The use of Zoom for music is somewhat different than for meetings that involve only speaking.

Basically, the way the program works is that it "filters out" anything other than a very narrow sound spectrum in the range of speech ... so it thinks singing or music is "noise" and blocks it.

To use Zoom effectively for singing and music, here are some things to do to 'tweak' the program:

1) If you've not used Zoom previously, it will be helpful to go ahead and download the program and set up an account. For music, it is recommended that you go in through the Zoom web site portal itself so you can set all the music parameters before opening the meeting.

2) If you don't already have it, go to Zoom.us, scroll to the bottom and click on Download. Of course, if you already have it, perfect!

3) Once you've downloaded and installed the Zoom program, the next thing is to download and install the "Hi Fidelity" update which enables advanced use of Zoom for music; then

4) Go into the settings menu for meetings and make the following adjustments:

     + Go into Audio Settings and set "Suppress Background Noise" to low.

     + Under "Music and Professional Audio" toggle on all of the boxes:
            Show In-Meeting Option To Enable 'Original Sound'
                (you'll always want Original Sound "on" when we're working)

       + Also toggle on the following:
                 Enable These Options When Original Sound Is On

 Hi Fidelity Music Mode
                  Echo Cancellation
                  Stereo Audio

Here are a few additional “best practices”:

1) The use of a dedicated desktop or laptop computer to run Zoom is highly recommended. The computer should be as close to the WiFi router as is practical, to assure as good a signal strength as possible, or hard-wired to the LAN network supplying the WiFi;

2) The use of external speakers, as well as an external microphone is also highly recommended. There are various brands available, of course, but the main thing is to \*have\* external speakers and mic ... as their use improves all around sound quality tremendously;

3) The use of a well-lit area with a neutral background, is recommended. Many people purchase an inexpensive "ring" light for this purpose. Or if in a large classroom or lecture hall, assure the area where the camera is located is well lit.