Song Audition
Filming Guidelines and Best Practices

When choosing where you film:
- Choose a location that is as quiet as possible, free from intrusive background noise, and other people talking.
- Choose a background that's fairly neutral, so you are what stands out! And, do not stand in front of a window as this can throw off the exposure of the clip you've filmed.
- Try to ensure that the source of light in the room is in front and not behind you.

Filming requirements:
- The most important thing when filming is to ensure that the you are in frame and positioned correctly. We need to see enough of your body to evaluate your movement, so be sure to film with that in mind. You also want to make sure that whatever device you are recording on is positioned at your eye level, so your head is not tilted too far up or too far down.
- Use a proper camera and microphone to film your audition if you have access to one. However, if you haven't – feel free to use an iPhone, other reasonably modern smartphone, or your computer camera. If it can film in1080p, then that's even better.
- If you've got access to a tripod, using it would help keep your clip nice and steady when you're filming. If you haven't got one, make sure you hold your device as still as possible or get a family member to shoot it for you.
- **AUDIO IS KEY.**
- We must be able to hear both the piano accompaniment and your vocals, so make sure you practice and adjust levels accordingly. Remember: you are not permitted to sing acapella.
- **CHECK YOUR AUDIO LEVEL.** Please make sure you don't overwhelm the recoding at your loudest moment. The easiest way to check is to listen to your recording to see if it ever sounds distorted.
- **Videos must be shot in one, complete take and are not permitted to be edited. Edited videos or videos that are not shot in one complete take will result in disqualification.**

Order of your audition:

I.   SLATE YOUR PIECE
Before you sing, you must slate your piece. Remember: the purpose of the slate is to provide the necessary information about your audition AND to show your personality!
Please DO NOT provide any information in your slate except what is listed below.

Your slate must include in this order:
1. Your First and Last Name
2. *Your High School (DO NOT include your grade or age)*
3. The Name of the Song
4. The Title of the Musical

Example: Hi, my name is Amy Handra, and I attend Amelia High School. I will be singing "Not a Day Goes By" from Merrily We Roll Along.

II.   TRANSITION
After your slate, take a moment to transition into your character.

III.   BEGIN SONG
Either have the live accompanist begin playing or if your accompaniment is recorded, have someone else begin playing it for you. (DO NOT begin the accompaniment yourself!)

IV.   PEFORM SONG

V.   TRANSITION
Hold the last acting moment of the song for a long moment or two. Then, transition back into yourself.

VI.   OUTRO
Say "thank you" and repeat your first and last name. *Example: Thank you, I am Amy Handra.*

How to Submit:
- Please label the video files with your first and last name and the initials of your high school. *Example: Amy Handra, AHS*
- Please upload your files by using the Dropbox link found on the Best Actor/Actress Page on our Website.
- Please upload the highest quality possible. 1080p is great.
- Please submit your video as a .mp4 or .mov file.

Things that could result in not being able to properly adjudicate your video audition:
- Excessive background noise
- Unclear, muffled audio
- Accompaniment or voice unable to be heard
- Unable to see enough of your body to evaluate movement
- Unable to see your face clearly enough to evaluate expression

Things that will result in disqualification:
- You do not submit the video by the deadline (5pm on March 20)
- You submit a video that is not shot in one take.
- You do not slate your piece. (We must know who you are and which high school you are from in order to evaluate your audition.)
- You do not label the file correctly. It must be labelled using your first and last name and your school initials.
- You do not follow the time restrictions. (Songs should be no longer than 2 minutes total, plus the additional time to complete your slate and your outro, so videos should not be longer than a total of 3 minutes.)