

Voice of Chicago is Uniting Voices Chicago's premier mixed-voice ensemble, maintaining an extensive performance schedule that includes collaborations with Chicago's finest cultural institutions and touring. Many participants advance from Uniting Voices Chicago's Neighborhood Choir and Dimension programs, but we also welcome singers outside of our programs to audition. The auditions are very competitive. Any experienced singers 14 and up, who will be in high school for the 2025-2026 school year may audition for Voice of Chicago. Audition instructions are detailed below:

Step 1: Pre-Screening Audition – to be completed by Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

Fill out this <u>brief audition form</u> and submit a performance video using the instructions below:

• PREPARE FOR THE AUDITION:

- Practice what you will sing before recording. Sheet music for Jubilate Deo and Revelation 19, as well as a track for Revelation 19 can be found by <u>clicking here</u>.
- Present yourself in the best manner possible. This is the first time we'll see & hear you, so as a general guideline, think business casual; neat jeans (no rips/tears) and sneakers are ok. Tops should not be low cut, and should cover the midriff and shoulders. Hair should be styled as you like but make sure it doesn't cover your face. Modest jewelry and makeup that don't distract from the performance are allowed.
- Make sure that you have a quiet, well-lit place to record.
- Record a small segment to make sure that the audio and video are both working properly.
- RECORD A PERFORMANCE VIDEO FOLLOWING THESE STEPS:
 - Step 1: Start your video recording by speaking your name and age loudly and clearly. For example: "Hello, my name is Arya Stark and I am 14 years old."
 - Step 2: Sing Jubilate Deo a cappella in the Key of C Major. Your starting pitch is C5 (one octave above middle C for Soprano/Alto singers) or C4 (middle C for Tenor/Bass singers). Sing it THREE times.
 - Step 3: Sing a one-minute, age-appropriate song of your choice with accompaniment.
 - In order to help judge your intonation and pitch accuracy, you <u>MUST</u> sing to some type of accompaniment (piano, guitar, a karaoke track, etc). Accompanying yourself is acceptable & karaoke tracks are available online free of charge. NO a cappella singing.
 - Make sure to pick a song that is comfortable in your vocal range and that inspires you to sing with LOTS of expression!
 - Step 4: Sing the beginning of Revelation 19 with step-touch to the track provided here.
 - You will start step-touching/singing at :17 and you will finish at :51.
 - Step 5: Watch your video before you submit it! You want to make sure that all three parts of the audition are recorded correctly. NOTE: If you are not able to record all three songs in one video, you may record each separately, but make sure to INTRODUCE YOURSELF and RENAME EACH VIDEO.
 - SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO
 - Please rename your video file like the example: John Snow_VOC Audition.wav or Arya Stark_VOC Audition.mp4.
 - Upload your video(s) to our audition folder by <u>clicking here</u> or by copying and pasting this link https://driveuploader.com/upload/xtaQv6AeQI/

• Email Ms. Jackie at <u>Jjohnson@unitingvoiceschicago.org</u> to let us know that you have uploaded a video or to inform us of any technical issues that you may be experiencing.

Note: Uniting Voices Chicago staff will send an email on May 21 by end of the day to confirm receipt of all video auditions. If you submitted an audition but did not receive a confirmation on May 21, please reach out to Ms. Jackie at jjohnson@unitingvoiceschicago.org.

Step 2: Callback Auditions

Auditioning singers will be notified by the end of the day on **Wednesday, May 28**, if they will be invited to continue the audition process with a callback audition at Chicago Cultural Center, where Voice of Chicago rehearsals regularly take place. There will be a callback prep session via Zoom on **Saturday, May 31 from 9-9:45am.** Singers are strongly encouraged to attend this session. The session will also be recorded.

Callback auditions will be scheduled for a 30-minute time block on one of three dates:

- Wednesday, June 4 between 4:30-8:30pm
- Thursday, June 5 between 4:30PM-8:30pm
- Saturday, June 7 between 3-5pm

The final list of accepted singers for Voice of Chicago will be announced by Saturday, June 14, 2025.

Register for the 2025-2026 Season

Online registration for the 2025-2026 season is OPEN! Families can register for their current Neighborhood Choir/Dimension or wait until the final Voice of Chicago list is announced to register. Registrations completed by June 30, 2025 will lock in an early bird discount! Visit <u>www.unitingvoiceschicago.org/register</u> to see the current discounted tuition; regular tuition rates go into effect on July 1, 2025.

About Voice of Chicago Rehearsals

Voice of Chicago rehearses twice a week (Tuesdays and Saturdays) and incorporates musicianship throughout the month. Note: Rehearsal times may occasionally be extended and are subject to change. Wednesday rehearsals may be added, as needed.

Rehearsal Schedule

Tuesday All Call: 5-7pm

Saturday

All Call: 10am-12pm Encore: 1-2:30pm (as needed) Groove: 2:30-4pm (as needed) *Rehearsals may be added on Wednesday as needed

LOCATION

Chicago Cultural Center 78 E. Washington Street, 5th floor Chicago, IL 60602 map