



# VOICES USA!

## Audition Packet

### Welcome Singer!

This packet is designed to provide you, an auditioning singer, with information about VOICES USA!

### What or Who? is VOICES USA!

VOICES USA! is an eight voice a cappella group based in the Northern Virginia – Washington, DC metro area. VOICES USA! is founded by vocalist, Lynn Keen, a veteran performer with over 30 years of professional performance experience. Lynn has performed with choral ensembles, as a last minute performer with Musikanten, in bands, as a soloist for weddings, and for the last 15 years with TreVoché (an Andrews Sisters-style performance group). Lynn has a B.A. in Choral Music from Mary Washington University, and was trained by A. Wilson, a French opera singer.

The premise behind VOICES USA! is to have a performance group to perform patriotic, Americana, folk, swing, jazz, and other fun arrangements for a variety of venues. Performances will be primarily in and around the Northern Virginia – Washington, DC metro area with the option of traveling should the compensation and accommodations meet with the Director's approval. VOICES USA! emulates music performed by groups such as "The Liberty Voices" (a Walt Disney World group – which you can view here: <http://www.tcpstudios.com/visualthunder/libertyvoices.htm>), the Swingle Singers, and will also perform original material written by Lynn Keen.

### VOICES USA! Costuming

VOICES USA! members will be required to make or purchase their own costuming for VOICES USA! performances. The costuming will be:

- 1 – Victorian style dress outfit (similar to those shown here)



1 – Formal outfit

Ladies - <http://www.concertblack.com/designs2.html>

Men – tuxedo white shirt (black tie/cumberbun)

1 – Fun outfit

Ladies – black palazzo pants / white shirts

Men – black dress pants / alternating red / blue solid Tee Shirt

1 – Alternate outfit

(Group T-shirts for this outfit – purchase price to be determined after logo complete.)

## **VOICES USA! Group Expenses**

VOICES USA! is designed as a paid performance group. There will be occasions where not-for-profit performances will be required. Many performance groups of this nature have a membership fee to join. VOICES USA! does not have a membership fee, but like many organizations, has costs to operate. Each paid performance will be calculated to provide a portion of the payment for each performer and a portion to an operations fund. A fair payment to performers will be discussed prior to contract signature. The operations fund will cover items such as purchase of sheet music, office supplies for brochures/promotional material, specialized costume needs (i.e., T-shirts, etc.), and sound equipment hiring for events that require larger sound systems. Members who agree to be a part of the group will not receive a refund should they leave the group.

## **VOICES USA! Rehearsals**

VOICES USA! members will:

- ❖ PRACTICE on their time! Rehearsal time is limited and designed to pull together all the members to finalize a performance.
- ❖ BE ON TIME for rehearsals. Rehearsal will be scheduled regularly on Day of Week at time. If a member is unable to attend, he/she must give 24 hours' notice so that other members of the group can be informed and a time rescheduled to meet. Missing rehearsals constitutes a lack of commitment and a letter of notice will be sent to re-confirm member commitment. If a member needs to terminate membership, a written notification two weeks prior to final end date is required. Remember the group doesn't work or get paid if members are missing or not committed.

Note: There is no monetary compensation for rehearsals or travel time to get to rehearsals.

## **VOICES USA! Performance style**

VOICES USA! is a professional choral group. As such, the following must be strictly followed:

- ❖ NO VIBRATO! Vibrato is for soloists in wedding ceremonies or opera, not for a finely tuned choral group.
- ❖ Be PREPARED! Practice your music, bring a tape recorder to rehearsal to get the whole group, and memorize that music. WE WILL NOT USE IT IN PERFORMANCE.

- ❖ This group should represent the United States of America – every citizen, every culture, every good aspect that the United States offers. It is not a political voicing effort; it is not a platform for religion, and not a platform for discrimination. It is an effort to bring history, patriotism, and beautiful music in its purest form to audiences.

### **VOICES USA! Management**

VOICES USA! is directed and managed solely by Lynn Keen. Direction and management of group is more than a one-person responsibility and your assistance is welcomed. If you would like to be an active member and help in the management of the group, please indicate this on your audition form. More than one person on the team helps keep the “I” out of team.

