Vocal Music
New Student Auditions

Mandatory Pre-Audition Meeting
Welcome!
Introductions

- Faculty
- Parent Audition Coordinators
- Students
Website Information

• DSA Home page - [http://dsa.dpsk12.org](http://dsa.dpsk12.org)
  • This page is the best source for general audition information and application information. Click on “admissions” tab.

• DSA Vocal Music page - [http://dsavocalmusic.org](http://dsavocalmusic.org)
  • This page is the best source of information about the specific vocal music audition.
DSA Mission Statement

- Our mission is to build a place where lifelong artistic talents are developed in a multicultural, academically nurturing learning environment.
Collaboration

• Working together with students, families, and colleagues to provide unique opportunities and experiences.
Diversity

- We are a supportive community committed to individual and artistic integrity and inclusion. We promote and respect self-expression, a wide range of ideas, and the impact of one’s actions on the community, on the environment, and on ones-self.
Environment

• The emphasis is on building a nurturing student community where individuals encourage and support one another, and where respect is given freely to all.
Excellence

• The belief that learning is centered in the process of inquiry, self-discovery, and creative expression, we offer our students the environment and tools they need to take risks, think critically, and work creatively within and across disciplines.
Joy

• We want our students to experience joy in their artistic, intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development.
About the Vocal Department

● DSA Mission Statement-A place where lifelong artistic talents are developed in a multicultural, academically nurturing environment.

● In the vocal music department, our goal is college admission for any student who wants to major in music and to produce lifelong arts consumers and advocates.

● We believe in producing students who are musically educated, but who also have some understanding of the broader world, we aim to do this through: exposure, mutual respect among all students and faculty, creating a community, department, and ensembles that demonstrate and value kindness, community, discovery, collaboration, teamwork, and leadership, and advocates for the arts within each individual students’ unique path.
About the Vocal Department

- Students in the vocal music department will pursue their studies using a scientific and holistic approach to singing along with music theory, sight singing, aural skills, and piano. Our students’ study of vocal technique, piano, sight singing and music theory will help students achieve success in whatever aspect of music they elect to pursue.

- We believe in the study and importance of multi-genre and multi-cultural music for our students so that they can be best prepared for the rapidly changing and developing music industry and world and in supporting our students’ interest in a variety of genres, encouraging vocal flexibility, healthy technique, and respect for genres outside of their initial interest areas.

- We believe in supporting our students’ interest in multiple musical genres and multicultural music by teaching with an approach that bridges the gap between all areas of musical study and classical repertoire.

- This teaching approach uses a traditional curriculum of classical music, including art songs and arias in English, Italian, German, French, Spanish and other languages. With the study of repertoire in these languages, we believe in the necessity for students to translate and thoroughly understand the texts of all songs in foreign languages and in English. As students experience musical growth, their corresponding vocal literature demands will be more and require deeper comprehension and study from the student.
Application Process

- Step 1: Online Application-Closed January 4th, 2019
- Step 2: Mandatory Pre-Audition Meeting-January 14th, 2019
- Step 3: School of Choice Process
- Step 4: Audition-February 5, 9, 12, & 16* *callbacks
Number of Admitted Students

- Enrollment varies widely year to year
- # of admitted students is dictated by administration
- we do not know how many students we will get to admit
- just do your best
School of Choice Process

The first round of Choice for the 2019 – 2020 school year will be from January 15, 2019 – February 15, 2019 at 4:00 pm. Any time during this month window, you must go online and fill out a choice application. The online SchoolChoice application will be available via the SchoolChoice website during the application window.

The DPS SchoolChoice application will ask you to rank your top 12 preferred schools within DPS, including charter schools and magnet programs such as DSA. The DPS SchoolChoice application must be submitted no later than 4 pm on February 15, 2019. If you desire to attend DSA, and it is your most preferred school, be sure to indicate DSA as your #1 choice. Please rank your school selections in order of your actual preferences; if your student is seated at their number one ranked school, you will have forfeited your boundary school and any other school ranked below where the student was accepted.

For more information about the DPS Choice process, please visit http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/ or call the Choice and Enrollment Hotline at 720-423-3493.
New this Year-Callback

- Selected students will be invited back for the 2nd round of auditions (callbacks)

- Callbacks will be held Saturday, February 16th 7:30 am-5:30 pm (please reserve all day)

- Selected students will be notified by their audition # being posted on the DSA website by Wednesday, February 13th at this time callback materials to be prepared will also be posted

- If your audition number is not posted on the website we are unable to offer you a spot in the vocal music department next year
Audition Schedule

Check-In and Warm-Up

- Students will check-in, turn in their audition packet, receive an audition number, and warm-up with DSA student volunteers (warm-up is mandatory)

Audition

- Students will be assigned an individual time slot within 1 hour to perform their song and skills in front of the faculty panel (this time is assigned randomly the day of auditions)

Theory Test

- Students will be given a music theory test to complete in a classroom, they have all the time they need to complete this test
Audition Packet

This needs to be in the order listed and labelled with your name and audition number...

