

What are the Judges looking for in my audition?

Technique – We are listening for the skill with which you control your voice.

Diction – Are you using correct pronunciation and clear articulation?

Rhythm - Are you accurately establishing and maintaining the rhythms indicated in the music score?

Intonation – We want to hear your ability to sing in tune.

Interpretation and Artistry – Are you projecting a convincing performance of the song, bringing in sensitivity to the story, and lyrics?

Phrasing – It's important to be conscious of where breaths are taken in a song. Think about how a musical line is shaped to best show the meaning of the lyric while being sensitive to the composer's music.

Appreciation of style – Are you staying true to the style of the song whether it's country, gospel, musical theater, etc? In other words, if you are singing a traditional soprano musical theater song, you want to eliminate a strong pop sound.

Straight from the Judges Mouths!

"The goal should be authenticity, attention to lyrics, emotional truth, honesty of expression."

"The participant's performance should be balanced: technique AND passion; head and heart; substance and style."

"Students should choose material that is age appropriate with lyrics they connect to. If you are singing from a musical theater piece, you should know what the story is about. How does your character's song fit into the story?"

"Pop and Jazz are encouraged to avoid the imitation of pop/jazz icons and to develop a distinctive style that is particular to their own unique abilities."

"Be authentic, real, and true in ways that are appropriate to the words and music."

"We are looking for substantial emotional movement or an arc during the piece."

"Show originality; do not mimic others' performances."