



Audition Procedures

How to prepare:

- Read the script! The better you know the story and the characters, the better you'll be able to translate the ideas to the audience.
- Dress in comfortable clothing. You will be asked to move around. Tie back long hair so your facial expressions are visible. Physicality is an important component of the audition process, therefore no baggy sweat pants, shorts, big shirts, hats, dangling jewelry, large earrings, or high heels are allowed.
- Read over the monologues that will be used in auditions. They don't need to be memorized, just know them well enough to lift your eyes from the paper and actually perform.
- Practice pantomiming different activities that are common in daily life.

When you get to the audition:

- Be early and wait quietly.
- No gum or snacks are allowed. (Water bottles in plastic containers with lids are acceptable.)
- **TURN OFF** your cell phone before you enter the room.
- No talking will be permitted during auditions.
- No one may enter or exit the room once auditions have begun. This is to eliminate distractions for the director and the person(s) onstage. If you need to go to the bathroom, go **BEFORE** auditions begin.
- Don't talk when you leave. Don't think negatively about your audition or talk about it with other students. If you saw others perform, **DON'T** talk about them. Congratulate everyone and leave quietly.

What to expect at auditions & callbacks:

- Voice, movement, and teamwork exercises
- Pantomime exercises
 - You will have to pantomime around one minute's worth of a "daily activity", including a beginning, middle, and end. Please plan this in advance! Inability to prepare for auditions is a sure sign of future inability to prepare for rehearsals, which will affect your casting.
 - Pantomime suggestions: washing dishes, setting the table, chopping wood, planting a garden, eating a meal, knitting, cooking, etc. The director should be able to guess what activity you were pantomiming by the end of your scene.
- Selected monologues

- o For your monologue: get onstage, stand tall, slate your name and character playing, and begin. Only pause for director's instructions after allowing the scene to finish naturally.
- o Make changes to your monologue based on the instructions by the director. He's looking to see if you can take direction and are willing to make a choice and take a risk.

*** Auditions and callbacks will be recorded so that when Mr. Hensley is making decisions he can rely on your actual performance rather than only his recall of your performance. (It's very hard to remember everyone well when you see so many performances back to back in such a short period of time!)

Callbacks:

- Be ready to participate in callbacks the day after auditions. A callback list will be posted on Facebook and Mr. Hensley's bulletin board. This is a good time to look over the selected scenes and monologues again!
- Selection for callbacks isn't based on how well or poorly you did at auditions. It's a chance for the director to see individuals and combinations of students they didn't see enough of the first time around.

What is the director looking for at auditions and callbacks?

- Ability to work as a team player
- Character & Expression
- Projection
- Diction
- A character similar to the character you would like to play in our show
- **Tell the story!**

If you don't get the part/job you wanted:

- One week after auditions you may come by my classroom before or after school to ask what you could do to improve your audition skills in the future. Don't ask what you did wrong, just how you could prepare better for future auditions.
- The feeling of "rejection" over not getting cast (or your first choice role) seems disappointing at first, but I strongly urge you to get right back to work as soon as possible so you can sharpen your skills for future auditions.