

Hello Directors,

Thank you for registering your students for Jazz All-State Auditions this year! As we work toward putting the final touches on our OpusEvent platform for this weekend, we are sharing a few important last-minute updates and reminders.

**Important – Change to this year’s Vocal Sight-Reading procedure:**

***Students will still be asked to read a four-measure diatonic melody, but a starting pitch will not be given. Students will instead choose any key that they feel comfortable singing. The melody will begin on “DO”. The student will determine the tempo and sing on a neutral syllable. Jazz interpretation and a swing feel should be used where applicable.*** Additionally, please find practice sight reading examples attached to this message for students to use in preparation for their audition.

**Additional Instructions to share with students auditioning on Trumpet, Trombone, or Drums**

Brass range checks (these will not be scored):

- Trumpets are asked to play a C Major Scale as high as they can. If and when they reach high C above the staff, they are asked to continue up chromatically as high as they can go.
- Trombones are asked to play a Bb Major Scale from the second line and continue as high as they are comfortable. If the horn has a trigger, please go back to the second line Bb and go down the scale as low as you are able.

For Drums:

- The Bb Blues Improvisation will be done without recorded accompaniment. Students will alternate between four measures of swing time and four measures of solo for a total of 24 measures. This should be done in a tempo similar to the Jamey Aebersold, Volume 1, Bb Blues recording.
- Drum students will be asked to perform 16 measures each of a Funk-Rock; Bossa and Brush Ballad style. These will all be performed in one take without any recorded accompaniment at a tempo of the student’s choice.

**Other Important Reminders:**

- Students are strongly encouraged to use the test feature before submitting audition exercises. For prepared material you have 5 attempts to record your audition, but please note that every time you record a new attempt your previous recording is erased. The most recent recording is the only one that can be submitted.

- Students have only one attempt at the Sight Reading examples.
- *Do not use headphones while recording.* Adjudicators will need to hear the accompanying tracks.
- Students are strongly encouraged to complete the audition process 24-48 hours before the deadline.
- Students are encouraged to try to record everything in the same session rather than doing a bit and then coming back to the rest later. That way if they truly want to redo something at a later time, they will not run out of time.
- Students should make sure that you and your instrument can be seen in the frame. Do a test recording and listen back to make sure the microphone placement is ok.
- Any parents/students paying for their audition by credit card must complete the payment process by November 6. Schools paying their invoice should put the check in the mail by November 6. Any unpaid student auditions after November 6 will be responsibility of their sending school.
- Demonstrations of the audition process are on our website. You can also access those demonstration videos here:
  - [Video 1](#)
  - [Video 2](#)
- We are offering a live demonstration/Q&A of Opus Event this Saturday, October 31 at 9:00 a.m. Please use the following zoom info to attend:

<https://zoom.us/j/99987760510?pwd=Q3l0K2RQOXITcTVrSExDdWNtR0lWZz09>

Meeting ID: 999 8776 0510

Passcode: 208808

If you have any questions about the Jazz All-State audition process please contact Mike Adams at [madams@pinkertonacademy.org](mailto:madams@pinkertonacademy.org). If you have any questions or need assistance with OpusEvent please contact Eric Kobb at [statemanager@nhmea.org](mailto:statemanager@nhmea.org).

Sincerely,

The Jazz All-State Auditions Committee

# Vocal Jazz Sight Reading Examples 2020

