

Premier Audition Application Requirements for Jazz Vocal Performance

All applicants to Performers National Signing Day are required to record an audition video which includes the content outlined below.

- Each performance segment must be recorded in one take with no editing (though you may and should select the best of several takes).
- All videos must be recorded within the six months prior to the application deadline.
- Professional equipment and/or studio space is not necessary for a successful application to Performers National Signing Day. With attention to a few details, your music making can be conveyed using readily available consumer electronics; even iPhone or other smartphone recordings are acceptable.
- Please refer to [Audition Tech Tips](#) for additional information and suggestions for effectively recording your audition.

Required Video Segments for Jazz Vocal Performance

Video 1

Introduction: Before you record your first musical selection, please include a spoken introduction in which you state your name, instrument/voice part, hometown, and state.

Required Musical Selections: You are asked to record only one video. Auditionees must select and sing three songs from below:

- A medium swing tempo song from the *Great American Songbook* (120-160 bpm)
- An up-tempo swing song with improvisation on one of the choruses (220 bpm)
- A jazz (or jazz-rock) ballad
- A song in an alternate jazz style (afro-cuban, samba, funk, bossa nova, etc.)
- An original jazz song written by the auditionee

Optional

At the piano, play the chord changes with a swing feel for one of the following songs: "All of Me," "Bye Bye Blackbird," "Satin Doll," or "Take the A Train" (Singing while playing is encouraged)

- You are asked to announce the title of the number and composer and/or arranger before you begin the performance for each required selection.

- Applicants must perform accompanied, with a live rhythm section, or with prerecorded musical tracks.

Video 2

Video Essay: Please record a 2 to 3-minute answer to **one** of the following questions:

- What is a non-musical interest or activity about which you are passionate and why?
- What jazz vocalist (of any time) most inspires you and why (or how)?
- What do you anticipate your professional life to look like in 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years?
- What musical experiences have influenced your life and will continue to shape you as a person?

Print Music Resources

Lead sheets for the required titles can be purchased online:

- SheetMusicPlus.com
- Amazon.com

Also, here are two sources for finding public domain sheet music:

- Educational Music Service (www.emsmusic.com)
- Kalmus (www.efkalmus.com)