



TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL AUDITION

Whether this is your first time or your fifty-first time auditioning for a part in a play, these tips are designed to help you succeed.

- **BE PROFESSIONAL & COURTEOUS.** Your audition will start from the moment you step into the building. The person handing you an application will be evaluating you. If you have an attitude toward the person greeting you when you walk in, you can be sure that information will be passed along to the director. Remember, you are on stage the moment you step through the door. Be courteous and gracious, and **ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS thank the director(s)** for taking the time to see you!
- **BE ON TIME.** Show up at least 10 - 15 minutes before the audition is to start. This will give you an opportunity to be prepared. If you have a monologue prepared, you will have time to rehearse it quietly before your audition appointment. If you will be performing a “cold reading” (first time reading from the script) and “sides” (portions of the script) are made available, you may be able to use this extra time to familiarize yourself with the sides – a definite advantage! You will also have a chance to sit back and relax before the stress of the audition.
- **PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR DEMEANOR.** The way you dress and speak can make a difference. Be courteous to others, speak firmly and positively at all times. Make sure you are clean and well groomed. ***And don't forget to smile!*** It's ok and completely natural to be nervous – your directors know this. But it's never ok *not to be courteous*. Remember, directors know they will be working with their cast for the next 8 – 12 weeks, so they want to cast people who have a positive attitude who will be a pleasure to work with!
- **BE PREPARED.** ***KNOW THE SHOW YOU ARE AUDITIONING FOR!*** Research what the show is about, what the plot is, who the characters are, what the vocal ranges are (if a musical), which roles you feel you'd be most interested in, etc. etc. etc. If at all possible, **READ THE SCRIPT** before your audition. You will feel more confident and you will impress the directors with your knowledge and preparation. Remember: knowledge is power! ***If you have been asked to prepare a monologue or song for your audition, make sure you have had ample time to prepare and rehearse it – make sure it is as close to perfect as you feel it can be!*** Work with your acting, voice or dance instructor to make sure your audition piece(s) are in tip-top shape. **Choose a song that is from the style of show you for which you are auditioning. For example, if you are auditioning for *The Music Man*, don't choose a pop song as your audition piece!!**
- **BE HONEST & UP-FRONT.** Have your calendar with you and be up front about any possible conflicts with the shows run and rehearsal schedule. The director needs to know about conflicts before you audition, he will decide if he can work with your schedule during the audition. Once you do accept a part, the rehearsal schedule **IS CAST IN STONE**. You have made a commitment, you must meet it. If the conflict is going to prevent you from doing the show, you and everyone needs to know up front.
- **HAVE FUN AND LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCE!** Every audition, whether you end up getting cast or not, is a fantastic opportunity to learn and grow as a performer. If you are cast in the show, be gracious and professional. (No bragging allowed in the rules of Theatre Etiquette!) And remember to thank the director(s) for giving you the opportunity. If you aren't cast, don't take it personally. Remember, not every person who auditions may fit the director's vision for that particular production. Just use this time to get ready for the next audition – the perfect role is out there waiting for you!