

Coastal Community Church Music Ministry :: Music Team Guidelines ::

First of all, thank you for taking an interest in serving Christ and His Body, the Church, through this ministry. Only by people like you “stepping up,” does our team become a ministry of the church body rather than a ministry for the church body.

Before you read any further, it’s important that you understand that serving on stage is indeed different than other serving opportunities within the local church. The biggest difference is that it’s based on an audition process.

To serve in this capacity requires a certain level of expertise as determined by the audition team. It also requires a God-centered attitude and approach to life and ministry as defined by God’s Word.

Music Team Mission

Coastal Community Church’s music team mission supports Coastal’s mission in “developing authentic followers of Christ” by:

1. Aiming to be God centered, Christ exalting, and rich in theology.
2. Edifying the church by singing the Word of God.
3. Creativity and excellence in the skills God has given us.

We are committed to teaching God’s Word to the local church through music.

*“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us offer up to God acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for our God is a Consuming Fire”
Hebrews 12:28-29*

Participating in the Music Team is more than just singing or playing an instrument. Throughout Scripture, God places a high value on those who lead His church in worship through song. As those called to lead Coastal’s congregation in music, it is important that we place the same value on our own individual participation in every aspect of the worship service. God desires that our lives reflect the attitude of praise and worship that we profess on Sunday services. Worship should be a vital part of our everyday lives as believers. Jesus is Lord over all! We desire to esteem His Lordship in every area of our lives.

*“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”
Romans 12:1*

Basic Participation Guidelines

This Music Team packet has been developed with guidelines so that God will be honored and so that you can reach the full potential of your calling as a music leader.

We view the Music Team not as a “performance,” but as a ministry, and require that those involved make the necessary time commitment and possess the necessary lifestyle. Because music ministry at Coastal is not a performance, we treat it as an equipping ministry (Ephesians

4:12-16). This is a ministry for the glory of God and the edification of his church BY his church.

These following guidelines are not meant to be legalistic; rather the aim is to clearly communicate what Coastal's leadership views as the *minimum* requirements to serve on the Music Team rotation.

We, being fallen and sinful humans, understand your humanity; we do not require perfection! We desire that all involved in this ministry continually allow the Holy Spirit to further sanctify their lives. If any of the following areas are a problem, we are committed to help you overcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ.

1. Music Team members must be committed disciples of Jesus Christ and have a clear understanding of the gospel.
2. Music Team members must interview and audition, and then go through a 6-month "Season of Apprenticeship." This process can be accelerated or waived by the music pastor on an individual basis.
3. Music Team Members must be a member or in the process of becoming a member at Coastal Community Church. Media Team members must be committed to Coastal Community Church and should display it by regularly participating in Sunday morning services. Members of the team should also be involved in a small group; we believe this is biblical and a crucial component of spiritual growth as we engage with a community of other believers.

Interview and Audition

After you've read through this document, you'll have an opportunity to discuss each aspect of this document in an interview with a person on the audition team. Ask yourself the following questions before you decide to go forward:

These questions will be asked in the interview:

1. Have I had a defining moment when God made me aware of my sinfulness and need for the Gospel? Have I received forgiveness of my sins made possible through His Son, Jesus Christ's death on the cross and resurrection? Am I continually repenting and believing the Gospel of Christ?
2. Why do I want to be a part of the Worship Team? What's my motivation? How do I define worship?
3. What does my relationship with Christ look like daily?

After your interview, you'll be invited to audition in front of one (or more) of the members of the audition team. This audition will be filmed and distributed to the rest of the audition team for review. After the audition team views the video, it will be deleted. The audition will help determine whether your musical ability is at a level to participate in this ministry. You'll be asked to audition two songs you've prepared (or a well known congregational song). Two questions worth thinking about before pursuing an audition are:

1. If I do not become a part of the music team how will I feel about Coastal and its leaders?
2. Will I be able to worship without feeling hurt, bitter or angry?

Frequency of Service

There is no guarantee for how often you will be placed on the rotation. The schedules are made based on the needs of Coastal and there may be a higher volume of volunteers in your particular musical department. Please do not take frequency of service personally, but graciously understand that this is a ministry with many different volunteers and needs.

If you feel you are not being utilized as often as you'd like and would like to serve more, there are opportunities in the Mission Department, Adult Ministry, Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry and Prayer Ministry to lead music. Please let the Music Pastor know you're interested so that he can plug you in the appropriate department.

Season of Apprenticeship and Follow Up

After you've completed your interview and audition, you may (or may not) be asked to serve with the Music Team on a six-month Season of Apprenticeship. It's during this time that you'll receive the most training and feedback. Our team is committed to encourage and equip you, both musically and spiritually, to become a Music leader with the right heart and right skill-set.

