

## **Auditioning for a Show**

START BEING CONNECTED BY:

Going to: <https://www.twhstheater.com/>

And following us on REMIND 101

Text "@TWHS1053" to 81010 to join!

### **MONOLOGUE AUDITIONS**

- ❖ Picking your pieces
  - It doesn't have to be a difficult monologue.
  - Choose something you like, when you read it you should connect with it.
  - Choose something you are comfortable performing. Lots of students really like a really dramatic monologue but remember you'll have to commit to performing it.
  - Keep something to your age range. Don't try to play something too old or too young.
- ❖ Being Prepared
  - Know your speech!
  - Your monologue should be about 45 seconds to a minute.
- ❖ Auditioning with "Sides" -
  - Read over the sides in advance if they are posted online. Link to the audition page is normally sent out through REMIND 101.
  - Research the show and figure out the story so you know what the sides are talking about.
- ❖ Presenting
  - Try to look nice - but also be comfortable. (No crazy high heels or clothes that are too tight.)
  - You don't have to wear a costume or bring props.
  - Say your full name to introduce yourself. (We call this a "slate".)
  - Say the name of the play and the author of the piece. (This is the rest of your slate.)
- ❖ The Process/When you get there:
  - Audition forms will be given for each audition. Please make sure you fill them out, especially the conflict sheet, as accurately as possible.
  - You'll give your paper to the director and then stand in the middle of the stage. Once they look at you, you can start. Don't start until they are looking up! :) This is i
  - Speak loudly and clearly. We want to be able to hear your voice and understand you.
  - Keep yourself facing the Directors. You can move a little, but don't close yourself off.
  - Look above/over the Director's head, and try to keep a FOCUS point.
- ❖ What to do if...
  - You jump lines or mix things around.
    - Keep going. If you have to pause for a beat to figure out things out, that's fine. Just try to play it off and stay in character.
    - If you are really, really thrown, tell the Director you'd like to restart. Then, let the previous moment go and rock the 2nd attempt! :)
  - You forget a line.
    - Again, pause. Remember staying focused is best. Try to go on to the next line or jump to what you know for sure.

REMEMBER: We want everyone to do well and we are just excited to see what you can do! Don't be nervous!

### **COLD READINGS**

- ❖ This is when you get parts of the script and read them for the first time in the audition. It might be a monologue or a scene with dialogue you'll read with a partner.
- ❖ You'll typically only have a few minutes to practice - so know the story and the characters.
- ❖ Read through the whole scene aloud
- ❖ Pay attention to stage directions and use your instincts to help you form some blocking. - It always helps polish the scene and make the performance look more complete.
- ❖ Ask the Stage Manager or other assistants if you don't know what something means, or how to pronounce it. Another option is to look it up on your phone.

### **CALL BACKS**

- ❖ The night of the auditions, normally a few hours later, the Director will post the Call Back list on the website. (There will be a remind 101 alert when this has happened. )
- ❖ Read over ALL the directions posted on the CALL BACK ANNOUNCEMENT. Don't just look for your name and then ignore the rest. There might be details about what to wear, sides to look over etc.
- ❖ You might be called back for a specific character.
- ❖ Just because you are not called back does not mean you aren't cast. Sometimes the Director already knows from auditions where they want to put you.

### **WHAT TO DO IF...**

- ❖ I have a conflict with auditions or call backs?
  - Contact the Director immediately through e-mail. Don't wait until the last minute. They can normally try to set up an audition a few days in advance.
  - If you are missing the initial audition day, they will often have you perform your monologue first on the day of call backs. Then if they need to see you ready anything you can be present for that.
  - If you are missing the day of call backs, the director might keep you a bit late after auditions to see you read sides with the Stage Manager or a fellow actor.
- ❖ I am called back for a character but I wanted another part?
  - There are no small parts. Make the best you can out of any part you are given. It may not be what you wanted, but the Director is looking to make the best cast possible and looking at a myriad of factors, from grade history to actor chemistry. If the opportunity arises to read for a part in Call Backs volunteer, but it's typically not a good practice to ask to read for what you want. Everyone would ask to read for the lead, if that was the case.
- ❖ I want to get information about why I didn't get cast or called back?
  - You can e-mail the director and set up a time to discuss the audition/call back. Typically, Directors won't talk to a parent about casting decisions until after they have talked to the student. We really want to promote a professional environment, where students can grow to be more independent. Meeting with your Director is welcomed. Everyone can learn and grow by getting feedback.

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