

TOTR GUEST/AUDITION/ROOKIE PROCESS

➤ The following is the procedure for the Vocal Audition:

Guest/Audition Process and Timeline:

- Top of the Rock opens rehearsals for guest participation during set periods of time each year. These time periods, or audition windows, are set by our directors and members of the Music Staff. The public is invited to each new guest/audition window through the various media outlets and by chorus members personal invitation. If a guest comes to rehearsal on the last day of an audition window, they are still okay to go ahead and start the audition process, which takes place over a period of 4-5 rehearsals. That process is outlined below:
 - A guest can expect to receive audition materials (learning CD and sheet music) on her second visit to chorus rehearsal. The first audition will be scheduled for the following rehearsal. The guest should not be discouraged if she does not pass her first audition. It will be mostly for feedback purposes for the prospective member and to see how she improves from that feedback. Directors and/or Music Staff will relay any feedback from the audition to the prospective member.
 - A final audition will be scheduled for the following week. (If needed, a second chance at the final audition will be scheduled for the week after that. Guests will have two chances at the final audition to pass.)
 - The audition consists of being taped while singing along with the “full mix” track of the CD with no sheet music. The TOTR audition song is *How We Sang Today*. Only the audition coordinator and/or membership coordinator will be present at the audition. The audition team will listen to the tape to assess a prospective member’s ability to match pitches, sing her part within a group of singers and her overall suitability to the barbershop style of music. At this time, the membership coordinator will communicate the results of the final audition to the prospective member.
- After a successful vocal audition, the prospective member meets with a member of the choreography team for a Visual Audition to assess basic rhythm and movement capabilities for performing choreography. Many of the chorus songs are performed with choreography.
- Once the prospective member successfully completes the vocal and visual assessments, a recommendation will be made to the Chorus Management Team that she be accepted as a member. The prospective member then completes a membership application, pays dues, and submits her application to the membership coordinator. With approval by the Chorus Management Team, the new member is welcomed into the chorus!
- TOTR wants to stress to our guests that the audition process is really nothing to worry about! It is not a high pressure situation at all and we want to make you as

comfortable as possible and make sure you have fun singing with us. After all, that is what it is really all about...being a part of a group of women who love to have fun and sing together!

Rookies:

- When audition is passed, an interview is scheduled w/someone on the membership team. Responsibilities and obligations of membership are discussed and any questions/general discussion can also happen during this time.
- They receive new member book, CDs, etc. after they have paid and been sung in (ideally at the interview). A PVI is scheduled within the first 6 weeks.
- Bio written and photograph of new member is sent to website/Vocal Line. (We would like to do photos and bios of all members in a “members only” section eventually. This may also help new people figure out who people are.)
- After audition window has passed, that “class” goes through TOTR 101 together. This is a one-day class that is done after each audition window is over. The membership and education coordinators will work together to plan the class.
- The “class” competes and performs a rookie skit!

**Note: Guests are more than welcome to come and observe rehearsals at any time of the year. We are only restricting guest participation and auditions to these windows of time.*

Kathy Zimmerman
Membership Coordinator