During your Season of Apprenticeship, the music leader will evaluate your character, commitment, competence, and chemistry with our Music Team. This may be done formally or informally.

Lifestyle of Worship

It's our prayer that our Music Team members develop a consecrated heart for God and a desire to grow in their relationship with Him. We are committed to help team members on this journey by encouraging these behaviors:

1. Lead by example- We must wholeheartedly worship God ourselves if we want to lead the congregation in worship. Be a genuine worshipper who is a living portrayal of worship described in Romans 12:1-2.
2. A right heart- Your heart is reflected in your countenance and it is communicated to the congregation. If your heart isn't right, get it right before you serve, or let us know you need to sit out.
3. Encouraging others- It takes courage to publicly bring an offering of praise to the Lord. As a Music Team, we need to cultivate an affirming ministry environment. Find ways to encourage during difficult situations.
4. Authenticity- People are hungry for what is real and want to be led into Sunday morning worship by those who are trustworthy stewards of God's grace (1Peter 4:10-11). Present yourself in a transparent way.
5. Servant's spirit- A heart that is capable of being directed with a good attitude shows others you have a servant's spirit. Apply yourself to make a plan work even if it does not fit your personal preferences.
6. Faithfulness- God desires our diligence in using our gifts. Work on vocal parts and instrumental/technical skill improvement on your own.

While we encourage these right behaviors, it is also important for us to help you overcome any area you may have struggle with. Outward sin such as drunkenness, drug abuse, sexual sin, blatant rebellious attitudes, gossiping, anger and pride indicate greater inward struggle of the heart. Please let us help and biblically counsel you if you are struggling in any of these areas.

Discipleship

As Christ-followers, we must place ourselves in accountability relationships and small groups that encourage growth and build community with other believers. Therefore, it is imperative for each Music Team member to actively participate in small groups. In addition to this, each music department will be periodically throughout the year for encouragement in spiritual growth as well as each musical encouragement. There is also a devotional time each Tuesday night for the Music and Creative Arts Department followed by prayer. Each Sunday, we will spend time having breakfast and enjoying community with each other. These are all important parts of serving at Coastal Community Church.

Dress Code

Although there is not a “dress code” at Coastal per se, there are two things that the music team member is required to keep in mind; modesty and sensitivity. Keep in mind that you are leading God’s people in worship through song on stage.

Tuesday Rehearsals

Music Team rehearsal is held each Tuesday night in the auditorium at Coastal Community Church at 6:15 PM. Musicians should arrive with time to set up their equipment before rehearsal is scheduled to begin. Vocalists are required to show up shortly after.

Tuesday Rehearsal Schedule *

6:00 PM	Musicians arrive and set up
6:10 PM	Vocalists arrive
6:15 PM	Devotional time
6:35 PM	Practice starts
8:00 PM	Practice ends

*If you are not able to attend rehearsal, you will not lead worship on weekend services unless approved by the Worship Music Leader for that week.

Weekend Worship Services

Participating in the Music Team means that you arrive earlier and leave later than the congregation. Our expectation is that you will arrive on time each week that you are scheduled, and with an attitude ready to worship. Consistent lateness cannot be tolerated.

Sunday Schedule

7:45 AM	Musicians and sound team arrive
7:50 AM	Practice
8:30 AM	Prayer
9:15 AM	1 st service starts
11:00 AM	2 nd service starts
12:30 PM	Services end

Media Support

The Media Team is responsible for all technical aspects of the service, including the sound system, lighting system, video elements, recordings, and projection. The great tech challenge is to become invisible! It's the perfect place for selfless, secure servants. Media Team members go through a training process and audio volunteers have been specifically chosen for their abilities to mix sound and blend voices "by ear." A good relationship between Music Team members and Media Team members is very important- and equally important is your ability to trust them to skillfully make our worship services look and sound as great as possible. As they serve you and Coastal's congregation each week, please remember treat them with respect. If you have any questions or problems, please talk to your leader and allow your leader to communicate with the Media Team.

Music Team Commitment Letter

As I consider participating on Costal Community Church's Music, I commit to the follow personal standards:

- I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my life and have a personal relationship with Him.
- I am committed to growing and maturing in my relationship with God through consistent quiet times, accountability, small groups and faithfulness to this local church in membership.
- I am committed to choices and a lifestyle that are both godly and "above reproach," knowing that my lifestyle in itself is an act of worship.
- I commit to having a servant's heart, a desire for excellence, and a passion for seeing people connect to God in worship. I will treat other members of the team with respect while holding them accountable as servants and musicians.
- I commit to growing as a vocalist/musician through personal practice time so I will be better equipped to serve as a member of the worship team.
- I commit to making rehearsals, meetings, and any team training a priority and I will be prompt in my commitment.

Name _____

Date _____