



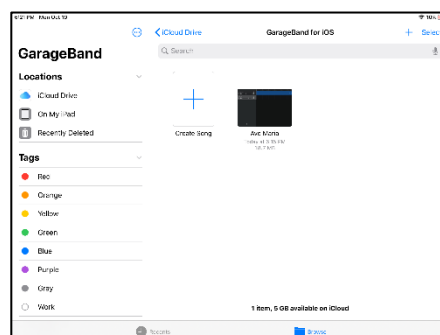
## Using GarageBand To Record Mid-State Auditions

- I. **Download GarageBand onto** your iPhone/iPad. It's free from the App Store.
- II. **Receive the File.** Your device must be within range of Dr. Russell's device in order for him to AirDrop the GarageBand project to you. When you receive the AirDrop, hit "Open in GarageBand."

- III. Open the File



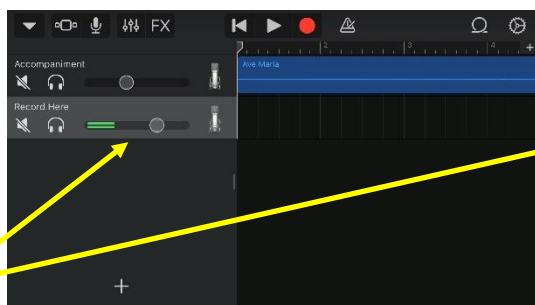
iPhone



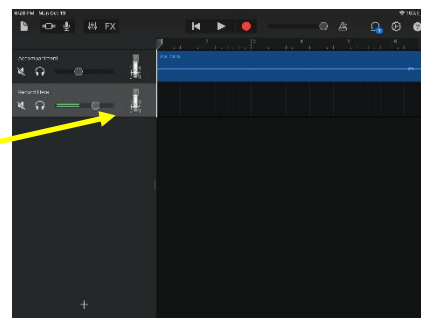
iPad

- IV. We suggest that you use wired earbuds as Bluetooth earbuds (such as AirPods) might create a delay. You must use some type of headphone!
- V. Touch the microphone to the right of "Record Here" to make sure that the vocal track, not the accompaniment track, is selected (the selected track shows as gray – see below). Careful – if the accompaniment track is selected (gray) and you push record, you'll record over the accompaniment and need to get a fresh file from Dr. Russell.

See how the bottom "Record Here" track is gray? That means that track is selected. Don't push "record" with the top, accompaniment track selected (or gray) or you'll record over the accompaniment.



iPhone



iPad

- VI. Record your voice by pushing the red record button. Sing until the very end of the file.
- You might hear a four-beat metronome before the track begins. That's the default metronome for GarageBand, not the accompaniment.
  - Your screen will look something like this:

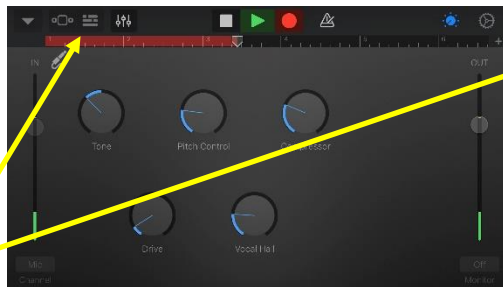
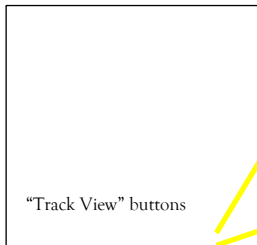


iPhone



iPad

- VII. To balance the voice and the accompaniment, hit the “Track View” button on the top left of the screen. It looks like a series of short and long horizontal lines.

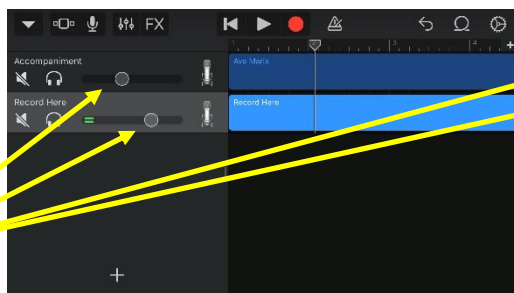
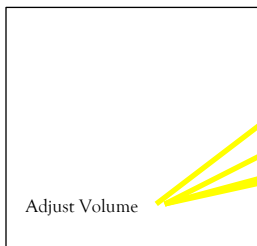


iPhone

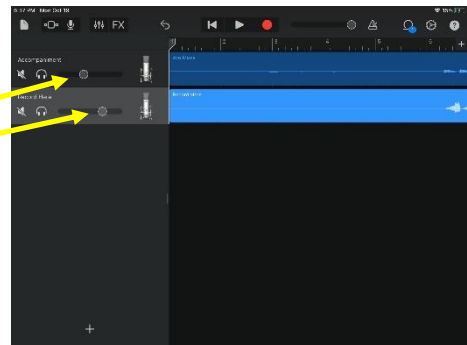


iPad

From there you can adjust the volume of your voice and the accompaniment tracks using the horizontal sliders on the left side of the screen, right next to each track. You want your voice to be predominant but not too loud. Watch the volume meter as you play – if your voice goes into the red your voice might be distorted. We suggest listening with your earbuds in – it will give you a more realistic sound.



