

Vocal Music Audition Packet

The music program at Barbara Ingram School for the Arts provides comprehensive preparation in vocal or instrumental music. Students participate in a variety of performance ensembles; receive weekly private music lessons, and study music theory and literature. Students who qualify may take College Board Advanced Placement examinations in music.

Students interested in auditioning should complete the following requirements to be considered for acceptance into the Vocal Music Department:

I. APPLICATION: Complete the BISFA Application of Interest.

II. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: Ask the student's music teacher (or any non-family member who has worked with the student as a vocalist) to fill out the attached form, found in the appendix, and email it to macklme@wcps.k12.md.us. Alternatively, you may mail the completed form to...

Audition Coordinator
Barbara Ingram School for the Arts
7 S. Potomac St.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

III. VOCAL AUDITION- - Be prepared to perform the following items IN PERSON at your scheduled audition. **Students will be required to sing two (2) contrasting selections from memory.** An accompanist will be provided.

1.) *The first selection* is the **required piece**. Choose from the following titles based on your voice part:

- a. Soprano – "[Evening Prayer](#)"
- b. Alto/Tenor – "[Now is the Month of Maying](#)"
- c. Bass – "[The Jolly Miller](#)"

2.) *The second selection* is of the **student's choice**. It should be chosen from the following genres: classical, jazz, musical theatre, church hymns or a patriotic song. It is preferred for students to sing their selected piece with the provided pianist playing an accompaniment which the soloist provides, but recorded accompaniment tracks are acceptable, as long as no other voices are present on the recording. (see **APPENDIX** for instructions and resources)

IV. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES ON AUDITION DAY-

1.) *MusicianShip*: Students will be asked to vocally demonstrate their skills in basic musicianship, including, but not limited to, matching pitch and echoing short musical phrases played by the adjudicator. Use of solfege is not required.

2.) *Interview*: Applicants will be interviewed so that the instructors may get an opportunity to more fully understand each applicant's background and interest in the program.

3.) *Music Aptitude Test*: At the conclusion of the interview, students will be required to take a brief music aptitude test, differentiating between tonal and rhythmic patterns.

V. ACCEPTANCE: Students will be accepted on the basis of achievement, talent, potential for advanced development, and the specific needs of the vocal department.

If you have any questions, or if you do not have the equipment necessary to record your performance, please email Mrs. Melissa J. Mackley, *Lead Teacher of the Vocal Department*, at macklme@wcps.k12.md.us for assistance.

APPENDIX: Directions & Resources

I. VOCAL AUDITION RESOURCES:

- a. [Required Music Practice Tracks](#) - Use the practice track to rehearse at home. The live accompanist will play it at your audition.
- b. "*Student's Choice*" *Song Resources*- Web sites offer printed accompaniments and accompaniment tracks, but be careful to choose one that is in the correct key for your voice. If you decide to use a track, choose an accompaniment track WITHOUT vocals. Bring either the printed music OR the accompaniment track with you to your audition.

Some website that may be helpful include:

- a. pdf song resources: <https://www.musicnotes.com/>
- b. accompaniment tracks:
<https://www.youraccompanist.com/>
<https://www.karaoke-version.com/>

II. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM: Ask the student's music teacher (or any non-family member who has worked with the student as a vocalist) to fill out the attached form below.

III. REQUIRED MUSIC PDFs: Choose which required selection you will perform from the following titles based on your voice part:

Soprano – “[Evening Prayer](#)”
Alto/Tenor – “[Now is the Month of Maying](#)”
Bass – “[The Jolly Miller](#)”

IV. [AUDITION SCORING FORM](#): For your reference, the attached scoring form is what the adjudicators will use when scoring your vocal audition submissions.

*HAVE QUESTIONS FOR A CURRENT BISFA VOCAL STUDENT? ASK THEM
HERE VIA FLIPGRID: <https://flipgrid.com/93ba973c>*