

All Virginia Chorus Judging Guidelines

General Instructions

1. These are 'blind' auditions. Students should not see you, you should not see them.
2. To remain impartial, you must not know any info about the student. Do not ask them questions about their school, etc.
3. You will have about 3 minutes to judge each singer. The *numbers* on the score sheet are of utmost importance. The students will see their score sheets. *Please do not* slow the pace of auditions to write comments. Should you choose to write comments, make them brief and constructive.
4. Please be careful of what you say during the audition. Students tend to assume that all comments, laughter, etc. is directed at them, and they are very sensitive.

Judging Sight-Singing

1. The students will be reading an 8 measure example supplied by VCDA.
2. Any sight reading system may be used as long as the notes and rhythms are correct.
3. *Please do not* give the students any vocal help in singing the example.
4. Before singing the example, students may sing out loud a scale or note pattern to establish the pitch.
5. During study time, students may hum softly.
6. A student may start over only once, and only during the first two measures. If they ask to start over, tell them, "Yes, but you may not do so again."
7. Do not give half points (e.g. 9.5)
8. Do not give a perfect score unless it was perfect.
9. Do not give a zero unless they did not attempt the example. Please note on the score sheet if they did not attempt the example.

Judging the Prepared Piece

1. The students will be singing a solo song supplied by VCDA.
2. You will be given a copy of this piece in advance.
3. Do not give the student any vocal cues.
4. Look carefully at the score sheet for point values. We sometimes have judges who give 19 points out of 15 possible!
5. Do not give zeros unless the student does not attempt the piece.
6. Please total your score sheet and staple the two judging sheets together.
7. You will not hear singers a second time. *Please be as accurate as possible.*