



## Chamber Choir Audition Guide

The audition will consist of:

- Introduction
- Sight Singing
- Rhythm Reading
- Prepared Song
- Scales and Vocal Exercises
- Tonal Memory Exercises
- Music Theory Written Examination
- Interview

### Sight Singing

Sight singing is the most important element of your audition. Students who cannot sight sing at an intermediate to advanced level will not be accepted into Chamber Choir regardless of talent. To reach this level, you need to practice every day! You can check out music books at the library, use a hymnal, or find exercises online to keep your skills fresh.

You must first identify the key of the composition, then your starting pitch:

1. Key is C Major (no sharps/flats) → 

2. Starts on SOL (C is Do, D is Re, E is Mi, F is Fa, and G is Sol) →

Once you have identified the key of the selection and the starting pitch, sing or hum through the exercise. Find the skips and sing them a couple of times.

Here are some examples to practice:

1.   
  
  
  


You can find more examples and tutorials online at [www.teoria.com](http://www.teoria.com).

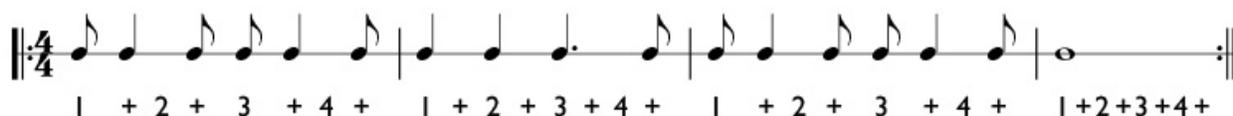
## **Rhythm Reading**

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Reading rhythms is an important skill in Chamber Choir. Below are a few examples to practice. You will be expected to clap or tap the rhythm while keeping a steady beat. Remember, you don't get "extra credit" for going fast! Keep it moving at a reasonable tempo.



Be sure to familiarize yourself with syncopation. Below is an example of syncopated rhythms:



## **Prepared Song**

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Select a song at (1) shows off your range and (2) sits mostly in your comfortable range. Don't pick a song where you are belting in your low range or attempting to sing the highest notes you can for the entire song. Folk songs, patriotic songs, art songs, or songs in a foreign language would be a good choice. Please no popular music.

## **Scales and Vocal Exercises**

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You will be asked to sing some basic vocal exercises similar to "warm-ups" in a choral rehearsal. These are intended to test your range and identify your placement in the choir if you are selected.

## **Tonal Memory Exercises**

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A director will play three to five notes on the piano and ask you to sing them back. To practice this, pick any three notes on the piano (you can download a free version on your phone or iPad) and sing them back on "la." Once you master that, move on to four notes, then five. You can also practice listening to music, pausing it and singing back the notes.

## **Written Examination**

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This examination will focus on music literacy. Know basic music terms, be able to identify musical symbols and notes, and write in solfege syllables under an excerpt of music.

## **Interview**

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You will likely be asked why you'd like to be in Chamber Choir, what you can contribute to the ensemble, or what experiences have led you to Chamber Choir. Be prepared to speak about your passion for music. Speak confidently and look your interviewer in the eye.