



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

AUDITION PROCEDURES

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All auditions are approximately 15 minutes in length and will consist of elements listed below. All students **MUST** audition for any ensemble.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IN THE AUDITION?

They are relaxed, friendly, and nothing to be uneasy about. Auditions provide the choral and voice faculty a chance to get to know you individually before the semester gets underway. As experienced musicians and educators, we know that many people are nervous about singing alone; therefore, you can be assured of a positive and supportive environment during your audition.

AUDITIONS INCLUDE:

SINGING

- Preferably, sing an aria or art song. If you do not bring an accompanist, one will be provided. For examples of appropriate song choices, please see “Audition Literature” on the website: statesings.com. The songs listed on this list are *examples* of the types of songs that we prefer. You may choose a song not on the list, but please avoid genres such as pop, rock, contemporary Christian, self-composed works, or “rock-Broadway” pieces. If you have a question concerning the appropriateness of your song, please contact us with your song choice.

If you are auditioning during the summer or on a non-audition date, please be prepared to sing without an accompanist. We will do everything within our power to provide an accompanist.

VOCALIZING

- A MSU music faculty will vocalize you through your range

PITCH RETENTION

- You will sing back series of pitches after they are played for you on the piano

SIGHT SINGING

- You will sight-sing several lines of a melody. Each line becomes progressively more difficult

BRIEF INTERVIEW

- You will be asked questions about yourself and music by the choral/voice faculty

WHAT IF I AUDITION FOR A CERTAIN CHOIR AND DR. PACKWOOD THINKS ANOTHER CHOIR WOULD BE A BETTER POSSIBLE FIT?

It is important for you (and, frankly, for the ensemble) that you are placed in a choir that best matches your musical ability and vocal training. I will let you know my thoughts at the end of your audition or soon thereafter. Placing you in a choir other than the one you auditioned for is done in the best interest of all involved.

WHERE ARE AUDITIONS?

Auditions are held in the Choral and Band Rehearsal Hall. You may also contact Ms. Cathy Evans at cevens@colled.msstate.edu or 662-325-3490 should a last minute problem arise, or if you need to schedule a private audition.



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Once you have scheduled your audition, we will contact you with details concerning arrival time.

MUST I BE A MUSIC MAJOR TO BE IN A CHOIR?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! In fact, the ensembles are currently comprised of more non-majors than majors. All groups, including the MSU Singers, usually have non-majors among their members. If you like to sing, there is a MSU Choir for you!

WHAT TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE?

There are two types of MSU Choral Activities scholarships:

Choral Service Awards and **Choral Non-Resident Tuition Scholarships** (the amount is applied toward the Non-Resident Tuition Charge). Both require participation in vocal/choral ensemble(s) and/or activities. Awards are applied to students' accounts each semester and typically begin at \$300.00 and up!!! Awards are determined based on the students audition results. If you reside in the state of Mississippi or are within 500 miles of MSU, an on-campus audition is required. Please contact us if you have any questions.

WHERE TO AUDITION?

To register for an audition, please visit: www.statesings.com

CONTACT US

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