

VIRTUAL ENSEMBLE DIRECTOR TIPS

AFTER HAVING DONE A FEW OF THESE NOW I ASKED THE DIRECTORS TO GIVE ME ANY POTENTIAL FEEDBACK OF THINGS THEY THOUGHT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO PASS ALONG TO FELLOW ENSEMBLE DIRECTORS. THINGS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR, GENERAL IDEAS ON THE PROCESS FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE, ETC. HERE'S ARE THE MOST COMMON POINTS SO FAR:

- THIS IS AN EXTREMELY TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS.
- PLAN AHEAD FOR WHAT GUIDE TRACKS YOU WILL USE. (PREVIOUS RECORDING, MIDI TRACKS, VOCAL MODEL PART-TRACKS, ETC)
- CONSIDER PROVIDING A VIDEO OF YOU CONDUCTOR FOR A VISUAL GUIDE.
- SET YOUR ENSEMBLE SUBMISSION DEADLINES WITH SUFFICIENT TIME TO MEET YOUR ENGINEER'S DEADLINE WHILE STILL GIVING YOURSELF ENOUGH TIME TO LISTEN AND CRITIQUE EACH INDIVIDUAL TRACK.
- BE PREPARED TO LISTEN TO EVERY TRACK, START TO FINISH. (AND ALL RE-SUBMISSIONS)
- TAKE COPIOUS NOTES ABOUT EACH PERFORMER'S SUBMISSION.
- BE PREPARED TO ASK SOME OF YOUR SINGERS TO RE-RECORD. AT LEAST SOME OF YOUR PERFORMERS WILL **NOT** FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.
- LEAVE AMPLE TIME FOR THEM TO RESUBMIT.
- LOOK/LISTEN FOR:
 - AUDIBLE SYNC POINT(S) AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY TRACK.
 - BACKGROUND NOISE (HEAT/AC, FANS, FISH TANKS, AUDIBLE PEOPLE, ETC)
 - PAGE TURNS
 - AUDIO BLEED-OVER FROM THE GUIDE TRACK.
 - MUMBLING WORDS, BREATHING AT INAPPROPRIATE TIMES, WRONG NOTES.
- SUBMIT NOTES TO YOUR ENGINEER THAT INDICATE MUTING OF SINGERS/PLAYERS IF NECESSARY, INDICATE SECTION LEADERS, SOLOISTS, ETC. USING THE PROVIDED GOOGLE SHEET TEMPLATE

NOTES FROM BRAD:

-I WILL PROVIDE A DROPBOX LINK FOR YOU TO HAVE STUDENTS UPLOAD TO. I CAN SHARE THIS MASTER FOLDER WITH YOU SO YOU CAN USE IT FOR REVIEW PURPOSES.

-I WILL SHARE/PROVIDE A GOOGLE SHEET FOR YOU TO USE FOR NOTE-TAKING PURPOSES. THINGS THAT ARE HELPFUL FOR ME INCLUDE LETTING ME KNOW WHO YOU CONSIDER YOUR "SECTION LEADERS" THESE ARE THE PEOPLE IN EACH SECTION THAT HAVE THE STRONGEST RECORDINGS. I WILL USE THESE AS THE ONES TO START SYNCING OTHERS AGAINST.

-I WILL RELY ON YOU TO LET ME KNOW OF ANYTHING YOU NOTICE THAT I CAN POSSIBLY FIX IN THE AUDIO MIX. THESE INCLUDE REALLY LOUD PAGE TURNS, ETC. I CAN ALWAYS DUCK THE VOLUME IN SPECIFIC SPOTS.

-YOU CAN ALSO CHOOSE TO MUTE PERFORMERS IF NEEDED. ON A 50 PERSON ENSEMBLE IT ISN'T OUT OF THE QUESTION TO ONLY BE HEARING 35-40, ETC.