



Vocal Music Audition

Students auditioning for Vocal Music should prepare a video with all the requirements listed below.

GSA vocal applicants must record one video audition singing Vocalization Exercise I and II found below. Within the same video recording, the applicant must also perform two contrasting songs.

Vocalization Exercise I

- Sing along with the provided recording for your voice part (either Soprano/Alto OR Tenor/Bass) of vocalization exercise #1. You'll first hear the vocal instructor sing the exercise, and then you sing it on the syllable "Fa" in that same key with the recorded piano. Continue to sing along with the recording, repeating the exercise, each time a half step lower, stopping when you have reached the comfortable lower limit of your vocal range.



[Exercise I Recording for Soprano and Alto](#)

[Exercise I Recording for Tenor and Bass](#)

Vocalization Exercise II

- Sing along with the provided recording for your voice part (either Soprano/Alto OR Tenor/Bass) of vocalization exercise #2. You'll first hear the vocal instructor sing the exercise, and then you sing it on the syllable "Ma" in that same key with the recorded piano. Continue to sing along with the recording, repeating the exercise, each time a half step higher, stopping when you have reached the comfortable upper limit of your vocal range.



[Exercise II Recording for Soprano and Alto](#)

[Exercise II Recording for Tenor and Bass](#)

Sing Two Contrasting Songs

- Sing two contrasting songs you have prepared on your own, introducing each before you start with the title of the selection and the composer. Your two solos should be no longer than 5 minutes each and should contrast one another in as many ways as possible (tempo, language, style, etc.)
- Vocalists are to perform solo pieces with live accompaniment, accompany themselves, or sing with an instrumental/karaoke accompaniment. Any a cappella submissions will not be considered. Neither will submissions for which a scanned copy of the scores have not been submitted. This requires a bit of planning on your part. Reach out to your school choir director, band director, your church or place of worship, another student you know that plays piano, or accompany yourself.

General Suggestions:

- Begin the video by stating your name, age, where you are from and date of birth.
- Please record your audition as one video, rather than separate videos for each exercise.
- Sing pieces you know and sing well.
- Memorized solo performances are preferred.
- Your selections don't need to be in a foreign language; they just need to contrast one another.
- Consider your own vocal strengths when choosing a musical selection and weigh the difficulty of the pieces. We would rather hear a simpler song performed well, than a difficult song sung poorly.
- Use your judgment! Ask your music teacher for advice about your selection and for tips and suggestions on how to better prepare for and present your GSA audition/interview.
- Think through and plan for all the things you'll need to make your audition work (Smartphone or other video recording device, accompanist, keyboard, means to play audio for scales, checklist/setlist/script, etc.)
- Practice your audition! In addition to practicing your solo pieces and the vocalization exercises, practice taking the successive steps for what you will do and say. Writing and

memorizing a specific script of what you'll say may help to navigate the steps and calm your nerves.

- If it helps, record your audition multiple times.
- You will be assessed on tone quality, pitch/intonation, rhythm, vocal technique (posture, breathing), diction, and musicality.

Follow up Interview

The vocal instructor for GSA will invite you to a virtual interview. Warm up your voice before the online interview. You will be directed to sing several things (pitch retention melodies, listening to chords and singing pitches from them, sight-singing a melody). The faculty member will talk you through all steps for this portion of the online experience.

Be prepared to talk about your experience in music—school/church choir, ensembles, private studies, etc.

Be prepared to talk about why you are passionate about music and why you are interested in attending GSA.

File Submission

- Record the video using the highest quality possible.
- Upload the video to YouTube.
- Create a PDF with the video URL to the location of your video.
- Include your First and Last Name, School, and “2026 Vocal Music Audition Video” as a title to the PDF. **Please ensure you have granted public access to the video.** WVDE and GSA staff must be able to view the video.
- **You must include your first and last name in the file or video name.**
- Upload the PDF to the file submission folder below:

File Submission: <https://tinyurl.com/2n3jddr7>

An example of what the PDF file should include:

John Doe
Pocahontas County High School
Vocal Audition

Vocal Audition Video with Exercises I, II, and Sing Two Contrasting Songs Link:

https://wvk12-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/dllambert_k12_wv_us/Eb