

Acting Audition Guidelines

How to apply:

To apply for the acting program, applicants should **select two contrasting monologues to perform**, no more than two minutes in TOTAL length (including the time between monologues). Auditions will be video recorded live and sent to judges for scoring at a later date.

Audition Guidelines and Monologue Selection:

OAI staff will video record monologues from contrasting perspectives. (i.e. One monologue will be shot with a wide angle so judges can better assess body movements, and one monologue will be shot close up so judges can better assess facial expressions.) You can choose the preferred angle and order of the two monologues, but **the entire audition will be recorded in a single take.** (i.e. The video recording will not be paused in between monologues.) A chair will be provided, but no other props or costumes are allowed.

When selecting your monologues, please keep the following in mind:

- Monologues must be memorized.
- Monologues are limited to one character each and should be delivered in your natural voice (i.e. no character accents).
- Select active monologues (i.e. your characters want something from someone). Try to avoid monologues that simply tell a story.
- At least one monologue must be from a contemporary play (20th century – present). Examples of contrasting monologues: one classical and one contemporary OR one comedic and one dramatic.
- The two monologues do NOT have to be of equal length. For example, one monologue could be 90 seconds, and the other monologue could be 30 seconds. Please practice timing your monologues to ensure you don't run over the two-minute limit.
- Choose monologues that mean something to you or are relatable to you. Monologues should be suitable to your own age and range of experience. You are strongly encouraged to choose monologues by characters whose ages fall between preteen and very early 20s. If you select a monologue that is not suitable to your age, it could damage the believability of your piece, which is a criterion used in scoring your performance.
- Monologues must be from published plays. Monologues from a monologue book, monologues published on the internet, and monologues written for film or TV are

NOT recommended. Monologues written by D. M. Larson are NOT advisable. Likewise, monologues from the following plays are historically overdone during OSAI auditions, and applicants are strongly discouraged from performing them: *CSI Neverland*, *Our Town*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

- If you have questions about the appropriateness of your selected monologues, please call the OAI office at 405.605.7500.

What to Expect at Your Audition:

Because OSAI is an educational program, not a casting call, this audition will be different from other audition experiences you may have had.

- A camera operator and a facilitator will be in the audition room, but they will not be scoring the auditions. Auditions will be video recorded live and sent to judges for scoring at a later date. Judges will NOT be present at the audition.
- Before you begin, you will state the two monologues you will be performing in order (including character names and titles of plays). Then, you will begin performing your monologues.
- Remember that the monologues will be video recorded from contrasting camera perspectives (one close up and one wide angle), so you are encouraged to rehearse accordingly.
- As soon as you start your first monologue, the facilitator will begin timing, and you will have a total of two minutes to complete both monologues. If you should go over the two-minute mark, the facilitator will stop you, but you won't be penalized.
- After you have completed your monologues, the facilitator will give you a direction (an adjustment to make to one of the monologues). You will then perform that monologue again, incorporating the instruction given to you by the facilitator.

Audition Tips:

- Read the entire play from which you are performing. This way, you know the events leading up to the monologue and will have a better understanding of what you're saying and why you're saying it.
- Rehearse your monologues out loud. A friend or family member can help you memorize by following along with the script while you recite it.



- Note moments in the monologue where something changes, such as a new idea or shift in mood. You should try and determine why these “beat changes” are happening.
- Engage your body and voice so you are expressing what your character is doing and feeling. Your pace should be appropriate to the piece. Speak clearly and at a volume at which you can be heard.
- While performing, find a focal point behind the camera so the judges can see your face, but don't look directly into the camera.
- Wear clothing appropriate for an audition:
 - **DO** wear comfortable, neutral attire. A simple, solid-colored shirt, jeans, pants, or a long skirt, and flats or sneakers are recommended.
 - **DON'T** wear garments that distract from your performance. Bulky coats, high heels, or other clothing that inhibit your movement are strongly discouraged. Examples of inappropriate audition attire include garments that are graphic, shredded, torn, too revealing, or too tight (e.g., crop tops, ripped jeans, shirts with characters/logos/words, or short shorts/skirts).

Judging Criteria:

Please note: Acting judges must see you in order to score your audition, but they will have no other identifying information about you.

Characterization – 30%

To what extent does the applicant connect emotionally with the character in a believable manner and have clear objectives and choices?

Vocal Quality – 15%

To what extent does the applicant demonstrate facility with projection, articulation, and vocal variety?

Physicality – 15%

To what extent is the applicant's body and movement integrated into the characterization in a believable and expressive manner, with clear staging and purpose?

Professionalism – 20%

To what extent does the applicant appear prepared for the audition and follow requirements?

Potential – 20%

To what extent does the applicant show artistic potential and confidence?

[Read general information about our adjudication procedures here.](#)