Want to look good on video?

Whether you'll be live or pre-recorded, follow these tips for video success:

- 1. Light up your face.
- 2. Make eye contact with the lens (but don't stare.)
- 3. Get the lens at eye level.
- 4. Check your framing.
- 5. Speak extemporaneously rather than using a script (but it's okay to refer to notes.)
- 6. Move your body or the camera to catch their attention.
- 7. Use screen share to show photos.
- 8. Dress professionally.
- 9. Put your pets away.
- 10. Watch your background.
- 11. Test your technology before trying to play recorded video or audio.
- 12. Relax! Be yourself. It gets more comfortable with time.

More tips for recorded video:

- Aim to use your first take. You'll sound more scripted and stiff the more times you record (and it probably won't get better.)
- Speak to the camera as if giving a live presentation, to minimize the amount of editing you need to do.
- Back up your finished videos. Ours are on my computer hard drive and in the cloud.

More tips for live video:

- Make sure both people have a broadband connection to the internet, preferably hardwired.
- Have all of your materials within reach, but don't be afraid to break the frame occasionally to grab something.
- Mute their volume if you ask them to sing or play with you (the time lag will throw you off!).
- Practice switching views with screen share before doing this live.

