



General Information

Middle School Vocal Auditions

- All students interested in Apex Arts must complete an online application [here](#).
- All applicants must complete an audition to be considered for the program.
- Audition appointments will be automatically scheduled by the application system. Please plan accordingly.
- All applicants must pass the auditions and meet academic requirements to be eligible for the lottery.
- All students expressing interest in Apex Arts are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of previous training or experience level.
- Students should be warmed-up, tuned, and ready to perform at the start of their audition appointment.
- A starting pitch reference will be provided, and students should be prepared to sing without accompaniment.
- All students expressing an interest in the Apex Arts Magnet Program are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of whether they have had formal or informal training.

Vocal Audition Components

A vocal audition consists of:

- The prepared selection as posted on the Apex Arts website (www.aacps.org/apexarts)
- Pitch matching
- Melodic sight-reading
- Rhythmic sight-reading

Scoring Criteria

You will be scored on the following criteria:

- **Prepared selection (as published at www.aacps.org/pva):**
 - Melodic and rhythmic accuracy
 - Diction
 - Intonation
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
 - Breath support
 - Interpretation (expression, phrasing, style)
- **Pitch matching:**
 - Accuracy of pitch matching on each of five melodic patterns.
- **Melodic sight-reading (may use either a neutral syllable or solfege):**
 - Pitch accuracy and intonation
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
- **Rhythmic sight-reading (may clap hands or tap on lap):**
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse

Middle school applicants must score at least an average score of 6 on their audition AND meet academic requirements to be eligible for this program.

Recommendations for Preparation

- Visit www.aacps.org/apexarts for more information about Info Sessions, Workshops, applications, and auditions.
- See your school counselor for assistance with the application or for more details about the academic requirements.
- Speak to a music teacher at your school about your prepared piece, scales, and sight-reading preparation.
- Rehearse regularly leading up to the audition to build confidence.
- Come prepared to discuss your interest in the Music program.
- Contact Mr. Dembowski, Apex Arts Music Chair at pdembowski@aacps.org with any specific questions you may have.
- *Si necesita una explicación en español de los requisitos, llame a José al 410 533 4815*