

## Vocal Jazz Audition Materials 2023

1. Sing **two (2) different MAJOR scales in swing eighth notes** using the syllables “doo va” or “doo ba” (may be modified depending on range), ascending and descending one octave (including the 9<sup>th</sup> on top).

**Tempo: Quarter note = 110**

### **Starting pitches**

Soprano low: Middle C

Soprano high: A (above middle C)

Middle low: Bb (below middle C)

Middle high: F (above middle C)

Alto low: G (below middle C)

Alto high: D (above middle C)

Tenor low: C (second space bass clef)

Tenor high: G (below middle C)

Middle low: Bb (second line bass clef)

Middle high: Eb (below middle C)

Bass low: F (below bass staff)

Bass high: C (second space bass clef)

2. Sing ***Body and Soul***, found on pages 1-2 (high version) or pages 23-24 (low version) of *Vocal Standards – Embraceable You: 12 Standards in Singer’s Keys*, Volume 113 by Jamey Aebersold (published by Jamey Aebersold Jazz, Inc.). **Sing unaccompanied using the lyrics in BALLAD TEMPO.** Sing one (1) complete chorus. Soprano and Tenor singers should sing the high version. Alto and Bass singers should sing the low version. Middle singers may sing the high or low version or may sing in a different key - depending on what best suits your voice.

3. Sing ***I Could Write A Book***, found on page 7 (high version) or page 29 (low version) of *Vocal Standards – Embraceable You: 12 Standards in Singer’s Keys*, Volume 113 by Jamey Aebersold (published by Jamey Aebersold Jazz, Inc.). **Sing two (2) choruses along with the accompaniment track provided with the *Vocal Standards* book. The first chorus should be sung with the written pitches of the melody and the lyrics. The second chorus should be sung by improvising on the melody using the lyrics.** Choose either the High Voice or Low Voice part to best suit your voice part and range.

### **Accompaniment tracks**

High Voice – CD #1, Track 13 (faster tempo)

Low Voice – CD #2, Track 13 (faster tempo)

4. Scat sing two (2) improvised choruses from the “Scat Etude” on the PMEA Website: [www.pmea.net](http://www.pmea.net) Scroll to “Conferences and Events” and then “PMEA All-State Information”.

## **Vocal Jazz Auditions FAQs**

Q: What is a chorus?

A: A chorus is one time through the tune. Most standards are 32 bars long with an AABA form.

Q: What does “improvising on the melody using the lyrics” mean?

A: It means that we want you to sing the lyrics but you should take liberties with the melody including singing different pitches and/or rhythms than are written on the page.

Q: What is scat singing?

A: Scat singing is vocal improvisation. The singer makes up the melody (pitches and rhythms) as they go along. So-called “nonsense syllables” are used by the singer instead of actual lyrics.

Q: What are “nonsense syllables”?

A: Instead of a scat singer trying to make up lyrics on the spot, they use syllables such as *doo*, *dot*, *dah*, *va*, *ba*, etc. to imitate the sound of a wind instrument.