

1. Online Audition Expectations

- All auditions must be performed in the voice part as stated earlier in the application.
- All auditions must be performed a cappella or with the official accompaniment track.
- Groups should be dressed professionally and video framing should be head to toe.
- All auditions must be performed memorized.
- Important: Judging will be completely blind and anonymous. **DO NOT include any identifiable information relating to your school/director either in the video and/or audio recording or in the file name.**
- Preview your YouTube Video before you submit, ensuring the product best captures and presents your work. If the image appears sideways, do not worry about it. The judges will make the adjustment without penalty to that group.
- The use of a microphone is limited to recording purposes only. No artificial amplification is to be used.
- No sound enhancements are allowed.
- Record your audition in one take. Film edits within a piece are not allowed.
- For a student to be considered for State Honors Choir, the **MUST** be in attendance at the Regional Rehearsal and Performance on October 20th.
- Failure to follow audition guidelines and requirements could disqualify your submission.

2. Repetition and practice ideas. Become more confident for you and the students

- Don't let the only time a group is put in front of a camera be the time you are recording for "real."
- Maybe choose a day for a "dry run" where they dress the way they are supposed to and sing in front of the camera.
 1. I usually tell my kids that I'm recording it so I can get the framing and audio down for the real audition, but I keep the recording if they did a great job. Then after the "real" recording the students and I sit really quickly and talk which one they liked better. If the answer is neither, we record again. Have them be involved with which video they feel represents their best.
- The beauty of this new system is they can record the video 300 times until they get the one they want to represent themselves if they wanted to. You might think that this is not fair, that this is not how an audition should work. What I would like to bring to your attention is that these students took the time and effort to try something 300 times until they eventually became better and pushed themselves further than they were at the beginning. I don't know about you, but I would take a student that took that time and dedication to make it perfect over the gifted singer that only took 1 video with very little effort.
- Audition days are scary. I bet you over the years we have lost many gifted, loving, talented, and dedicated students to audition day nerves. We've all been there.

- At this level, we should be kindling passion and excitement for music and the opportunities it can provide. These video auditions will not diminish this program. If anything it will improve it. In the past these auditions have been more demanding of our middle school students than what the high school auditions have been. This is our opportunity to give more students a chance. The great singers that always flake out or refuse this opportunity because of the judges. We can worry about preparing them for “real auditions” for when they reach high school or beyond. (Even though more and more professional auditions begin with a digital submissions)

1. How to create a YouTube account and anonymous YouTube Channel

Step-by-Step Video Link - [Click Here](#)

- **How to make an Account**
 - Go to youtube.com
 - Top right corner will be a “Sign In” option
 - If you are already signed in, it will have the account that is currently in use in the top right.
 - If this is the one you would like to use, continue to the next step
 - If you want a completely new account or do not have one yet, follow the next instructions.
 - Click sign in
 - It will ask you to log into your account
 - there will be an option to create a new account
 - Clicking this will take you to accounts.google.com
 - Here you will fill out the form
 - You will have an option of creating a new Gmail address if you would like. It is not required, but recommended.
 - If your school has Gmail accounts for teachers and students, you will already have access to YouTube with your current email address.
- **How to create a new channel after you have a YouTube Account**
 - To start a new page on YouTube
 - Click to top right Icon
 - Drop down menu will appear with things like “My Channel” or “Creator Studio”
 - Click on the Gear named “Settings”
 - Towards the bottom of the page you will see a link that will say either:
 - See all my channels or create a new channel
 - Create a new channel
 - You will be able to create a new channel from that page
- **How to set up that page so we can’t see which school you come from**
 - When you select “create a new channel” it will redirect you to a page asking you for a “Brand Account Name”
 - This is just a fancy way of saying what do you want to name your account
 - Once you have chosen a name, click the “ok” button and it will take you to your new page.
 - You can customize this page however you would like or just leave it the way it is.
 - Remember that you cannot have any school affiliation on your page.
 - Now you are ready to upload your videos.
- **Add or remove Managers**

- If you team-teach with another director or share kids between schools and don't want to deal with more than one page, click your Icon at the top right and click the "Gear" symbol
- This will take you to your account overview. Toward the bottom of this page is an option to "Add or Remove Managers" Click that link
- This will take you to a different page where you can "Manage Permissions" for your account. Click "Manage Permissions"
 - You will get a dialog box with your name as the "Primary Owner"
 - At the top right of this box, is a little person with a plus
 - Click that and add the email address of the new manager
 - Choose a role for that person (Owner or Manager)
 - Click invite
- Once they receive the invitation they will do the following
 - Open the email
 - Click "Accept Invitation"
 - This will take you to a new page where you will click "Accept"
 - They will now be able to upload, edit, or view anything on that account.

2. How to upload an unlisted video on YouTube

Step-by-Step Video Link - [Click Here](#)

1. To upload a video, you will need to click the upward arrow at the top right of the page. When you hover over it with your mouse, it will say "upload"
 - Once you click this, do the following
 - Click the drop-down box that says "Private" and click on "Unlisted"
 - Once you do that, find your video and drag and drop your video onto the screen.
 - It will then take you to your uploading screen
 - You can edit this first or you can add an additional video by using the "add more videos" button in the lower right.
 - Once your video is loading, you will need to do the following.
 - Name the Title of your Video
 - This is the top small box that should have the name of the extension of your video you just added
 - Name is something like "SA Honors Audition 2018-19"
 - Fill in the "Description" Area with the name and voice part of your students from left to right.
 - Soprano - Ally VanderSloot, Alto - Jennifer Sutton
 - You do not need to worry about the "Tags" section
 - Click the "Advanced Settings" tab
 - Click the box that says "Allow Comments" to deselect them
 - Click "Allow Embedding" and "Publish to Subscriptions" to deselect them
 - Click back to "Basic Info" at the top of the page and double check your names.
 - Click "Done" at the top right
 - Do this for all submissions. It seems intimidating, but once you do one, each one you do will become easier. I am available for anyone that needs help with this process.

3. How to get your video to us

Step-by-Step Video Link - [Click Here](#)

1. [New Online Audition Google Form – Click Here to be sent to the Google Form](#)
 - Fill out the form with all required information. You will have a separate page for each ensemble.
 - YouTube and how to find your link to your video
 1. Go to your “YouTube Studio” or “Creator’s Studio” and find the video for the group you are currently working on and click on the video so it plays.
 2. You will see a link at the top of the page for your video (the web bar). Copy and paste that link into the space that says “Link to Video Submission”
 3. Double check that the video you select is for the correct ensemble
 - When you are finished filling out the form for all of your ensembles, send me an email at nmasterson@lowellschools.com telling me your name and how many groups you have uploaded. I will double check each video link to make sure it works. If it works, I will let you know. If it doesn’t work, I will let you know and offer any assistance you may need to fix the problem.