



With new technology and the Internet, musical productions and performances are increasingly subject to public view and monitoring by performing rights organizations. The Miss Vermont Scholarship Org., Inc. attempts to secure a general license for music used in its productions and contestants' talent performances from ASCAP. We do not have a license through SESAC and therefore music licensed by this groups cannot be performed at Vermont HAS Talent or for the Scholarship Competition. It is necessary that each contestant search the license right for their planned talent performance and provide the Miss Vermont Program with documentation that the music that he or she will use is licensed by ASCAP or BMI.

Search Instructions for ASCAP/ BMI/SESAC Coverage

How to search ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers)

go to www.ASCAP.com
click on "ACE Database"
click on "Search the Database"

How to Search BMI (Broadcast Music, Inc.)

go to www.BMI.com
Click on Search, select Repertoire search, select: title, artist, publisher, Songwriter/Composer
Enter music selection, artist, publisher or songwriter in box below, click "GO"

How to search SESAC (Performing Rights Organization)

go to www.SESAC.com
click on "repertory"
click on "continue on Search Repertory"
Click on Song, writer, Publisher, or Artist, and list the name you want to search. "Click Search Repertory"

It is usually best to begin your search by title. Once the title comes up then match the particular artist and you will have the writer(s). Remember, songs written by a particular writer are not necessarily all licensed by one of the licensing organizations, so it may be necessary to search all three groups to be sure you know where your song is licensed.

How can I perform or use a song licensed by SESAC?

At this time, the Miss Vermont Scholarship Organization, Inc does not support the SESAC license. Therefore, the individual contestant would have to pay the SESAC licensing fee on behalf of MVSO. SESAC is anticipated to be \$102 per event.

The music I want to use in my production is so old I think it's in the public domain (also called PD):

Do not assume that your music selection is classified Public Domain (PD) because it was published in 1922 or earlier. Whether a song is PD depends on MANY things – laws vary depending on WHEN the piece was created, as well as WHERE your production will be exhibited. Sometimes PD pieces are newly arranged and we also need to clear the publishing rights for any new arrangements.