

2021 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS COMMENCEMENT DECEMBER 18 ADELPHI, MARYLAND

Dear Graduate,

Thank you for your interest in singing at UMGC's upcoming winter commencement. Competition for this honor is always keen, as it is a unique opportunity to make a memorable contribution to commencement.

I'd like to outline some important points about this role and explain the selection process.

Overview

We will select students to sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" and UMGC's Alma Mater at the morning and afternoon ceremonies to be held on December 18, 2021, at the Xfinity Center. We aim for one singer per ceremony, but two may be chosen depending upon how well their vocal range fits each song. Both songs will be performed *a cappella*.

Role in the Ceremony

The student singer marches in with the university president and other members of the official platform party and is seated on the stage wearing academic regalia. The student singer's guests will be given reserved seating, along with the other guests of the platform party.

Who Can Apply

You must be eligible to participate in winter commencement (i.e., be a summer 2021 graduate or a fall 2021 graduation candidate).

Applicants must be available to audition *a cappella* by phone or online meeting during the period of November 30 through December 9 (excluding weekends).

The winners must

- Sing *a cappella* during the ceremony.
- March in regalia with the platform party and be seated on stage during the ceremony.
- Be available for in-person rehearsal at the Xfinity Center on Friday, December 17.

Selected singers will normally perform at the ceremony they are registered for; however, if there is a time conflict (e.g., two selectees registered for the same ceremony), we may make your selection contingent on agreeing to switch ceremonies.

How to Request an Audition

Record a good-quality YouTube video of yourself singing the national anthem *a cappella*. (Set the video's privacy to "unlisted" so that only people with the link can view it.)

Then [fill out the online audition application](#).

The application will collect the necessary information from you, including a link to your YouTube video. Applications must be submitted by **Monday, November 29, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. eastern time**.

Our Commencement Singer Selection Committee will contact selected finalists starting November 30 to schedule auditions. Anyone not selected for an audition will be notified by email by December 13.

If you have any questions about the process, please feel welcome to contact us at commencement@umgc.edu. Congratulations on your academic achievements, and I wish you the best as you compete for this wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HBJ', is positioned above the printed name.

Harold Blackmon Jr.
Director
Commencement Services