- Headshot

- 3 letters of recommendation (posted on vocal website)

- Essay: “Why you want to be a vocal major at DSA” (1 page)


- Repertoire list (HS only, example- https://www.ithaca.edu/music/ensembles/opera/docs/Audition_Resources/Sample_Rep_List/)

*These materials will not be returned to you
Mock Audition

One of our vocal students will now do a mock audition for you so that you can see and hear exactly what your audition will look like ...
Audition

• Introduction
• Solo: sing one verse and chorus or one minute of your chosen piece
• America, The Beautiful
• Scales and Triads
• Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-Reading
• Harmonic/Aural skills (ear training)
Professional Dress

- Wear something professional and nice that you are comfortable in

- Please make sure footwear is appropriate and comfortable for movement (there will be movement!)

- Hair needs to be pulled back or out of the face

- Make sure that all skin is covered appropriately
Solo Criteria

- Tone Quality
- Intonation
- Style
- Musicianship
- Accuracy of Preparation
- Diction and Articulation
- Performance/Communication/Stage Presence
- Technique
- Interpretation/Artistry
- Professionalism
Sheet Music

Choose Piano/Vocal sheet music
(has piano accompaniment and vocal lyrics & notes)

Great resources for finding music:
- a voice teacher!
- a vocal music selections book
- musicnotes.com

Music should be double-sided and in a 3-ring binder that lays open flat

Do NOT use sheet protectors
Poor choice #1:

No vocal line and poor accompaniment (only bass clef)
Poor choice

Blue Skies

Cm C6 Eb/Bb A7 Eb Cm7

Blue skies—smil-in’ at me, noth-in’ but blue skies

FM7 Bb7 Eb Ab7 G7 Cm C6 Eb/Bb

do I see—Blue birds—sing-in’ a song

A7 Eb Cm7 FM7 Bb7 Eb Bb7 Eb

noth-in’ but blue birds—al day long

Eb Abm7 Eb F77 Eb

Nev-er saw the sun shin-in’ so bright, nev-er saw things

F77 Eb Eb Abm7 Eb F77 Eb

go-in’ so right. No-ting the days hur-ry-in’ by, when you’re in love

Vocal line only – no piano accompaniment
Poor choice

Lyrics and chords only
Great choice!

Piano accompaniment with vocal lyrics and notes
Skills by Grade Level

6th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale and major triad
4) Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-Reading (CO MS all-state)
5) Aural Skills (picking 1 note out of a 2-part chord, aural recall within a fifth)
6th grade student performer...
Skills by Grade Level

7th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale, major triad, minor triad
4) Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-reading (CO MS all-state)
5) Aural Skills (picking 1 note out of a 2-part chord, aural recall within an octave)
Skills by Grade Level

8th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale, major triad, minor triad, diminished triad
4) Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-reading (CO MS all-state)
5) Aural Skills (picking 1 note out of a 2-part chord, aural recall within 2 octaves)
Skills by Grade Level

9th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale, major triad, minor triad, diminished triad, harmonic minor scale
4) Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-reading (CO honor choirs, Western, ASU, etc.)
5) Aural Skills (picking 1 note out of a 3-part chord, aural recall within 2 octaves)
Skills by Grade Level

10th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale, major triad, minor triad, diminished triad, harmonic minor scale, natural minor scale
4) Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-reading (CO honor choirs, Western, ASU, etc.)
5) Aural skills (picking 1 note out of a 4-part chord, aural recall within 2 octaves)
10th grade student performer...
Skills by Grade Level

11th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale, major triad, minor triad, diminished triad, augmented triad, harmonic minor scale, natural minor scale, melodic minor scale
4) Rhythmic and Melodic Sight-reading (CO All-State choir)
5) Aural skills (picking 1 note out of a 5-part chord, aural recall within 2 octaves)
11th grade student performer...
Skills by Grade Level

12th grade

1) Solo
2) America
3) Major scale, major triad, minor triad, diminished triad, augmented triad, harmonic minor scale, natural minor scale, melodic minor scale, chromatic scale
4) Rhythmic and Melodic sight-singing (CO All-State choir)
5) Aural skills (picking 1 note out of a 6-part chord, aural recall within 2 octaves)
12th grade student performer...
America the Beautiful

Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain. America, America, God shed His grace on Thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.
6th & 7th Rhythm

Exercise 1

Exercise 3
6th & 7th grade
Melodic Sight Reading
Example 1
6th & 7th grade
Melodic Sight Reading
Example 2
8th & 9th grade
Melodic Sight-Reading
Example 1
8th & 9th Grade
Melodic Reading
Example 2
9th through 12th grade
Rhythm Examples

- Exercises #1-4
10\textsuperscript{th} through 12\textsuperscript{th} grade
Melodic Reading
Aural Skills

- The required aural skills are listed by grade level
- Vocal students will demonstrate some of these skills
Mock Audition

Now that you have seen and heard the audition process as well as walking through it with us step-by-step, another vocal student will do another mock audition so that you can better understand the process from beginning to end...
Music Theory Test

- Defining musical terms
- Identifying and defining musical symbols
- Identifying note names in both treble and bass clefs
- Time Signatures
- Key Signatures
What to Bring to Your Audition

This needs to be in the order listed and labelled with your name and audition number...

