



## VOCALIST AUDITION CRITERIA

The following areas will be covered in the audition process for Soundsation. All auditions will be done ELECTRONICALLY, with no in-person auditions. The FIRST TWO parts of your audition should be video recorded and submitted as follows:

### **VIDEO SOLO TUNE (recorded in advance)**

Make a video recording of you singing a song of your choosing. This should be a song from the 'standard jazz repertoire' that shows off your jazz sensibilities. It is recommended that your video should include improvisation. In this unusual time, it will not be possible to have you record your video solo with a live accompanist or rhythm section. There are lots of 'backing track' accompaniments available on YouTube.com, as well as other sources, such as iRealPro. If you aren't sure of how to access these resources, please email me at [kmarcy@edcc.edu](mailto:kmarcy@edcc.edu). Upon receipt of your video, I will contact you to schedule an online audition/interview.

### **QUARTET EXCERPT (recorded in advance)**

Learn your own part (SATB) on the VOCAL QUARTET EXCERPT of music. If you are a singer that often sings more than one part, choose the part that best suits you. Video record yourself as you listen to a recording of the other three parts. This will allow us to observe your part-learning and independence skills, as well as your ability to balance and blend as you listen to other singers.

Here is the link to the REHEARSAL track (all parts included):

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1\\_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Rehearsal+Track.mp4](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Rehearsal+Track.mp4)

**SOPRANOS**, record your video on THIS track:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1\\_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Soprano+Audition.mp4](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Soprano+Audition.mp4)

**ALTOS**, record your video on THIS track:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1\\_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Alto+Audition.mp4](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Alto+Audition.mp4)

**TENORS**, record your video on THIS track:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1\\_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Tenor+Audition.mp4](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Tenor+Audition.mp4)

**BASSES**, record your video on THIS track:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1\\_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Bass+Audition.mp4](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yop3ijyrk1opc/AABbCEWmjQeh2IUZT1_2q4T1a?dl=0&preview=Bass+Audition.mp4)

The following components of the audition will be done via a Zoom meeting. It is recommended that, if possible, you have access to a piano/keyboard, for pitch reference.

### **SCALES/VOCALIZATION**

You will be asked to sing a series of vocal patterns to help us determine your vocal range and tone quality.

### **TONAL MEMORY**

A random series of pitches will be played on the piano for you to sing. This is designed to allow us to hear what your ears are able to retain in the short term.

### **SIGHT-READING**

You will be given a short excerpt of music to practice in 4-5 minutes during your audition. The excerpt will include a line of rhythms, a line of pitches, and a line that combines BOTH rhythms and pitches. We are looking for your abilities in rhythmic, melodic and stylistic areas. More importantly than seeing the finished product, we

are looking at how you approach the sight-reading process. We strongly encourage all auditionees to prepare themselves as well as possible for this portion of the audition by incorporating sight-reading into their 'daily routine'.

### **INTERVIEW**

This is an opportunity for us to get to know you and ask questions that might be relevant to being a member of Soundsation. If you have questions regarding membership in the group, you are encouraged to ask them during your interview.

### **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

TWO letters of recommendation are required of each auditionee. ONE of these should be from a music instructor or other school official. The other letter can be from a person of your choosing (friend, boss, coach, etc.) These letters should speak to your integrity, cooperation/attitude, adaptability, commitment, service, willingness to take direction, as well as your musicianship. ALL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION ARE TO BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO KIRK MARCY, DIRECTOR OF SOUNDSATION, AT [kmarcy@edcc.edu](mailto:kmarcy@edcc.edu) AND MUST BE RECEIVED AT LEAST 2 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR ZOOM AUDITION.

### **TRANSCRIPT**

Prior to your Zoom audition, please email an unofficial copy of your most recent transcript (high school or college).

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions or concerns about the audition process, please contact:

Kirk Marcy, Director of Soundsation  
Edmonds Community College  
20000 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue West  
Lynnwood, WA 98036  
425.640.1650 (music office)

[kmarcy@edcc.edu](mailto:kmarcy@edcc.edu) (email)



## PREPARING FOR YOUR VOCAL AUDITION

Here are some helpful suggestions as you prepare for your vocal audition for Soundsation. Careful consideration of these things will help you present yourself in the best possible way.

### **SOLO TUNE**

This is the component of the audition process YOU have the most control over. Simply put, YOU get to choose your song, style, tempo, arrangement, etc

1. It is suggested that you carefully consider making a choice of solo tune that TRULY highlights your musical performing strengths.
2. Don't pick a key that is outside your most comfortable range. Choose a key that best fits your "instrument".
3. It is NOT essential that you improvise (scat sing) during your solo tune. In past years, some auditionees have chosen to improvise, when their experiences and comfortability in that area are obviously limited. Only choose to improvise if you consider that to be one of the strengths of your musicianship.

### **VOCALIST QUARTET EXCERPT**

Many auditionees show their greatest musical attributes through this component of the audition. We are looking for the following qualities in this area:

1. Is it obvious that the part is well-learned?
2. Is the auditionee comfortable signing 'one-on-a-part'?
3. Has the auditionee prepared by working with the other parts?

### **SIGHT-READING**

For many auditionees, this is the ONE component of the process that they dread the most! Sight-reading is the "Great Equalizer" of music, in that it temporarily "levels the playing field" for all auditionees. If you feel uncomfortable now, begin to work on becoming a better reader of rhythms and melodic intervals. Most importantly, relax! We are more interested in discovering what you CAN do, not what you CAN't do!

### **INTERVIEW**

Start now, making a list of questions that you would like to ask during your interview. There really aren't any questions that you could ask that aren't relevant, so feel comfortable in asking.

### **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

Carefully choose WHO you ask to write a letter of support for your audition. For each person you asked to have written on your behalf, give them enough ADVANCE NOTICE to complete their recommendation. It is YOUR responsibility to see to it that your letters are completed and sent electronically AT LEAST TWO DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR ZOOM AUDITION.

### **IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

If you have questions in advance of your audition, please email Kirk Marcy, Director of Soundsation at [kmarcy@edcc.edu](mailto:kmarcy@edcc.edu)