

# Audition Requirements

## School for the Creative and Performing Arts at Lafayette High School

### ART (Visual)

1. Students auditioning in visual arts will be evaluated in small groups.
2. The student will need to bring an art assignment (mailed ahead of time to the home), and a portfolio (7-10 pieces) of recent work.
3. Teachers will evaluate on a variety of images, medium and use of color (*avoid pop images, ie. cartoon characters, etc.*).
4. High School students will be drawing a still life and participating in a portfolio discussion.

### DANCE

1. Suggested dance practice clothes: girls - leotard and tights; boys – solid color pants and tee shirt. Both may wear either ballet or jazz shoes or go barefoot (NO SOCKS). Hair must be pulled back and securely fastened for girls.
2. Audition format for all ages will be a short ballet barre, with ballet, modern and jazz dance skills across the floor. You will be asked to demonstrate simple ballet movement in centre floor, along with modern and jazz dance sequences right and left, stretches, rhythmic movements, jumps, and leaps. Fitness, energy level, flexibility, quick recall of short movement sequences, and musicality will also be assessed.
3. Ballet students need to bring pointe shoes (if already on pointe).

### CREATIVE WRITING

Students auditioning in creative writing should bring:

- 1 short story
- 3 poems
- 1 piece of auditioner's choice

The audition will last two hours, at which time the student should be prepared to complete a brief writing assignment and complete an interview. All students will write their audition pieces on a PC computer using Microsoft Word.

Criteria for evaluating the creative writing audition:

- ⇒ The piece is focused on a purpose and communicates with an audience.
- ⇒ The piece shows evidence of voice and tone.
- ⇒ The writer's ideas are developed and supported by relevant details.
- ⇒ There is an obvious central idea and development of that idea in the piece.

### DRAMA

We are seeking students who are interested in drama or who are able to demonstrate an ability to create believable characters through a prepared monologue and improvised acting exercises using variations of physical movement as well as vocal pitch, tempo, and tone for different character situations. In short, we want students to present with courage, to demonstrate an understanding of unique character, and to communicate a desire to learn more about the vast complex world of theatre. (*A typed resume' is encouraged but not required.*)

Each student who auditions should be prepared to do the following:

1. Monologue, 1-2 minutes, memorized
2. Several improvises, both alone and with a partner
3. Students wishing to emphasize technical/design fields are encouraged to bring any art work/drafting they may have.

*Monologue Guidelines:*

- ⇒ Choose a character appropriate for your age/physical type
- ⇒ Avoid Shakespeare, dialect pieces, or poems

## **PIANO**

1. Each student will be asked to perform two (2) pieces of contrasting style. (**Both** pieces must be memorized)
2. Each student must have the original copies of piano pieces (**not** photocopies). *These originals must be presented to the person(s) administering the auditions.*
3. Each student will perform scales, arpeggios, and cadences. Specific requirements are:  
Several Major and minor scales, arpeggios, and cadences.  
Required keys are: C, G, D, A, E, B, F Major - a, e, b, f#, c#, d, c minor.
4. Each student will be required to sight read a short selection.

## **STRINGS**

1. A student may audition in the area of strings on violin, viola, cello or bass.
2. Each student should prepare two short pieces of contrasting styles or one piece that shows more than one style.
3. These prepared pieces should demonstrate the student's best performance qualities.
4. Memorization of the music is optional.
5. Sight reading will also be a part of the audition.
6. **PLEASE NOTE: Accompanists are NOT encouraged. If you want to provide piano accompaniment, please use a cassette tape or CD.**

## **BAND**

1. Each student may audition on the band instrument of their choice. The student should prepare two pieces of contrasting styles (fast/slow or from different time periods). Also, the student should be able to play several Major scales.
2. Sight-reading will be a part of the audition.
3. Memorization of the music is optional.
4. The prepared pieces should demonstrate the student's best performance qualities.
5. Evaluation will be based on potential ability, performance ability, how well the student knows fundamentals (a-g on a piano sheet!), and stage presence.
6. **PLEASE NOTE: Accompanists are NOT encouraged. If you want to provide piano accompaniment, please use a cassette tape or CD.**

## **VOICE**

1. Each student will be asked to perform a solo piece. This solo should be an art song or may be a piece of traditional solo literature.
2. **A list of suggested solo literature is available on the auditions website and is listed below.**
3. **Pop songs or show tunes are not encouraged for High School auditions.**
7. The solo piece should be memorized and an accompaniment CD should be provided. A CD player will be provided. *Students **must** bring copies of the music performed.* (Please **do not** record a song from the radio or bring a commercial recording with which to sing along.) **PLEASE NOTE: Accompanists are NOT encouraged. If you want to provide piano accompaniment, please use a cassette tape or CD.**
4. Each student will be asked to sing a familiar song (ie: *America, My Country Tis of Thee*, etc.)
5. Pitch-matching, rhythm concepts, and simple sight reading will also be a part of the audition.

## Suggested Repertoire for SCAPA Lafayette (High School) Vocal Auditions

<u>English</u>	<u>Book/Anthology</u>
How Can I Keep from Singing	<b>15 Easy Folksong Arrangements for the Progressing Singer (Pub. Hal Leonard)</b>
Loch Lomond	
The Streets of Laredo	
The Water is Wide	<b>Folk Songs for Solo Singers Vol. 1 (pub. Alfred)</b>
Amazing Grace	
Danny Boy	
To the Sky	
She's Like the Swallow	
Homeward Bound	<b>Folk Songs for Solo Singers Vol. 2 (Pub. Alfred)</b>
Cross the Wide Missouri	
Go Way From My Window	
Simple Gifts	
Poor Wayfaring Stranger	
All My Trials	<b>The Songs of John Jacob Niles (pub. Hal Leonard)</b>
Shenandoah	
The Black Dress	
The Lass from the Low Countree	
Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair	
Ribbon Bow	<b>Easy Songs for the Beginning Mezzo-Sop./Alto (Pub. Hal Leonard)</b>
Early One Morning	
Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit	
Long, Long Ago	<b>Easy Songs for the Beginning Tenor (Pub. Hal Leonard)</b>
The Ash Grove	
Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes	
Santa Lucia	<b>Easy Songs for the Beginning Baritone/Bass (Pub. Hal Leonard)</b>
Beautiful Dreamer	
The Erie Canal	
Go Down, Moses	
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot	
April Showers	<b>Easy Songs for the Beginning Soprano (Pub. Hal Leonard)</b>
Florian's Song	
Golden Slumbers	

<u>Italian</u>	<u>Book/Anthology</u>
Amarilli, mia bella	<b>24 Italian Songs and Arias (Pub. G. Schirmer, Inc.) Or</b>
Alma Del Core	
Sebben, crudele	<b>26 Italian Songs and Arias (Pub. Alfred)</b>
Caro Mio Ben	
Gia il sole dal Gange	
Tu Lo Sai	

Other suggested publications:

**Classical Contest Solos (available for S, A, T and B separately) – Pub. Hal Leonard**

**First Book of Soprano ( or Mezzo/Alto, Tenor, Bass) Solos, vol. I & II – Pub. G. Schirmer**

Download some of these titles for free at [http://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Category:Solo\\_vocal\\_music](http://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Category:Solo_vocal_music)

\*\*\*Please remember that these are *suggestions*. There are many other standard repertoire audition pieces available. Any selections from the publications listed above are acceptable as long as they are vocally appropriate. Also, any key is acceptable.\*\*\*