

TIPS FOR MAKING AN AUDITION VIDEO

EQUIPMENT

- You can use your phone, tablet, computer, or a hand held camera.
- Your phone or tablet should be set horizontally – put it in Airplane mode or Do Not Disturb mode to avoid interruptions – and tap the screen to focus.
- Use a tripod or stand. This cannot be a “selfie” even with a stick.
- Be sure the device is at the right distance from you to frame the shot. Do not use the zoom function as this makes the image grainy or fuzzy.
- If you are using music minus one (jazz auditions only), have someone else start and stop your music.

BACKGROUND – KEEP IT SIMPLE!

- Dance studio, church, classroom, living room.
- Stay away from a lot of clutter, use a simple back ground. Artwork on the wall is ok. Posters in your bedroom are not. No food, laundry, music, instrument cases, or other distractions should be in the shot.
- Be sure the light is good. Try to minimize shadows on your face.
- Be sure the room is quiet. No background noise (television noise, other people practicing, dancing, cooking, etc.)

RECORDING

- Look into the camera and record a separate introduction for each school you are auditioning for.
- Stop the recording after each introduction, then start it again for a “performance”. Introduce each piece.
- Have someone else start and stop the recording.
- **Instrumentalists**, you do NOT need to look at the camera as you play, only as you introduce yourself and your selections.
- **Pianists** be sure we can see your hands and your torso.
- Be sure you are in the center of the frame.
- If there is an accompanist, we need to see them on the left side of the screen as well. We need to see you from the hips up, not just a face and not the whole body. That would be too close or too far away.
- Music should be memorized unless explicitly stated in the audition requirements. If you are in doubt, contact the school for clarification or approval.
- When using music, be sure the music stand does not block your face and/or instrument.

WHAT TO WEAR

- Nice business casual, or the same thing you would wear to a performance. Not an evening gown or tux, no flip flops or jeans.
- Regular make up and jewelry.

CHECK YOUR WORK

- Before submitting, make sure there is video AND audio.
- Make sure it is right side up.
- Make sure the balance is correct. We need to hear you and the pianist.
- Watch and listen all the way through to make sure there are no skips, pauses, or glitches in your audition.