

## 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.

<b>I. Performance</b>  Student-Chosen Song	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The auditionee will perform one song from the approved genres listed below.</li><li>• Please see the VERY IMPORTANT information below for how to submit video recordings online.</li></ul>
<b>II. Performance</b> “The Water is Wide”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All auditionees will perform the first verse of “The Water is Wide.” The ending is indicated on the sheet music.</li><li>• Sheet music and accompaniment tracks are provided on the website for rehearsal and preparation.</li></ul>
<b>III. Musicianship Test</b> “My Country tis of Thee”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The auditionee will be asked to learn and sing “My Country tis of Thee” a capella (without a back-up track)</li></ul>
<b>IV. Interview</b> Question and Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several questions will be listed below. Auditionees should not neglect this step and should carefully consider these questions. Give thoughtful responses as part of the recorded audition.</li></ul>

### Details of the Audition:

- For your chosen song, choose from one of the genres below:
  - Classical Art Songs **excluding** Opera Arias
    - Songs from *24 Italian Art Songs and Arias* are acceptable
  - Musical Theatre (Broadway/Show Tunes)
  - Folk Songs (Traditional Songs)
- **NOT ACCEPTED FOR AUDITION:**
  - Original Songs
    - While we nurture a songwriting program, we would like to hear someone else's work for the fairness of the audition.
- All song entries must be accompanied by a piano accompaniment or back-up track.
- Due to time constraints, the panel may only hear a limited version of each song. However, auditionees should prepare the entire song.
- Hearing “My Country tis of Thee” allows us to test musicianship
- The “interview” section allows candidates to present themselves as young professionals.

## **WHAT IS THE AUDITION PANEL LOOKING FOR?**

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

- **PASSIONATE ABOUT SINGING!!**
- **Passionate about learning how to become a performer in both a solo and ensemble setting**
- **Collaborative**
- **Interested and willing to try new things**
- **Determined**
- **Well-Spoken**
- **Ready to learn and willing to work!**
- **Eager to participate**

All candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

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

Please record yourself answering the following questions, and submit it along with your other videos:

1. **Why did you choose to audition for the Vocal Department at Charter Arts?**
2. **What is one area you would like to improve upon as a vocalist?**
3. **What is your biggest strength as a vocalist/performer.**
4. **What would your acceptance mean to you?**

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!

Matthew Wells, Director of the Music Department

## **CHECKLIST FOR ONLINE SUBMISSIONS:**

**Make sure the following have been done before submitting your audition video:**

- ❑ Use the track provided on the website for “The Water is Wide” as the background accompaniment for that selection.**
  
- ❑ Find a quality background track for your chosen song. You can often find tracks on YouTube, but you should make sure that the track is in the same key in which you rehearsed. There should not be background vocals in the track.**
  
- ❑ Check your audio to ensure that the audition panel can hear both the track and your voice well.**
  
- ❑ If at all possible, have someone else record you and avoid holding a “mic” (airpod, headset) in your hand for the video.**
  
- ❑ Make sure you are in a well-lit room/space.**
  
- ❑ Your camera should be directly on you and avoid funny angles. Make sure the orientation is correct as well.**
  
- ❑ “Slate” or announce your name, title of your song, and the composer.**
  
- ❑ Please dress professionally and appropriately for this submission. Think of it as a job interview.**
  
- ❑ Do your best and commit to your character.**