

How to have a successful Choristers audition!

What should I expect at my audition?

Our conductors have no desire to scare you with a stressful audition experience. We will strive to create a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere for you to demonstrate your skills. That is the only way we will get a true sense of your vocal level. Before you audition, you need to complete an audition form. This will be sent to you when you call to secure your audition appointment. **You must call or email the office to schedule an audition!!**

At the audition, you will be asked to demonstrate the following:

Basic Skills:

- Warm-ups (to determine pitch matching ability)
- Breathing technique
- Range identification (how high/low do you comfortably sing)
- Tonal memory (repeating patterns of pitches of varying length and difficulty)

Sight Reading:

Singers will be asked to sing a short sight-reading example. You may use solfege (do, re, mi), numbers, or a neutral syllable (noo, la) to sing the example. You will be given the key center and asked to sing a scale to establish the pitch. Once you are ready, you will try the example (don't worry, we'll let you have a second chance if you need it).

Literature demonstration:

You will sing a short song of your choice. We DO NOT recommend pop songs – they are not written for young voices and do not provide the opportunity for you to sing your best. We recommend a solo and ensemble type of art song, or one of your choir pieces that you feel fits your voice best. You may sing a capella or with piano accompaniment. If you decide to be accompanied, you must bring a copy of the music for our staff to play.

How will choirs be selected?

After auditions are complete, our conductors will review all singers' auditions and score each based on the following:

- Audition score
- Evidence of commitment, passion, and energy for singing
- Ensemble preference

A series of invitations will be sent out based on singers' cumulative scores. The singers with the highest scores will receive an invitation for their preferred choir, with a required deadline for registration and tuition deposit. Additional invitations will be made to fill the remaining spots.

What if I do not get invited into the choir of my choice?

If it appears that you need to continue to build your skills in a certain area and aren't ready for the demands of the ensemble you've selected, we will recommend a choir that will fit you better. The good news is that we will do our very best to find a place for you that will help build your skills and provide you with an excellent choral music ensemble. We may recommend our new sight singing class for you, as well, if that is a musical area that still needs developed.

I'm still concerned and/or confused, what should I do?

First - call to schedule an audition. Second - share your concerns with your director or choir coordinator or email our Administrative Staff – we're all here to help you!