



Vocal Scholars Audition Information

2024 – 2025

Scholarship Expectations:

Full commitment to the ongoing expectations of the Vocal Scholars program as representatives of Assumption University in our community including the following:

- Full participation as a leader in the Assumption Chorale
- Full participation as a singer in the VOCE chamber choir (audition required for acceptance)
- Participation in voice class, Mus 140-01 Vocal Health & Pedagogy (preferred during Year 1)
- Participation in private voice lessons, Mus 141-01 at least one semester per year in years 2, 3, and 4. (*A portion of this scholarship is intended to help offset the cost of one semester of private lessons each year.*)
- Participation in special and culminating events as a singer (admissions days, recitals, etc.)
- Participation (when possible) in international/national choral tours
- Re-evaluation of commitment at the end of second year

Guidelines on Repertoire Selection for Video Audition

1. *Applications are due by April 1, 2024 for first priority.* Videos submitted after this will be considered on an individual basis.
2. Choose **two contrasting pieces of varied musical styles**. Your teachers may be your best resource in selecting these pieces, but please be in touch if you have questions.
3. Both pieces should be chosen to display healthy vocal technique regardless of genre.
Examples:
 - Selection from the *24 Italian Songs and Aria's* anthology,
 - Traditional hymn tunes such as *Amazing Grace*
 - Traditional folk song or Americana tune
 - Jazz standards
 - Classic musical theater selections such as Rodgers and Hammerstein pieces
4. Memorized pieces are encouraged, although not required.

*We are not necessarily looking for the most highly polished and technically perfect singer. We are looking for singers with strong natural ability that we believe can grow and develop over four years here.

Guidelines on making your Recording

1. Please submit your audition as **one (1)** video file that includes both pieces.
2. Before you sing, please introduce yourself. (spoken introduction can be under two minutes) Include the following information in your Introduction:
 - where you are from
 - your background in music and/or theater
 - why you are interested in Assumption
 - what you will be singing.
3. Video should be submitted as a link to an uploaded file. If this is Google Drive or YouTube, please make sure the video is shared to allow for viewing and not a closed video.
5. Please plan to use the audio that is recorded with the video and do not lip sync to audio that you record and edit separately.
6. Utilizing an accompanist is ideal, but it is acceptable to sing a cappella and/or with a digital piano pre-recording. Please make sure that we can hear this track. The balance need not be perfect, your voice will be the most important part of the recording.
7. Please present this audition in a quiet and intentional setting where you can stand and sing comfortably without distraction.

*Plan to send in a recording that best represents you and your musical ability. Background noise, other people in the video, and distracting environments can take away from this. We want to see you do your best work, so try and set up your environment for this! Please be in touch with us if you experience any significant technical difficulties. We would like to help you succeed.

Preparation for the In-Person Interview

1. If invited, a 15-minute interview will be scheduled for afternoon/evening of January 25 or 26. Limited accommodations can be made if this date cannot work or if travel to MA is not possible.
2. Please be prepared to sing both of your selections from your video. We may only ask for one of them.
3. Please also be prepared to sight-read from a simple score. The sight-reading itself will not have weight on the success of your audition.
4. Please be prepared to receive coaching from the faculty. We will have you go through a series of warm-ups and sightread a short selection. We are looking to see how you respond to feedback and instruction.
5. This interview will be a space for us to hear from you, answer questions, and learn a bit more about your interest in Assumption University. Please come prepared with any questions you have about the Vocal Scholars program, music degree, or Assumption in general.

Reach out for our support if you need help preparing. We want to see you succeed! and find a home on our campus!

