

Print This Out and Read This Before You Audition for the Acting Program



By auditioning for Academy Theatre, you are considering a challenging course of study.

Every year the number of young people auditioning for spots in the acting and technical theatre programs increases. This information is being provided to better inform both student and parent as to what it means to be a theatre major at LVA. This program is very different than what would be experienced at a comprehensive high school. Please read the following information carefully and consider what it says before making the decision to audition/interview.

- Students in the theatre programs take their theatre class for two periods every day, as opposed to only one period in a comprehensive school. This means that we cover material at a more in-depth level.
- All students are required to read plays as part of their regular class work. This varies from two per nine weeks to as many as one a week at more advanced levels.
- All students are required to see all theatre productions that are performed at the Academy.
- All students are required to see productions that take place in the community; the number varies depending on the class level.
- Acting students are required to follow a dress code in class. This is basically an outfit comprised of black pants (sweat or jazz), a black t-shirt with no writing or officially sanctioned departmental dress-out shirt, and jazz or athletic shoes. Technical theatre students also have a dress code based on safety.
- All students are required to participate in the after school activities. They must participate in some way in at least two productions a year. Some must accumulate a minimum number of hours per quarter. This requirement makes up 20% of your grade.
- Acceptance into the Academy Theatre program requires deep commitment. Therefore, participation in outside theatre groups or like activities requires a written request to the faculty.
- All students must maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 and pass their theatre block with a B at semester. Failure to do this will result in return to their home school.
- Only students who are serious about theatre as an art and craft should audition.

The Audition

Once you decide to audition it is very important that you prepare well in advance of your audition date. Being prepared is the best way to be sure that you will show the faculty how talented you are. Students who come prepared will have a more successful audition.

Thoroughly read the requirements below, as well as the Hints For Success, and then begin immediately to prepare your audition.

Acting

1. Students must prepare a 30-second memorized monologue from a published play.

Hints For Success

- We have provided several monologues for you. You can download them by clicking the **Suggested Monologues** link on the audition page of the Academy Theatre website. You are welcome to choose one of them. They were selected because they are characters that you can easily understand, and are close to you in age and experience. They are also the right length.
- You may choose your own monologue, but make sure it is only 30 seconds long and that it fits you well. It is not a good idea for someone who is 13-14 years old to try and play a character who is 40.
- **MAKE SURE YOU MEMORIZE THE MONOLOGUE!** You will not be accepted if you come to the audition unprepared.
- Be sure that you think about the character. Just reciting memorized lines may not be enough to get you accepted. We are looking for creative theatre artists who are willing to work hard to create a character.
- It is important that we can hear you. Share your voice with the judges. Don't be timid or afraid. **BE CONFIDENT!**
- **DO NOT** use props or costumes for any part of your audition.

2. Students must present six memorized lines from the Lewis Carroll poem "Jabberwocky" performed with as much movement and creativity as possible.

Hints For Success

We have provided a copy of the poem at <http://vacademytheatre.org/auditions>. You may choose any six lines that you wish (**only 6 lines**). Memorize them, then decide how you can make yourself really stand out. How creative can you be? Use movement and vocal expression to interpret the lines in a unique and original way. There are no limits to what you can do here. We want to see how well you move and how creative you can be.

3. Students will sing 16 bars (measures) from a song of their choice that **MUST** be accompanied by music. Songs such as "Happy Birthday" are not acceptable.

Hints For Success

This is the requirement that scares many people, but singing will not count against your score; it can only help. If you do not consider yourself a singer, just do the best you can. It is more important that you be confident and try to "sell" the song, than that you hit every note perfectly. A song from a Broadway musical is always the best choice.

There are many songs now available with accompaniment CDs or media files that do not have the vocal track. You can get these from sources like iTunes or other online sources, or at local music stores. You may also have someone who plays the piano record your accompaniment. We have 1/8" input, iPod/iPhone dock and CD playback available. Be sure you know what track number it is if it's a CD. We will have a piano available if you wish to bring sheet music and someone to play for you.

WE DO NOT PROVIDE AN ACCOMPANIST. ONCE AGAIN, WE DO NOT PROVIDE AN ACCOMPANIST. ***If you are using live piano accompaniment, you must bring your own accompanist.***

Whatever you do, don't sing a capella (without accompaniment), and do not sing to a track that has a vocal track. It must be an accompaniment (minus) track.

General Hints For Actors

- Dress nicely for your audition. Choose something that allows you to move freely, yet looks neat and clean. Wear shoes that allow you to move. Don't wear revealing clothing. Be sensible.
- Prepare a short introduction in which you introduce yourself and the school you are currently attending. Don't worry about naming the pieces you are going to do. Smile and let your personality shine through.
- Present your pieces in the order they are listed in the requirements.

We caution everyone that students who do not follow these instructions, or are unprepared for this audition, will not be considered.

Some final advice...

Be yourself. You could potentially be spending your high school years as a student with us. We want to know you as a person, so we can best place you and encourage your talents.

Put effort into preparing this audition. We are looking for students who want to be a part of the Academy Theatre, and you show us that you are that person when you are confident and well prepared. If you take this audition seriously, we will take you seriously.

Audition Dates and Times

See <http://lvacademytheatre.org> and click on the link at the top of the page that says HOW TO AUDITION FOR THE LAS VEGAS ACADEMY THEATRE DEPARTMENT for the most current and correct audition dates and times.

Latecomers will not be allowed to audition. **YOU MUST BE ON TIME OR EARLY!**

For extra help with your preparation, be sure to attend the Thespian Audition Workshop in December. You will find more information for that workshop on the same web page.

Break a Leg!