

# Tips and Thoughts for Audition Collaboration

## Music

- Music should be cleanly copied, hole-punched and place in a binder. If you cannot read all the notes on the page, then the pianist will not be able to read the music either.
- Be sure that music is double-sided to avoid too many page turns. If you must connect pages use tape. NEVER use staples or plastic sheet covers!
- Mark any tricky key changes, tempo changes, and cuts.
- Create a table of contents so that your pianist can easily navigate your music.

## Communication

- Communicating with your pianist is the key to your success.
- Address the pianist with respect. You don't know who the pianist is how they will influence your audition.
- Clearly communicate the roadmap of the music: beginning and ending, cuts, repeats, etc.
- Express your tempo by speaking or singing the opening phrase in rhythm. Tap your foot or your hand on your leg. NEVER snap at a pianist!
- Always thank your pianist for their support!

## Other Do's and Don'ts

- DO triple-check that you have all your music and that it is clearly organized and copied.
- DON'T bring loose-leaf copies.
- DO include music that can be easily read, especially odd arrangements. Also, include any specific details about introductions or postludes.
- DON'T assume a pianist can read a chord chart or improvise something special. Every pianist has different skills, and their successful performance is key to your successful audition.
- DO trust the pianist knows when to start playing.
- DON'T look at the pianist to tell them when to begin.
- DO keep going and sing with confidence. Trust the pianist will support you through your performance.
- DON'T glare at your pianist nor show them disrespect even if something doesn't go the way it should.
- DO have fun and sing with poise and determination! If you are confident, the pianist will be confident as well.

For any additional questions about vocal auditions at OSU,  
please contact Dr. Christopher Haygood at [christopher.haygood@okstate.edu](mailto:christopher.haygood@okstate.edu).



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