

OVERVIEW of the Recording Process using your PHONE

Here are the basic steps for creating your video:

- First, practice and memorize your part, using the reference audio and/or video recordings provided.
- To record you will:
 - Listen to the reference audio or video recording on your computer, using earbuds or headphones
 - Record yourself with the video camera on your phone
- To send in your video, use the special Dropbox link for each song.
Note: *You do not need a Dropbox account.*

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS and TIPS

1. Prepare your recording area

- a. Choose a quiet, well-lit space, preferably with the light in front of you (not above or behind you).
- b. Simple backgrounds work best – a blank wall or uncluttered background is better than a busy kitchen or bookcase.
- c. Decide whether you will stand or sit. Set up your phone on a stable surface at eye level. A music stand might work, if you have one, or get creative and stack books or boxes to get your phone high enough to be at eye level.
- d. Have your computer nearby – close enough that your earbuds or headphones will reach

2. Test your equipment and set-up

- a. Plug earbuds or headphones into the computer and make sure you can hear the reference audio or video recording
- b. You may find it easiest to have your headphones/earbuds in one ear only, so you can hear yourself better.
- c. Que up the reference audio/video on your computer
- d. Make sure you're in view of the camera. We want to see YOU - try to position the camera so we see mostly you, not your ceiling, floor or the room around you.
- e. Do a sound/video check:
 - i. Play the reference recording through your headphones, hit record on your phone, and sing a few bars
 - ii. Listen back and make sure your voice can be heard, but is not over-driving the speaker. You may need to stand closer/farther from the phone to get a good volume.

- iii. Make sure you can't hear the reference recording coming through on your video. You may need to turn down the volume of reference track on your computer if it can be heard.
- iv. Make any adjustments to your camera angle to get your best video shot: Are you centered in the screen? Is there enough light on your face? Are you happy enough with the camera angle? Do we see mostly YOU (and not your ceiling?).
- v. Play with your sound and visual adjustments until you're happy with your set up. Expect this to take a few tries.

3. Make Your Video Recording:

- a. Get into the position you want for filming/recording
- b. Put your headphones or earbuds in (remember – one in, one out helps to hear yourself and stay in tune)
- c. Take a few quiet seconds to get settled
- d. Press record on your Phone first
- e. Press play on the reference audio or video (remember, with earbuds or headphones).
- f. Sing along with the recording with confidence and a smile in your eyes
- g. After the music finishes, remain still and smiling for a few seconds.
- h. Stop recording on your phone

4. Send in your Video: Use the special Dropbox link for each song.

NOTE: This is a Dropbox link, but you do not need a Dropbox account.

- a. Click the Dropbox link for the song you recorded
- b. Click the blue button to navigate to your video
- c. Where you are asked to enter your name, please include your voice part before your name – for example: Bass Nick Page
- d. Click "upload." It may take several minutes.
- e. You will receive a confirmation once your video is uploaded. If you have any doubts that your video uploaded successfully, please email Producers@MysticChorale and we will check.

5. A note of encouragement and self-compassion:

Your video will be you singing alone, unaccompanied and with no effects. Most people do not like the way they sound on these videos – even professional singers!! Please send in your video anyway. Remember your voice will be mixed in with dozens of others – just like when we sing together on the concert stage. No one's voice will be heard alone – it's the sum of all of our parts that make the music wonderful. Thank you for being part of our project - The Mystic Chorale is a place for "ALL WHO LOVE TO SING!"