



# Shooting Stars Tips for: Voice Classical Auditions

## 1) BE PROFESSIONAL

- Keep up-to-date with your calendar.
- Prepare and submit all materials on time.
- Plan and prepare repertoire with your nominating teacher and/or private instructor
- Use this opportunity to help you prepare for college auditions if you are planning on majoring in music.

## 2) LOOK PROFESSIONAL

- Dress for the occasion. Remember: you want the judges to think about you, not about your clothes.
  - plan audition clothing well in advance.
  - practice in your clothing, especially shoes for gals and coat and shoes for guys.
  - make sure all clothing fits well and is cleaned and pressed! You want to be comfortable yet professional.
  - coordinate accessories: jewelry, shoes, neckties, etc.
- Options to consider: suit or coat, necktie or not, please, no t-shirts. Also consider either a dress or pants and a nice blouse, height of heels, length of skirt, hair style (it's important that your hair is out of your eyes!).
- Frame yourself in the video to be seen from the feet up (whole body within frame)

## 3) ACT PROFESSIONAL

- When you introduce yourself also introduce the accompanist (if using one), the pieces you will perform and the composers.
- Show confidence and enthusiasm, but not arrogance.
- Present yourself professionally. Judges not only consider your technical ability (singing/performing all the notes/words), but also your musicianship (how you sing/perform, and how you sing/perform with your accompanist).
- You may reshoot your video as many times as you want until you feel it is right.

## 4) SOUND PROFESSIONAL

- Maintain a regular daily practice schedule.
- Your choice of material should
  - be age and technical ability appropriate
  - be material that moves you; shows your heart and strengths
  - show your flexibility and range, i.e. contrasting pieces by two different composers
  - meet all criteria of the Shooting Stars Scholarship Guidelines
- Study scores with care, strive for no rhythm, note or word mistakes.
- Beyond score study, work to infuse the music with feeling and purpose; communicate and tell the story.
- Practice in front of a mirror
- Arrange for accompanist now (if using one) to make sure they are available for audition date.
- Practice with accompanist (if using one).
- Practice, practice and practice: sing at home, for your school choir, a youth group or church choir, etc.
- Arrange for a practice audition – at home, at school, etc. – with nominating teacher, private instructor and/or parents available to provide feedback/critique

## 5) CONTACT THE ARTS COUNCIL WITH ANY QUESTIONS

- Email [artsjoco@artsjoco.org](mailto:artsjoco@artsjoco.org) any time!
- Call 913-894-2720. The Arts Council answers the phone and returns voicemails Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.