**Audition Requirements**

Senn Arts Music welcomes musicians of all styles to share their passion for music with the Senn Arts Music faculty. Our hope for the audition process is to better understand who you are and find out where you are along your musical journey. We are grateful to work with students of all levels who are passionate, diligent, and open-minded. Reviewing the following audition guidelines for vocalists and instrumentalists will help ensure a positive experience.

**What to Bring:**

*Your music and/or accompanist, if necessary:*
If you learned your piece using sheet music, please bring the music to your audition. You may bring an accompanist or we can assist in playing an MP3 on a speaker. Please refrain from playing along with any original tracks. The accompaniment should be a track that supports the performance, not the other way around. You are welcome to sing *a cappella* or perform your instrumental piece without accompaniment.

*Your instrument:*
You are expected to bring your own instrument for instrumental auditions. A piano will be provided. In cases of using a double bass or large percussion (xylophone, drum set, etc.), please contact the music faculty at least one week before the audition to arrange for an instrument to be used.

*Other necessary equipment:*
Any amps, cables, and other equipment that might be necessary for an audition should be brought by the musician.

**What to Prepare:**

*Prepared Piece:*
Senn Arts Music embraces and values all music styles, so you should prepare a piece or song that you are comfortable with and that displays your strengths as an instrumentalist or vocalist. Rather than choosing a piece or a style of music you think the audition team wants to hear, select a piece that puts your best foot forward and highlights what you feel most honestly represents yourself as a musician. Ultimately, the audition is a discovery process, and we want to find out what you do well. It is recommended that you seek guidance wherever possible with your current music teacher in regards to selecting the music for your audition.

**Vocalists - Examples of appropriate audition music include:**

- An excerpt or short piece of music written specifically for your voice part, such as an art song, folk song, or piece from a musical.
- A song from a well-known artist or band.
• Religious song, such as a spiritual, hymn, or worship song.

**Instrumentalists - Examples of appropriate audition music include:**

• Music from a well-known artist or band.
• A standard or jazz tune.
• An excerpt or short piece of music written specifically for your instrument.

**Ear-Training:**
You will participate in a call-and-response portion of the audition. You will be asked to echo back short melodies and rhythms, which you will either sing or play back on your instrument. You will also be asked to match pitch during this section of the audition.

**Optional Skills:**
We understand students may come from many musical traditions and may play multiple instruments. You may have three minutes to share any additional musical skills or interests. This may include an original composition, a piece in a contrasting genre from your prepared piece, scales or other technical skills on your primary instrument, skills on an additional instrument, vocal pieces in another language, etc. If you would like to share your sight-reading abilities, sheet music will be provided at the audition with a variety of musical excerpts. Students or music faculty may also choose to use this time for improvisational collaboration (jam-session) with the music faculty.

**Interview:**
Senn Arts music faculty will discuss with you your goals and unique gifts that you will bring to Senn Arts Music. This is your opportunity to share why you would be a great fit for the Senn Arts Music program.