### **VOICES USA! Touring**

VOICES USA! will do some touring! Details on this will come as they are finalized. But without you...it can't happen! Local travel is non-compensated. Travel that requires overnight accommodations will be negotiated as part of the performance contract and on those occasions the group director/management will arrange for group transportation to performance.



# VOICES USA!

## Vocal Application and Audition Form

### Contact Information

Name:	
Street Address:	
City ST Zip:	
Home Phone:	
Work Phone:	
E-mail:	

### Voicing Information

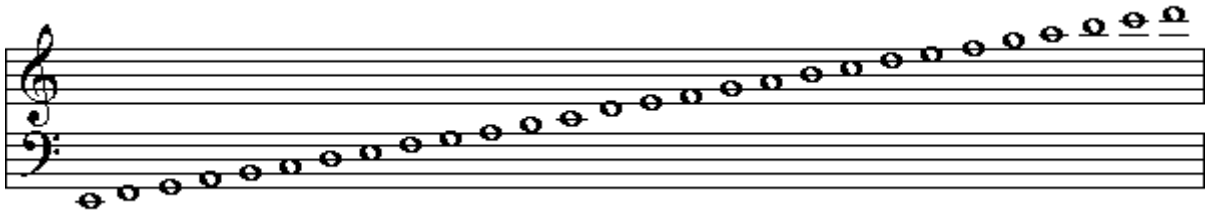
Voice Part:  
(check all that apply)

- Bass II
- Bass I
- Tenor II
- Tenor I
- Alto II
- Alto I
- Soprano II
- Soprano I


Please indicate from the staff below your lowest and highest notes to perform with ease.

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Notes are identified (left to right: E1 F1 G1, E2 F2 G2, E3 F3 G3, E4 F4 G4, etc)



E F G A B C D E F G A B C D E F G A B C D E F G A B C D

How do you judge yourself in the following: (1-poor; 10-outstanding)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Vocal Quality										
Vocal Accuracy										
Expressivity/Phrasing										
Intonation										
Diction										
Poise										
Memorization										
Tonal Memory										
Sight Reading										

**Voice Styling Information**

Style of music you enjoy performing (1- Hate it! – 10 Love It!)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Patriotic										
Americana										
Gospel										
Classical										
Folk										
Jazz										
Swing										
Blues										
Pop										
Show Tunes										
Rock										
Country										
Other										

Have you performed:	Yes	No	Mo/years performed
In high school choirs?			
In college choirs?			
In church choirs?			
In show choirs?			
Before any kind of audience?			

**What training have you had?**

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**Have you done any professional work? Sung for weddings, bands, other?**

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**Do you have other "additional" skills that would benefit the group? (i.e., marketing, graphics, can dial a telephone, can walk a paper to someone if asked, sewing, etc.). If so, please list them here.**

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**This is a group effort. To make a group successful do you have skills or would be willing to assist in coordination, group management, or other areas?**

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## Availability Information

What are your best days/times to be available for practice:	Yes	No
Monday evenings		
Tuesday evenings		
Wednesday evenings		
Thursday evenings		
Friday evenings		
Saturday mornings		
Saturday evenings		
Sunday mornings		
Sunday evenings		
Other:		

**If asked to travel would you be available? How far would you be willing to travel? (Any group travel will be paid performances and accommodations provided for member.)**

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**Do you have any physical restrictions that require special access or consideration?**

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## Just for "GP" Information

**What are you hoping to do as a member of this group?**

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**What other information would you like to add?**

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### **Information for Auditioners:**

This group is A CAPPELLA; there is no instrumentation other than our voices.

The objective is to provide patriotic, Americana, folk (and some other fun styles) to paying clients, some non-profit organizations, and do some occasional traveling. It is expected that as a participant you will support group events, be on time for rehearsals and performances, provide a positive attitude at all times, wear appropriate clothing, interact with audiences respectfully, and above all HAVE FUN!