

# Audition Tips

Auditioning for an OCC production, or any production, can be a nerve racking and scary experience. Here are a few tips to help with that process.

If you have never auditioned before, here is what to expect. You will arrive to the college and enter the lobby in front of the theater. There will be a table where you will sign in and fill out a couple of forms. Once that is completed, you will wait until your name is called.

Someone will walk you into the theater and introduce you to the audition committee. There will be a little small talk. You will head to the piano, which is on stage, and give the pianist your music. Tell the pianist where you want to start and what tempo you would like the song played. (you can quietly sing it in their ear) You will now head center stage and sing your 16 measures. You will next be asked to sing a scale with the piano. This is to see your vocal range.

When that is complete, you will read for the character you have chosen. Someone will come on stage and read opposite you. When you are finished, you will walk back out the way you came.

Occasionally, the audition committee will ask you a few questions or ask you to read for someone else.

## Tips

- **Prepare!!! Practice, practice, practice!**
- Pick out a song that showcases you but realize you will be nervous so do not push your vocal range too much. You love “Wicked.” We love “Wicked.” Do not sing a song from “Wicked” unless you have a big, big voice. We love “Hamilton.” You love “Hamilton.” Rapping when you are auditioning for a character that sings a ballad is not your best bet.
- Dress nice. Make a great first impression.
- Often, actors read from a script in the audition, so memorizing is not expected.
- When doing your read, be the character.

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- Practice songs with the piano track. If you do not have someone who can rehearse with you, search on youtube for the piano track.
- Learn as much as you can about the show story. Learn as much as you can about the character you are auditioning for. The internet is truly a wealth of information when it comes to shows. Use it!
- Look for a song that fits you but also fits the character you are auditioning for. Let the audition committee see you as that character.
- Have someone read opposite you several times before hand. A friend, spouse, co-worker, anyone.
- The nature of theatre auditioning is disappointment. If you cannot handle disappointment, theatre may not be for you. 10 people are auditioning for 1 part. Obviously, only one person will get that part. If you receive a part in the show, you will probably fall in love with your role.