

TAFA Praise & Worship Band

Audition Procedures

Required Vocal Member Skills

Vocalists need to:

Have confident solo voices to sing special presentation selections or lead out on designated songs.

Be willing and able to listen and balance their voice to blend with other singers.

Have a strong ability to hear and maintain harmony parts without assistance.

Maintain flexibility in what part one sings from song to song since the worship songs are in various keys.

The ability to read music is an asset but not required as long as singers are able to easily learn their harmony parts and carry them without depending on other singers to sing the same part.

Vocal Audition Procedures

- 1 Sing vocal exercises to determine range and flexibility.
- 2 Echo jazz phrase exercises - to determine aural memory and ability to sing-back what is heard, mimicking vocal style
- 3 Create harmony to a familiar praise song. ("Amazing Grace", "Mighty to Save") This selection will be played in several different keys to determine singer's ability to change harmony parts to comfortably fit their vocal range.
- 4 Learn a chorus of a new praise song in the audition to see how quickly student picks up on the song and vocal style.
- 5 Sing a solo from memory. Please bring an accompaniment CD or make plans in advance to have Sarah Shannon accompany you by supplying a chord chart or written music.

Required Band Member Skills

Band Members and Special Instrumentalists need to:

- Be able to play their part with confidence.
- Be willing to listen to song arrangements and understand that *less is more*; realizing where your instrument should rest. Where there is a written part for your instrument be able to play it as written.
- Have a strong ability to pick out your instrument part on sound recordings.
- Maintain flexibility in being able to play proficiently in various keys.

The ability to read music is an asset but not required for band members of the rhythm section (Drums, bass, guitar, keyboards), as long as musicians are able to easily learn their parts and play them confidently. The ability to read music and an understanding of chord structures is essential for special instrumentalists such as violin, cello, flute, oboe, etc.

Band Audition Procedures

1. Demonstrate an understanding of chords and key signatures.
 - Bass, Guitar, and Keyboards - play the following chord progressions in the keys of E, F, G and Bb: I IV V vi IV V I
 - Special or Solo Instruments – play the concert scales of E, F, G, A and Bb.
2. Pitch & rhythm retention exercises - to determine aural memory and ability to play-back what is heard.
3. Special or Solo Instruments – prepare a solo. Please bring an accompaniment CD or make plans in advance to have Joey Geisel or Sarah Shannon accompany you.
4. Drums – the following drum exercises are intended to demonstrate the drummer's ability in various areas:

Tempo

Play at various tempos for the following meters: 4/4, 3/4, and 6/8
Play a simple pattern with straight 8ths on the Hi-hat
Play a simple pattern with straight 16ths on the Hi-hat

Fills

Tom Fills:

Play several Tom fills at various tempos and meters.
Play Toms as a song intro; *a la* "Better Is One Day"

Snare Fills:

Play several snare fills at various tempos and meters.

Combo Fills:

Play several snare/tom combo fills at various tempos and meters.

Snare Drum

Play a slow tempo with a side-stick
Play an upbeat tempo using a rim shot
Play a snare roll - as an intro to a slow song; *a la* "Amazing Grace"
Play a snare roll, same as above but with brushes
Play a syncopated rhythm using ghost hits
Play a slow tempo with a late snare on 2
Play a slow tempo with a late snare on 3

Flexibility

Play with the kick on 1 & 3, then change-up with kick on 2 & 4
Play several bars at tempo then change-up into half-time.
Play a single song in various tempos and styles (rock, blues, pop, country).

Can you play in 5/4 or 7/4?

Play a song from memory