

PVPA Music Audition Policy and Information, May & June 2015

This policy was created to insure all students know exactly what is expected of them when they audition for a particular ensemble at PVPA. The PVPA music audition policy is also a teaching tool to help students learn the expectations of “real world” auditions, and the preparation it takes to succeed in them.

There are five PVPA ensembles auditioning this May & June:

- Pop/R&B Ensemble (9-12, full-year commitment)
- Rock Ensemble (9-12, full-year commitment)
- Jazz Ensemble (9-12, full-year commitment)
- Spectrum A Cappella Ensemble (9-12, full-year commitment)
- The Rock & Soul Review (7-8, full-year commitment)

Each of these ensembles requires a certain degree of technical mastery of each performer. Auditions are a tool for ensemble directors to choose which musicians will have the ability to understand, navigate, and perform the highly stylized and challenging music.

Auditions will be held for all ensembles in room 201 on:

- **May 7:** Rock and Soul (instrumental and vocals)
- **June 8:** Guitar-Bass-Drumset-Piano/Keyboard
- **June 9:** Woodwind-Brasswind-Strings-Aux. Percussion-mallets
- **June 10:** Vocalists and any make-ups

May audition days run from 4:00pm-6:30pm. June days from 2:40pm-6:00pm. Students sign up for 3-minute slots within this time period, and may not miss an existing G or H-block class to audition. Auditions for high school groups are open to all upcoming 9-12 grade students with the understanding that schedule conflicts can disqualify any person from being in a particular ensemble. Students making the ensembles are expected to be in the groups the entire year.

“As a school committed to equal access for all, auditions are open to all students in the community regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, limited English proficiency, sexual orientation, disability, or housing status.”

Preparation for all auditions:

All auditioning musicians will bring 1 copy of their completed audition form to their audition. Forms should be completed in their entirety. Students can receive written feedback forms on their audition upon request.

Instrumentalist (non-vocal)

Perform one piece of your choosing reflecting a style idiomatic of your 1st choice ensemble. The performance should be 2 minutes or less. Be prepared to answer any questions from the auditioning faculty. Questions may include but are not limited to, “Do you read music?”, “Are you comfortable improvising?”, “How long have you been playing your instrument?”. You will also be asked to perform a basic technique on your instrument (i.e. - play a scale, perform a particular style or rhythm, accompany using a chord or chord progression)

Vocalist

Perform one piece of your choosing reflecting a style idiomatic of your 1st choice ensemble (you may sing with a recorded track or “a cappella”). Perform one piece from the audition song list (accompaniment provided by auditioning faculty-high school only). Be prepared to answer any question from the auditioning faculty. You may be asked to sing in a small group to test your ability to hold your part in harmony situations. You may also be asked to demonstrate your vocal range in a vocal exercise.

Ensemble list will be posted at the completion of all auditions. **Students will only be selected for one group per year.**

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PVPA Music Audition Form (May & June 2015)

1. First & Last Name _____
2. Email (the one you use regularly) _____
3. Grade as of fall 2015 _____
4. Cell Phone _____, Home Phone _____
5. Please number your choice of ensemble from most desired (1), to least (4). If you wish to be considered for only one group, only number that particular ensemble. 7th and 8th grade students can audition for high school groups only if it has been cleared by the guidance director (Laura Davis) and the music department leader (Frank Newton).

- _____ Pop/R&B Ensemble (9-12)
- _____ Rock Ensemble (9-12)
- _____ Jazz Ensemble (9-12)
- _____ Spectrum A Cappella Ensemble (9-12)
- _____ Rock & Soul Review (7-8)

6. Please briefly describe your prepared selection.

7. Vocalists (9-12 only): Please check a song from the list to perform with a faculty member:

- Summertime - George & Ira Gershwin (Jazz Swing)
- Autumn Leaves - Joseph Kosma, Johnny Mercer (Jazz Swing)
- Isn't She Lovely - Stevie Wonder (R&B Soul Shuffle)
- Hit the Road Jack - Ray Charles (Motown)
- My Girl - Temptations (Motown)
- We Are The Champions - Queen (classic rock)
- Proud Mary - Tina Turner (classic rock)
- Spectrum audition selection - see Sarah for title and prep times

Would you like written feedback from your audition? Yes _____, No _____

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