September 2012

Hi, Class of 2013!

It is easy to get overwhelmed this year, but there is no need to become frantic about the college audition process. I’ve included some questions to guide you and hope you find this helpful.

**Questions to ask when planning your college auditions:**

*Application Process*

Does the school use the Common Application?

Is there a separate application for the main university and conservatory (such as The Hartt School at The University of Hartford or Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University)? If so…

Are there two application fees?

Do I need to write additional essays or ask for more letters of recommendation?

Who is writing my letters of recommendation? Did I remember to give them deadlines, my resume for their reference, and thank-you notes for their trouble?

Do I qualify for an application fee waiver (a letter from a teacher, guidance counselor, or principal attesting to financial hardship is often sufficient evidence if this option is available)?

By when should I apply in order to audition on the date I want?

*Audition Scheduling*

When and how am I able to schedule my audition?

Is there a pre-screening process, such as a mail-in DVD?

How am I getting to/from my audition? Is anyone else I know auditioning the same day so we can car-pool?

If the school is far away, does it participate in Unified Theatre Auditions or allow mail-in DVDs or uploaded videos?

Am I able to attend a later audition date if my scheduled audition is cancelled due to inclement weather?

Are there any special scholarship options requiring an additional application and/or audition?

*Audition Preparation*

What kind of song or songs should I prepare (including number, length, style, era, etc.)?

What should I wear to my audition?

Is there also a dance audition? If so, what should I wear to my dance audition?

Will I be asked to sight-sing, sight-read, play piano, or take music-theory or ear-training tests? If so, are these for ADMISSION or for PLACEMENT?

Will an accompanist be provided for me? If so, do I need to pay for this service?

Do I need to mark my sheet music with 16 & 32-bar cut-offs?

Do I need to bring an accompaniment track and sound system?

Do I need to bring a performance resume?

Do I need to bring a headshot?

Do I need to bring a repertoire list?

Who interviewed me (I’d like to send them a thank-you note)?

**Sample Audition Organization Chart**

Feel free to use the attached template or make your own! Either way, you must have some sort of plan in writing. I am happy to set up and maintain a working googledoc so we can collaborate on this. I filled in The Hartt School as an example of the information you will want to collect in your search.

**Speaking of Collaborating…**

Please feel free to contact me for help on this process. I’m always happy to proofread essays, help with resume formatting, or even watch a video of an audition song you have in the works. If we communicate enough, I’ll even know enough about you to write a recommendation letter!

**Contact information:**

Home:

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School:

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**APPLY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP NOW:**

http://www.youngarts.org/apply

You need to include two contrasting songs and one monologue on a DVD. This is great practice for college auditions and a fabulous opportunity- but don’t procrastinate! I’m happy to help you.

Have a fantastic senior year!

Alison