iPhone



iPad

- VIII. Are you happy with the product? Great! Skip to step X. Do you absolutely hate it? Then delete that recording by double tapping the blue sound file of your voice until a menu appears, then hit 'delete.' You can then start over at Step VI above.
- IX. However, we recommend that you keep every recording you make and just add others. First, turn the volume all the way down on your current recording. Then, push the + sign on the bottom left and add "Audio Recorder" and "Voice." Push record and add another track! Then, you can pick and choose which recording you like best.
- X. Once you have a recording you like, it's time to email it to yourself. Hit the "File" button on the very top left of the screen (looks like a folded piece of paper).
- Push and hold the title of the piece you recorded and choose "share."
  - Choose SONG, (not the project).
  - Choose "High Quality" or "Highest Quality". Don't choose Apple Lossless or Uncompressed – those file types aren't allowed by MTVA.
  - Then hit "share" and "mail."
  - It will export as an .mp4 and mail as an attachment.
- XI. Open your mailbox on a computer.
- Save the sound file to your desktop.
  - Rename the file as the title of the piece.
- XII. Submit your recording on the MTVA website.
- [www.MTVA.org](http://www.MTVA.org)
  - Follow instructions in the "STUDENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS" document in the following pages.



## Mid-State/Freshmen Honor Choir

### Virtual Auditions – Fall 2021

# STUDENT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Congratulations on your decision to audition for the Mid-State and Freshmen Honor Choirs! Carefully follow the instructions in this document – failure to follow all of these steps might disqualify your audition.

#### I. Before you make a recording

- a. Register for Mid-State/Freshmen Honor Choir with your director.
  - b. Ensure that the part you are registering for with your director is correct; once your director registers you there is no changing of parts.
  - c. Write here your director's email address (for confirmation of your submission later)  
schschoirs@gmail.com (do not use Dr. Kelly/Dr. Russell's rcschools.net email addresses)
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#### II. Making your recording (s)

- a. Your recording(s) must not be digitally enhanced in any way – this includes AutoTune.
- b. Freshmen
  - i. Only need to make one recording – *Teach Me, O Lord* by T. Atwood. Record the entire piece.
  - ii. Must sing with the sound recording with **all voices equal**. Do not record with a sound file that has your voice predominant, with others playing your part, or with others singing along with you.
  - iii. **Do not verbally identify yourself in any way.** Your recording should include only the recording of *Teach Me, O Lord* and your singing; no other sounds should be heard.
  - iv. Do your best to keep your voice predominant, but the judges must also be able to hear the background recording.

c. Grades 10-12

- i. Need to make two recordings. Sopranos and Altos must record *Pueri concinite* by Handl AND *Crucifixus* by Lotti. Tenors and Basses must record *Beati Mortui* by Mendelssohn AND *Crucifixus* by Lotti. You will only record a short excerpt from each piece (see ii. below).
- ii. Must sing with the 'cuts' sound recordings. Directors will be notified when cuts are announced and where to find the recordings of the cuts. Do not record with a sound file that has your voice predominant, with others playing your part, or with others singing along with you.
- iii. **Do not verbally identify yourself in any way.** Your recordings should include only the cuts sound recording and your singing; no other sounds should be heard.
- iv. Do your best to keep your voice predominant, but the judges must also be able to hear the background recording.

III. Naming your recording(s)

- a. Once you have made your recording, give it a generic file name. **Do Not Include any part of your name, your school name, your director name, or any other identifying information in the file name!** If your file name includes any identifying information your audition will be disqualified and not judged.
- b. We suggest naming your files with just the title of the piece and saving it on an easy-to-remember place on your device (i.e., desktop of your computer) for easy access when uploading.

IV. Uploading your recording(s)

- a. Visit [www.MTVA.org](http://www.MTVA.org).
- b. Click "Events" then "Midstate/Allstate"
- c. Click "Mid-State/Freshmen Honor Choir Virtual Auditions"
- d. Find your part (Freshmen have four options; Grades 10-12 have eight options)
- e. Follow the instructions on the submission form.
  - i. On the 'Student Email Address' field, include an email address you check frequently for confirmation of submission. This can be your parents' email address. Note – some school-generated email addresses will only receive emails from within your school/district; we recommend using your personal (.gmail, .icloud, etc) email address.
  - ii. Freshmen will only submit one recording at the bottom of the page. Choose the recording you saved in III. above)
  - iii. Grades 10-12 will submit two recording. *Note – the Soprano/Alto or Tenor/Bass piece should be uploaded first; the Crucifixus second.*

**V. General Considerations**

- a. The deadline to submit recordings is Friday, November 19 at 11:59pm CST. Auditions received after that time will be disqualified and not judged. *Note – it's possible the form will still accept recordings after 11:59pm on November 19, but auditions submitted after that time will still not be judged; in other words, if you are running late and submit at or after midnight your audition will not be judged.*
- b. Only upload recordings once. If you complete the process multiple times only your first submission will be judged.
- c. If you run into any technical problems along the way, consult with your director. For this reason, we strongly suggest not waiting until November 20 to upload your recording. Technical difficulties on your end (internet outage at your home, computer restarting at 11:59pm, etc) will not be an excuse for a late submission. Allow time for unforeseen issues.
- d. These are blind auditions; judges will not see your name, grade, school, or any other identifying information (this is the reason your file name must not include any identifying information).
- e. Results from the auditions will be posted on the MTVA website by the end of the calendar year. Directors will be notified when audition results are posted.
- f. Refer all questions to your director. If they do not know the answer, they should reach out to the appropriate MTVA Board Member – students/parents should not contact MTVA Board Members.

Well done! Your hard work has already paid off – you're better for having gone through this preparation and audition process! Best wishes and congratulations to all auditionees!