

2017 All City Audition

Audition Sequence

Low Scale - /10pts

High Scale - / 10pts

Musical Excerpt - Grant Us Thy Peace - Mendelssohn - /80pts

Sight-Reading - /40pts

The Audition Day and Sequence Details

Arriving at South Salem HS

Students should enter South Salem HS at the north entrance, at the corner of Church St. and Howard St. Upon arrival, students will need to sign in to receive an audition ID number and audition time. Students that have registered before the audition day can check with their choir directors on Wednesday to receive their audition time beforehand. Singers that are “walk ons” will be assigned the first time available for their voice part. After registering, singers may practice/warm up in the choir room and practice rooms (look for signs). Singers need to be at their audition room 20 minutes prior to their audition time to ensure they don't miss their time. *Any students that miss their assigned time will be added to the end of the auditions. These students will not be guaranteed an audition based upon availability of time slots.*

Entering the Room

Auditioners will sign in at their audition room with their room monitor and wait quietly for their turn to audition. Any practicing done at this point should be done silently. When it is a student's time to audition, they will be notified by their room monitor. The monitor will open the door, introduce the singer with their Audition ID number and exit the room. The auditioner is not to speak once in the audition room. At this point, the judges will begin the audition track.

Scales - Major scales sung up one octave and down with the top note sung only once

Scales are used to judge the quality of voice/tone across the range needed to adequately perform the music chosen for the All City Choir. Singers should be scored based on intonation, quality of tone throughout the range, and control. Solfege, numbers, or a neutral syllable may be used (performing the scale on a “hmm” will register a score of 0)

Musical Excerpt - Performance of an excerpt from *Grant Us Thy Peace* - Mendelssohn

Procedure: Auditioners will sing m. 70-92 and will sing with a recorded piano accompaniment. The piano will begin playing at measure m. 64, and singers will enter on the downbeat of m. 70.

Scoring: Judges will be scoring for the following criteria correct pitches, rhythms, lyrics, outstanding musicality, phrasing and nuance, and quality of tone. **Auditioners can bring their own music into the audition room with them and use it in the audition.**

*****GREAT VOICES THAT MISS PITCHES, RHYTHMS, AND/OR WORDS WILL NOT RECEIVE GREAT SCORES*****

Sight-Reading- Performance of 4 measures of newly written sight-reading material

Procedure: Auditioners will be prompted to open the sight-reading upon completion of the musical excerpt. Once the folder has been opened, auditioners may begin to prepare the sight-reading exercise. Auditioners will be given an arpeggio consisting of Do-Mi-Sol-Mi-Do-Sol-Do and their starting pitch before their practice time begins. Auditioners will have 20 seconds after the given pitches to prepare the excerpt. Auditioners will be asked to stop practice and given their starting pitch once more. After the starting pitch is given, auditioners will promptly perform the sight-reading exercise. Upon completion of the exercise, auditions will then exit the room.

Scoring: Sight-Reading will be scored out of 40 points: 1 point per pitch and 1 point per rhythm (There will be 20 notes in the exercise) Auditioners are scored on their rhythmic and pitch accuracy in performance, not tone quality, phrasing, etc. Students may stop and start over during their performance. However, students will receive the score from their first attempt to the point in which they stopped and then scored accordingly after that point.

Sight-Reading Guidelines for Singers:

Information about the sight-reading exercise: The sight-reading exercise will start and end on the tonic ("do"), will include only the following note durations: whole, half, quarter and eighth notes (also, any dotted variation of these notes, excluding eighth notes), and will only include tones from the major scale (no accidentals or altered pitches).

Auditioners Can: Practice out loud, sing the exercise on any appropriate syllable, count themselves in before performing the exercise, re-establish the key before performing the exercise, can begin practicing once prompted to open the folder, sing the excerpt in a more comfortable key.

Auditioners Cannot: Write on the sight-reading exercise (results in disqualification), discuss sight-reading materials with others until every student has auditioned, perform the exercise without pitch and only rhythm (results in a score of 0).

Departing South Salem HS

After the audition, students should promptly exit South Salem HS through either of the Church St. entrances. Auditioners that have completed their are to not return to the choir room or hang out in the hallways as to respect other auditions and not inform them about the audition material.

We can't wait to have you at South Salem HS and wish you the best of luck in your All City audition!

Best,

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