- 2 copies of sheet music (1 for the accompanist, 1 for the faculty)
- Headshot
- 3 letters of recommendation (posted on vocal website)
- Essay: “Why you want to be a vocal major at DSA” (1 page)
- Performance Resume
- Repertoire list (HS only)

*These materials will not be returned to you
Audition Time Scheduling

• Before you leave tonight, please stop by the table in the hallway to pick up your AUDITION CONFIRMATION CARD.

• Please write down your day and time on your home or personal calendar.

• Due to the high volume of applicants, we cannot accommodate changes in days or times. If an emergency arises, contact Richard Raedeke at vocal.auditions@comcast.net.

• If your name is not on our audition list, even though you think you signed up online, please leave the following information with Richard at the check-in table: Student & Parent name; incoming grade; email and telephone number. Ms. Odom will contact you tomorrow.
Audition Feedback not available

• Per administrative policy, auditioning departments do not need to provide feedback
Free Audition Prep

• Saturday, January 26th, 2019 10-3
• Sign up with Tri-M Officers
Audition Cancellations/Changes

• If you need to cancel your audition, please contact Richard Raedeke vocal.auditions@comcast.net

• Results will be emailed by
Things to know if you are accepted

• DSA contract
• Probation
• School-wide fundraising expectation-fill the gap
• Fees-next slide
• Home practice and work ethic: 20—40 minutes daily
• Self-advocacy and individual initiative expected
• After school commitments
• Must take private voice lessons in HS with our vocal staff
• Weekend rehearsals
• Off-site performances
• 4-8 regularly scheduled evening performances a year
• Mandatory travel ad annual retreat with costs
Notification Process

On February 26, 2019 you will receive an email from our Assistant Principal and Director of Admissions Miranda Odom. She will notify you as to the outcome of your student’s audition (either qualified to attend DSA, not qualified or waitlisted). If your child receives confirmation that he/she qualified for DSA, this does not mean that he/she also has an enrollment “offer”. Students will be assigned to DSA based on their qualification status plus the desired school(s) indicated on the DPS SchoolChoice application. If you are qualified to attend DSA and ranked DSA as #1, you will have a seat at DSA. If your most highly preferred school is a school other than DSA, please rank your school selections accordingly—your qualification into DSA will not be impacted if DSA is not your highest choice. However, if your student is accepted via the SchoolChoice process into a school preferred more highly than DSA, your student will not be accepted into DSA, or any other less-preferred option. All students will be notified of their 2019-2020 school assignment through a written letter by mid April. This will come from the DPS Office of Choice and Enrollment Services. The only students who will be considered for enrollment at DSA will be those who successfully qualify via the DSA audition process AND have ranked DSA on their DPS SchoolChoice application. If you do not select DSA as your 1st preference school, please know that it is possible that your child may not be assigned to DSA. If your student is waitlisted, DSA will not reveal the number your student is on the waitlist. You could be called off the waitlist any time from April to August. If waitlisted, we encourage you to go on with other school options.
Fees

- **Fees at DSA:**
  - Arts fee: $130 per year per student
  - Voice lesson fees - $55 per hour
    - $825-$1,650 a year
  - Outfit fees: $25-$100
  - Travel: Local, Regional, National, International 2020
    - $1,500-$2,200 every other year
    - Retreat fees (HS) $150 per year
  - Concert Admission $17-$30 per concert
    - Tickets must be purchased for all performances at DSA
  - Fundraising opportunities available
  - Administrative need based grants-Free and Reduced Lunch
Fill the Gap Campaign
DSA Friends Foundation

• While DSA is a public school, it receives no additional district funding to cover its arts programs and equipment.

• We request at DSA that each family contributes whatever they can on a month by month basis to our Fill the Gap Campaign in order to provide the highest quality instruction that we can. This money supports our Guest Artist program as well as helps make purchases for department needs.
IEP/504

- If you are on a 504 or IEP and you believe there are accommodations needed for the audition, the main office needs a hard copy of the document in the DSA Main Office one full week before audition date addressed to the attention of Aspen Burkett, Assistant Principal
Audition Confirmation

• If you are on our list because you have completed the online application, you should leave with an AUDITION CONFIRMATION CARD with your audition day and time

• If you are not on our list, please leave the following information with Richard Raedeke (parent audition coordinator): student name, student grade level, parent name, and email

• We will research the problem and have an administrator contact you later. If you have your CONFIRMATION RECEIPT, please leave with Mr. Raedeke so that we can confirm your online application
Resources

Middle School All-State Choir Website

https://www.msallstatechoir.org

High School All-State Choir Website

https://aschoir.com

YouTube (believe it or not, it’s great!)

Apps, etc.
Thank you for coming!

We look forward to seeing and hearing you at auditions.

Good luck!