

CHECKLIST FOR AUDITIONS

- A. Appropriate dress code
 - 1. Young ladies
 - a. Long or tea length (mid calf) dresses or skirts
 - b. Any color will do. Black is always good but other colors are ok as long as they are not too bright.
 - c. Bold prints are not advised.
 - d. Conservative styles are best; not too flamboyant.
 - e. No strapless dresses. If you're quite thin you may wear thin straps, but if you're a little bigger it's best to wear longer sleeves.
 - f. Never wear a dress that is too tight even if you are thin. It's best to have something that is flowing.
 - g. Keep the jewelry simple. You want the attention on you, not your jewelry or your dress.
 - h. Choose a dress in which you can move gracefully.
 - i. No flat sandals, ballet slippers, or shoes (except for children). No mules or slip ons. Heels (not too high, flexible soles are best) are appropriate for teens and older.
 - 2. Young men
 - a. Suit, dress shirt, and tie are always good attire.
 - b. Sports coat, shirt and slacks are also appropriate for most competitions.
 - c. If you wear a tie, do not pull it too tight; it is advisable to wear a clip on.
 - d. Dress shoes only, no tennis shoes or sandals.
- B. Music
 - 1. Always have ORIGINAL MUSIC. This is music which you have purchased. If you have purchased and downloaded music on a computer you must have a printed receipt as proof of purchase. This is COPYRIGHT LAW.
 - 2. Do not wait until the last minute to purchase music. Often it must be ordered and can take weeks to arrive.
 - 3. For all occasions (*except* MTAC functions ie: CM, VOCE, Baroque festival, etc.) you will need *in addition* to your ORIGINAL MUSIC, a separate folder (black is best) with "photocopied music" in plastic protector sheets for the accompanist. Pages should be placed back to back so that you can turn them and they read like a book.
 - 4. In the accompanist folder use only clean photocopies. Have any cuts, repeats, etc. clearly marked and show them to the accompanist before you enter the room/stage if possible.
 - 5. Be sure that you have the CORRECT KEY for the accompanist. If you are not sure, ask me in plenty of time.
 - 6. For Certificate of Merit *only*, you will need to number the measures. Every 5th measure is fine.
- C. Warm-up
 - 1. Very few auditions have facilities for you to warm up.
 - 2. You will probably need to warm-up in your car in the parking lot.
 - 3. You can use one of your practice tapes or you can purchase a warm-up CD from me.
 - 4. NEVER go to an audition and sing without warming up.
 - 5. Go through the warm-ups for 15-20 minutes and then sing through your songs with your practice tape once each.
- D. Water
 - 1. Take a bottle of water with you to the audition but do not take it into the audition room.
 - 2. Staying hydrated is VERY important to good singing.
- E. Pay the accompanist
 - 1. If an accompanist is not provided or one is provided but you are responsible for paying him/her yourself, always have the exact amount in cash or a check.
 - 2. PAY BEFORE YOU SING. It is not acceptable to expect the accompanist to wait until some future time to be paid, and don't wait for him to ask you after the audition.
- F. Have your music ready and in a carry bag the night before the competition.
- G. Have your clothes cleaned, pressed and ready to go before you go to sleep.
- H. Get a good night's sleep. 8-10 hours is good.
- I. MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, BE WELL PREPARED – KNOW YOUR MUSIC