are available

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 6

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'Freddie, My Love'	Grease	6	A melodic character song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Vocal Selections
'Greased Lightnin'	Grease	6	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	A variety of versions are available
'Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat'	Guys & Dolls	6	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Vocal Selections
'I Know Where I've Been'	Hairspray	6	A melodic song with opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variation.	Vocal Selection/Full Piano Score
'This is the Moment'	Jekyll & Hyde	6	A melodic song giving opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variation.	Vocal Selections
'The Saga of Jenny'	Lady in the Dark	6	A narrative song with opportunity for expressive use of the voice.	Kurt Weill: Berlin to Broadway
'Who Will Buy?'	Oliver!	6	An energetic and melodic song with opportunities for choreographed movement/dance.	Vocal Selection/Choral Selections (SSA)
'With Cat-like Tread'	The Pirates of Penzance	6	A high energy song with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Vocal Selections
'America'	West Side Story	6	A strong character song with opportunity for choreography.	Full score and Vocal Selections available
'Officer Krupke'	West Side Story	6	A strong character song with opportunity for comedy and use of accent.	Vocal Selections
'Bohemian Rhapsody'	We Will Rock You (Queen)	6	Many different moods and styles of singing covered in one song with opportunity for choreography.	ShowTrax backing available, arranged by Mark Brymer
'No One Mourns the Wicked'	Wicked	6	A melodic song with opportunity for sustained phrases and dynamic variation.	A variety of versions available
'Welcome to Wonderland'	Wonderland	6	A large ensemble number with opportunity for choreography.	Vocal Score

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 7

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'One'	A Chorus Line	7	An upbeat ensemble number with opportunity for choreography.	Vocal Selections
'The Avenue Q Theme/What Do You Do With a BA in English'	Avenue Q	7	A high energy character song with opportunities for dynamics and comedy.	Vocal Selections
'Easy Terms'	Blood Brothers	7	A narrative song.	Blood Brothers: Vocal Selections
'Gus the Theatre Cat'	Cats	7	A narrative song with many verses.	Cats: Vocal Selections
'Flight'	Flight Duet, Craig Carnelia	7	A melodic duet.	From Craig Duet
'Skid Row'	Little Shop of Horrors	7	A narrative song with lots of interplay and harmonies.	Vocal Selections
'Pretty Music'	Parade	7	A song with opportunity for stylised phrasing and movement.	Parade Vocal Selections
'Finale B'	Rent	7	A song with opportunity for expressive movement.	Vocal Selections Book
'A Song That Goes Like This'	Spamalot	7	A male/female comedy duet with reference to Musical Theatre	Spamalot Vocal Selections
'A Little Priest'	Sweeney Todd	7	A strong acting through song opportunity.	Vocal Selections
'Climbing Over Rocky Mountains'	The Pirates of Penzance	7	A high energy number with opportunity for choreographed movement.	Original score and junior versions readily available
'Dirty Laundry'	Witches of Eastwick	7	A large ensemble piece with choreography.	Vocal Selections

SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE: GRADE 8

Title	Show	Grade	Notes	Where to find?
'All That Jazz'	Chicago	8	A stylistic ensemble number with opportunities for character and harmonies.	CM Schönberg – One Day More (SSA)
'Do You Hear the People Sing?'	Les Misérables	8	A powerful ensemble number which uses a wide vocal range.	Piano/Vocal Selections
'One Day More'	Les Misérables	8	An expressive melodic number featuring multiple melody lines and narratives.	Piano/Vocal Selection available and Choral highlights (SSA)
'Step in Time'	Mary Poppins	8	A high energy song with opportunity for choreography.	Piano/Vocal Selection
'Urinetown'	Urinetown	8	An ensemble piece with strong text work.	Vocal Selections
'Defying Gravity'	Wicked	8	A character song with opportunities for dynamic variation with both solo and ensemble parts.	Piano/Vocal Selection available and Choral highlights (SSA)
'For Good'	Wicked	8	A duet with opportunities for harmonies and dynamic variation.	Vocal Selections