

## Charter Arts Vocal Department Audition Requirements

*The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts welcomes auditionees who are interested in classical music, musical theater, contemporary music, and songwriting. Our audition requirements are designed to evaluate the candidate as a solo performer. Please carefully review our audition requirements.*

### Summary of Audition

<b>I. Performance:</b> Two Contrasting Songs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The auditionee will perform two contrasting songs from the approved genres list below.</li> <li>● Please bring <b>THREE</b> copies of each song</li> <li>● Charter Arts will provide a piano accompanist</li> </ul>
<b>II. Unaccompanied Song</b> <b>“My Country Tis Of Thee”</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The auditionee will perform “My Country ‘Tis of Thee” without piano accompaniment.</li> <li>● The song should start on the pitch “F”</li> <li>● The purpose of this song is to hear the student’s voice without the piano. This helps our vocal judges assess the quality and strengths of each voice</li> </ul>
<b>III. Range Exercise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The accompanist will guide a vocalise to test the auditionee’s range.</li> </ul>
<b>IV. Musicianship Test:</b> Pitch Matching and Sight Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The accompanist will play a series of pitches and the auditionee will be asked to sing them back.</li> <li>● The auditionee may be asked to sight read a short example.</li> </ul>
<b>V. Interview:</b> Question and Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Our panel will ask the auditionee a few questions about their musical background.</li> <li>● The auditionee will then have the opportunity to ask the faculty panel any questions.</li> </ul>

### Audition Day Checklist

Bring... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Headshot</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 3 Copies of Song 1</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 3 Copies of Song 2</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sheet music in a binder for the accompanist (optional, but recommended)</li> </ul> Remember... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dress Professionally</li> </ul>
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### Details of Audition

- Auditionees will have 3 minutes to warm up in a practice room
- Select **two** contrasting songs using this genre table:

Acceptable Genres for Audition	Non-Acceptable Genres for Audition
Art Songs (Classical) Musical Theater (Broadway/show tunes) Folk Songs (Traditional Songs)	Pop Music (Pop Radio/Top 40) Original Songs* (While we nurture a songwriting program, we would like to hear someone else's work for the fairness of the audition)

- **Contrasting** means offering a variety of strengths to the panel. Consider offering selections from two different approved genres listed above.
  - Example: Sing one art song and one musical theater song.
- All songs must include a **piano accompaniment** (Vocal/Piano Score Format). Charter Arts will provide an accompanist to play for each audition.
- Due to time constraints, the panel may only hear a limited version of each selection.
- Please bring **3 copies of each song**. We recommend putting a binder together for an accompanist to assist with page turning.
- The **Range Exercise** is designed to help place students into the correct voice part. Students are **not** scored based on how high or low their voice falls.
- Pitch Matching allows us to test musicianship and sight reading abilities.
- The interview section allows candidates to present themselves as a young professional artist.

### What is the panel looking for?

We are looking for young aspiring people who are...

- Motivated
- Collaborative
- Interested in trying new things
- Determined
- Well spoken
- Ready to learn, willing to work

As far as vocal techniques, candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria. Each area is worth 5 points.

1. Pitch
2. Time/Rhythm
3. Tone
4. Diction
5. Shape
6. Performance (Stage Presence)
7. Professionalism
8. Pitch Matching

### Example of Approved Sheet Music

- Sheet music has a line of music for the vocalist, and two lines of music for the pianist
- As a general rule, sheet music needs to be purchased for Musical Theater or Art pieces.
- A fantastic website for purchasing sheet music is Musicnotes.com - this resources allows families to purchase individual copies of sheet music for a song, and usually allows to option to select a key.
- The following sheet music contains the piano part, and the vocal part. **Sheet music in piano/vocal scoring is required for a Charter Arts Vocal Audition.**

# BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

(As performed by Ariana Grande and John Legend)  
from BEAUTY AND THE BEAST  
(2017 film version)

1

Music by ALAN MENKEN  
Lyrics by HOWARD ASHMAN

Moderately  
Gb(add2)                      Cb/Gb                      Db/Gb                      Gb(add2)

mf

Female: Tale as old as \_\_\_ time, \_\_\_

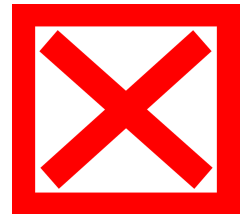
### THESE ARE NOT PERMITTED: Examples of Leadsheets/Chord Charts

#### Leadsheets- NOT permitted

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**  
FROM WALT DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST  
MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN  
LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN

VERSE LYRICALLY  
F(ADD9)                      C7sus                      C7                      F(ADD9)

TALE AS OLD AS TIME, TRUE AS IT CAN



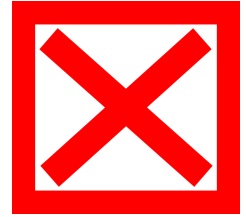
- This example does not have a piano accompaniment, so it would not be acceptable for an audition.

## Chord Charts- NOT permitted

[Verse 1]

G C  
Tale as old as time

G D  
True as it can be



- This is not sheet music, so it would not be acceptable for an audition.

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Our department highly recommends that students prepare with a trained music professional or private teacher for the audition process.

***Any questions regarding audition policies can be directed to Ann-Marie Squerrini, Director of Admissions at a [asquerrini@charterarts.org](mailto:asquerrini@charterarts.org).***

Thank you, our panel looks forward to hearing auditions this year!

Neil Chaban, Assistant Director of Music  
*Vocal Audition Panel*

Matthew Wells, Director of Music  
*Instrumental Audition Panel*

THE  
LEHIGH VALLEY  
**CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
FOR THE **ARTS**