

Audition Check List

- 1.) Have you listened to or read the show you are auditioning for?
- 2.) Have you checked the audition requirements? (How much of a song is the audition asking you to prepare? Is there an optional monologue?)
- 3.) Have you registered for a time slot?
- 4.) Do you have (at least) 2 songs in different musical styles memorized in case the artistic staff asks you if you have another selection?

General Reminders

Be prepared: If you are asked to present a song or monologue, prepare your piece well. Memorize your selection and be well rehearsed!

Be kind: Remember that your audition for every show begins the moment you walk in the door. You may be perfect in the audition room, but rudeness or misbehavior in the lobby will be noticed.

Be on time for your appointment: Always arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled audition time so that all your paperwork can be completed before you go in for your auditions. Arriving early also gives you time to relax and focus and not feel rushed.

Use your waiting time wisely: It is great to see old friends and make new ones at an audition but be sure to take some time to warm up on your audition.

Dress appropriately: An audition is an interview! Wear something appropriate that you feel comfortable and confident in. Your outfit should be neat, clean, and should not be distracting from your audition. (Ex. If you aren't comfortable in your outfit and you might begin pulling at your clothing which makes you seem unconfident.)

****If you are coming from an outside event (swim, dance, soccer, etc.) we understand! Please don't let your outfit deter you from auditioning even if you had another obligation that day! ****

Audition Tips and FAQ

Auditions are work! Treat them as such by being professional at all times.

Introduce yourself. When you walk into the audition room, tell us your name and the name of the piece you have prepared. This makes a good first impression, "Hello, my name is _____ and I will be performing _____."

Be Prepared Practice your audition **before** your audition! Rehearse full out speaking with a **loud & clear** voice. What we rehearse is what we perform, so if you only practice quietly in your head, your audition will be quiet, too. Make sure that each time you practice you use good breath support, diction, and you make strong acting choices.

Don't watch the directors. During your audition, do not look directly at the people you are auditioning for. Pick a focal point above their heads.

Mistakes happen. If you make a mistake, do not apologize. Remember that others may not even notice a mistake, but if you point it out to them, they will know for sure.

It's OK to be nervous. Don't worry about being nervous. We want you to succeed! Do your best to smile and have a good time. Make sure you know your song and monologue so well that you won't forget it, even if you're nervous. Being nervous is a totally normal part of auditioning, and the best way to combat those nerves is to be 100% prepared.

****Remember that directors pay attention to more than just your monologue and song. If you're quiet, attentive, and respectful while you wait your turn, they will see that. Conversely, they will also notice when you are chatting with your neighbor, playing with your phone or fidgeting in your seat. Your behavior can make or break an audition. ****

Choosing a Monologue

Choose a monologue from a play. Plays are written for multiple interpreters and usually not associated with any single performer. A monologue from a play clearly provides you with a context and reason for the character to say these words, but make sure you read the whole play, so you can fully understand the situation that character is in.

Make sure your monologue is no longer than 1 minute in length when performed.

Choose a monologue that is active, and contains a beginning, middle, and end. Avoid monologues that simply recount what happened in the past, as these can be traps in which you play attitude and mood rather than action.

Know whom you are talking to (in the monologue) and what you want from them.

Do **not** use dialects or use of props.

Do **NOT** choose a monologue from the play you are auditioning for. (Unless required by artistic staff.)

Choose an age-appropriate monologue. Monologues with strong language, mature themes or innuendo are not appropriate.

Choose a monologue that contains a change of some kind. It could begin funny then serious at the end demonstrating the character shifting attitude or perspective. Give yourself as many opportunities to be cast as possible, so showing range is key in helping the director find the right role for you.

Choosing a Song

Choose a song from a musical that is close in style to the musical you're auditioning for AND in the style of the role you want. Choose a song that is from a musical! Pop songs don't give the directors as much information about your vocal or acting abilities as songs that were written for musical theatre.

CHOOSE TWO SONGS TO PREPARE! Even if the audition is a song and a monologue pick two songs (ex. An up-tempo song and a ballad OR a golden age piece and a contemporary piece) **** ALSO, if it is two contrasting songs, prepare two extras. ****

Choose a song that sits comfortably in your range but shows as much of your range as possible.

Do **NOT** sing a selection from the show. (***)If you chose a song from the show you are auditioning for or from the last role you played, you will be asked to sing something else.)

Choose a song that allows you to make acting choices while singing.

Choose a song that provides a contrast to your monologue selection. If your monologue was broad and comedic, try a song that will demonstrate your ability to make more natural acting