

VOCAL PROFICIENCY JURY

Each vocal concentrate is required to pass a vocal proficiency jury before he/she will be admitted into upper-level applied study. The proficiency jury is normally presented at the conclusion of the fourth semester of vocal study (or, in the case of transfer students who have already studied for four semesters elsewhere, at the conclusion of their first semester at SHSU). The student is required to memorize 7 songs, 4 of which will be presented for the jury. The jury will then approve or disapprove the student's progression to upper-level vocal study. **No one is allowed to attempt proficiency with deficient repertoire. One must have completed the entire diction series prior to the vocal proficiency. (Music Therapy students are exempt from the diction requirement)**

Criteria for the vocal proficiency exam are as follows:

For items marked:

- - Student must demonstrate a high degree of proficiency
- - Student must demonstrate an acceptable and progressing level of proficiency

TECHNIQUE

- Breathing Mechanism
The student must show a developing breathing mechanism that indicates future success in the performance of intermediate to advanced repertoire.
- Quality of Timbre
The student should evidence a vocal tone that is consistent with the demands of performing classical music and related musical genres.
- Diction
The student will be expected to satisfy all aspects of diction appropriate for two years of vocal study (including foreign languages).
- Vocal Range
The student will perform with a vocal range that is expanding and that indicates growth toward success in upper level study, according to the intrinsic abilities of each student.
- General Technical Foundation
The student must display a general technical foundation, or the beginnings of such ability, that indicates both progress toward and anticipated success in upper level study.

MUSICIANSHIP

- Rhythm and Pitch Accuracy
The student must perform all repertoire with both rhythmic and pitch accuracy.
- Intonation
The student will display acceptable intonation in his or her proficiency examination.
- Musical Style and Expression
The student will demonstrate, through his interpretation of proficiency repertoire, an understanding of and an ability to render a variety of appropriate musical styles; a developing dynamic range; and, musical phrasing that helps to convey both the content and structure of respective texts.

REPERTOIRE

Vocal Performance and Music Education majors

Proficiency Program must include one English, one French, one Italian, and one German selection.

Music Therapy majors

Proficiency must include a combination of English and Italian selections.

No one is allowed to attempt proficiency with deficient repertoire.

- Preparation of Repertoire

Of particular interest to the voice faculty is the care and preparation that each student will take in presenting his proficiency repertoire. One's preparation for this examination must be at a level that will indicate a student's success for upper level study. The required level of preparation will include, but will not be restricted to, musical elements listed previously and satisfactory memorization of musical materials.

PERFORMANCE SKILLS

- Interpretative Abilities

Each student will exhibit developing interpretative abilities that appropriately express specific renderings of musical and textural elements within repertoire performed during the proficiency examination. These abilities include using gesture appropriately, establishing an effective stage presence and appearance, and visually demonstrating an interpretation of the text.