SELF-TAPE ADVICE

- **Any camera is fine** – phone, video camera, etc.
  - Would not recommend using a laptop cam (ie. photobooth) just because laptop mics don’t tend to pick up sound very well
- **If you’re using a phone,** shoot horizontal rather than vertical for a few reasons:
  - Gives you more range of motion
  - Phone microphones tend to be on the bottom of the device, so using it vertically tends to block the mic, muffling the sound.
  - In any case, make sure nothing is physically blocking the microphone.
- **We recommend you turn off anything that creates ambient noise for the duration of the tape** (fans, AC units, etc.) as these too can impact the microphone’s ability to pick up your voice.
  - That said, if there is ambient street noise, noise from neighbors etc., don’t worry. Things happen, and this will not negatively affect you in any way.
- **Do not hold the phone/camera during the recording.** Rest it on a shelf/tripod/something else to stabilize it.
  - This allows you to have full use of your body and more extensive movement rather than being chained to one spot the whole time.
- **Shoot as many times as you want!** There’s no way we’ll know if you sent us your first take or your twentieth, so do it as many times as you want/need to feel proud of/satisfied with your audition.
  - That said, please don’t stress about it being “perfect.” Nothing is ever perfect and please don’t stress yourself out over what you perceive as flaws or exhaust yourself or blow out your voice from singing too many times in a row.
- **Take breaks between takes!** Drink water, drink tea, and take care of yourself above all else.
- **Relax.** This is super important.
  - These tapes should not be stressful, and we want you to have fun with them. It is a low-stakes process, and we are in no way going into these videos expecting perfection.
- **Remember, please, that we want to involve you in the show.** We want to work with you, get to know you, and we want you to succeed and be proud of your work. We’re not going into these videos looking for something to criticize or a reason to not cast you. Quite the opposite. We truly hope we are able to cast as many people who want to participate as we can.

  We can’t wait to see your audition!