

Junior SYMS Vocalist Information

General audition:

All voice majors will sing a brief audition on the first day of camp for placement in choirs. For this audition you can sing any song of your choosing, with or without accompaniment. If you would like to use accompaniment, please bring the sheet music for your song to the audition for the pianist to play. We recommend using accompaniment whenever possible because it supports the singer and therefore will make the audition easier for you.

Elective ensembles:

Musical Theater will be open to all students who are interested. No separate audition will be required.

Voice Master Class:

Voice majors participate in a voice master class each morning at SYMS. In this class you will learn about vocal technique, perform a solo for the class, and work on topics like dramatic presentation, breathing, tone quality, diction, and range, among others. Please bring your solo vocal sheet music with you so that you can use it in your master class. A pianist will be available to accompany you. You can decide before camp what song or songs you would like to sing for master class. If possible, your song should be fully memorized. Songs of any style are acceptable, and you may accompany yourself, sing a *cappella*, or use the accompanist we provide for you.

Optional private lesson:

When you register for camp, you can choose to sign up for a private voice lesson. This lesson will be given to you by your master class teacher during free time. The lesson is a good time to work on solos for camp, or just learn more about your own voice and vocal technique. It is a good compliment to the work you do in the master class. Bring sheet music to your lesson and come prepared with questions so that you can make the most of your time.

Optional solo opportunities:

Solos for chorus and musical theater will be auditioned throughout the week by the conductor of the ensemble.

Auditions for the all-camp student recital and the Friday morning voice recital will be held during your voice master class. If you are interested in auditioning for one of these recitals, be sure to tell your master class teacher at Monday morning's class, and bring sheet music for a fully-memorized and polished vocal piece with you on Monday to audition. Both the all-camp recital (held in the evening) and the Friday morning recital (held during the voice master class period) are free and open to the public, so your family and friends can attend.

All-camp student recital:

Repertoire for this recital should be classical or musical theater of the Golden Age (shows written between 1940 and 1960). Your music must be fully memorized and completely polished, and you must be ready to sing it during Monday's master class for your audition. This is a very selective audition; only a few campers perform on the all-camp recital.

Repertoire from the following books can serve as guidelines: Royal Conservatory Resonance series (levels 2-4); 26 Italian Songs and Arias (Paton edition); First Book series by Joan Boytim; Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology series (pre-1960 shows).^{*} Other books/sheet music may be used- consult your teacher.

Friday morning voice recital:

Repertoire for this recital can be classical, musical theater of any era, folk song arrangements, or jazz/rock/country/pop/indie. You must have your music fully memorized and polished at your audition in order to qualify for the recital. Your audition will be during voice master class on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, depending on how many students want to audition. Since the repertoire can be any style for this recital, please be sure that your song is *age-appropriate* and fits your voice. Please choose a song that is three minutes or shorter so that we can accommodate everyone who wants to sing. Most singers will use the SYMS pianist for accompaniment, but if you would like to accompany yourself on piano or acoustic guitar (no bands) your playing must be well-rehearsed when you audition. This recital is for solo voice with accompaniment; there are no group numbers or *a cappella* singing on this recital (this is reserved for the choruses at SYMS).

You can use the following books as guidelines for choosing music: Royal Conservatory Resonance series (preparatory-level 4); 26 Italian Songs and Arias (Paton edition); First Book series by Joan Boytim; Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology; Folk Songs/Spirituals for Solo Singers (Alfred publishing); 15 Easy Folk Song/Spiritual Arrangements (Hal Leonard publishing); single downloads of musical theater songs or contemporary music from www.musicnotes.com.*

*Any of the books mentioned here can be ordered from www.sheetmusicplus.com. To find these exact editions on the site, type in the book title and author/edition as it is given above. Your teacher can help you if you are unsure.

Attire for student recitals:

Men: Shirt and tie, dress pants and dress shoes. Polo shirts and khakis are acceptable.

Women: Skirt or dress to the knee or slightly above (please be modest; if your skirt is very short consider tights or a different outfit), dress shoes, no strapless tops, no undergarments showing.

We have provided this information to you so that you can be prepared for camp and have the best experience possible. If you have further questions, feel free to contact jenni.cook@unh.edu. We are looking forward to seeing you this summer and hope that your experience will be fun and rewarding!