

# Charleston County School of the Arts

SCREENING PROCEDURE and RUBRIC -

## Vocal Entrance Audition for 6th - 12th Grade

### Program Expectations

In the School of the Arts Vocal Department, students learn the technical and musical skills they will need to be successful in a university level choir. This includes the study of classical technique, as well as an understanding of rhythm, pitch, tone, articulation, style, dynamics, phrasing, and more. All styles and kinds of music will be represented within the curriculum for a vocal major as in any college, university or conservatory. Vocal study will consist of sacred and secular music ranging from Gregorian Chant to 20th century music. Students will also sing in several foreign languages including Hebrew, French, Latin, Italian, and German and many different styles like classical, jazz, patriotic, holiday, pop, religious and Broadway. Our position at SOA is to teach our students about ALL kinds of music so they may use this education later in life to be a more professional musician.

### Objectives

- To teach music by sight singing, theory, and performance.
- To develop individual and group performance skills through the teaching of strong vocal technique.
- To provide the musical needs of both school and community by serving them with our talent.
- To educate the students on different periods and styles of music and how they relate to their time.
- To develop well trained, disciplined, and independent musicians through group experiences and individual responsibilities.
- To expose students to a variety of musical experiences and educate them on various performance venues, styles and cultures.

### Audition Requirements

- **Echo sing simple and complex intervals and rhythmic patterns**
- **All students MUST sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."**
- **Prepared solo with accompaniment** (no a cappella singing, 2 minute maximum). Provide your own cassette tape, CD, or pianist for accompaniment. A piano or CD player will be provided. Accompaniment CD's may not have voices. Song choice should not be a "Pop" song. Folk, hymn, patriotic, Broadway or classical art songs are acceptable.
- **Musical Term and Symbol Identification.**

\*\*Students who do not have an accompanist, may choose one of the following songs and a staff accompanist will be provided:

- 1) "America the Beautiful" – B flat major key
- 2) "The Star Spangled Banner" – B flat major key

3) "Candle on the Water" from Disney's Pete's Dragon – C major key.

Pitch/Rhythmic Accuracy	Scored in range from 1-10
Intonation	Scored in range from 1-10
Diction	Scored in range from 1-10
Tone Quality/Breath Control	Scored in range from 1-10
Musicality/Phrasing/Dynamics	Scored in range from 1-10
Music Theory/Sight-Reading	Scored in range from 1-10
Tonal Memory	Scored in range from 1-10

#### Pitch and Rhythmic Accuracy

Poor 1-4 - Pitches and Rhythms are inaccurate or not secure. Pitch and rhythmic inaccuracies detract greatly from the overall performance.

Proficient 5-7 - Pitches and Rhythms are mostly accurate and secure. However, frequent and/or repeated pitch and rhythmic errors detract from the overall performance.

Advanced 8-10 - Pitches and rhythms are consistently accurate and secure. Errors do not detract from the overall performance.

#### Intonation

Poor 1-4 - Lack of focus on the center of the pitch and key. Major problems with intonation greatly detract from the overall performance.

Proficient 5-7 - Pitch is mostly centered and the key is mostly secure. Intonation errors detract from the overall performance.

Advanced 8-10 - The student's pitch is consistently centered and the key is held securely. Minor intonation issues do not detract from the overall performance.

#### Diction: (vowels, consonants, syllabic stress)

Poor 1-4 - The text is rarely enunciated or pronounced correctly and the text is not discernable.

Proficient 5-7 - The text is enunciated and pronounced correctly most of the time. The text can be understood, but at times lacks clarity.

Advanced 8-10 - The text is consistently enunciated and pronounced correctly. The text of the music is clearly understood.

#### Tone Quality

Poor 1-4 - The tone is rarely focused, clear, centered, or supported, regardless of the range. Tone significantly detracts from the overall performance.

Proficient 5-7 - Tone is mostly focused, clear and centered through the normal singing range. Extremes in range sometimes causes tone and support to be less controlled. Tone quality typically does not detract from the overall performance.

Advanced 8-10 - Tone is consistently focused, clear, and centered with proper breath support throughout the range of the voice. Tone quality enhances the overall performance.