

NOCCA Vocal Music

What happens at a NOCCA Vocal Music audition?

- *You will sing your prepared song, from memory, with the music you have brought with you in the correct key for your voice. Acceptable audition songs are listed on the application and on the website, and sheet music is provided on the website in multiple keys.*
- *You will participate in an interview with faculty where you may be asked about your interest in NOCCA, your grades, your musical background, what you desire to do in college and professionally, and about anything in your submitted application that we may have questions about.*
- *You will be taken to the piano by a faculty member and vocalized up and down the keyboard, to provide faculty with a sense of full vocal range outside of the previously sung audition piece.*
- *You will be asked to sing a scale, ascending and descending.*
- *The faculty member at the piano will play a series of melodic motives one at a time, and you will be asked to sing them back.*
- *The faculty member at the piano will play two simultaneous pitches, and you will be asked to sing back the higher pitch, and then the lower pitch.*
- *You will be asked to sight read a simple rhythmic exercise and a simple melodic exercise at the board.*
- *You will be asked to read some lines from a song in English, spoken dramatically.*
- *You will be given an entrance exam in basic music theory.*

What Music Theory should I know for my NOCCA Vocal Music audition?

1. *Letter names of the notes on the staff in treble and bass clef*
2. *Rhythmic values of the following notes and rests: whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth*
3. *The difference between a whole and half step*
4. *The meaning of the sharp and flat signs*
5. *The Major key signatures of C, F, and G*

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Frequently asked questions

1. *Can I sing something other than the required songs listed in the application?*

No. *We will only hear one of the required songs listed.*

2. *Where can I find the music to the required songs?*

Some are downloadable from NOCCA.com. All are available online.

3. *Can I sing without piano accompaniment?*

No. *A NOCCA Vocal Music faculty member will play for your audition.*

4. *Do you teach any music other than classical? Why not?*

No. *Our curriculum is centered on classical vocal music and opera, and on classical vocal technique, as we believe it is necessary to first learn to sing correctly before attempting any other style of music. On occasion, an upper level (Level 4) singer who is well versed in classical technique may be allowed to sing something outside the classical realm under strict direction of the Vocal Chair.*

5. *Can I study with my own private voice teacher if I attend NOCCA Vocal Music? Why not?*

No. *You must study voice at NOCCA with the teachers and coaches here. This is to avoid being presented with conflicting pedagogies and teaching styles which will confuse the student and inhibit or deter vocal progress.*

6. *Am I required to participate in all performances and rehearsals even if they conflict with my other activities?*

Yes. *NOCCA rehearsals and performances are your first priority if you are accepted as a NOCCA Vocal Music student, whether half day or full day. Attendance and participation at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.*