

HOPE THEATRE DEPARTMENT

DAA AUDITION GUIDELINES

The purpose of the DAA audition is to offer you an opportunity to tell us something about yourself as a performer, an artist and a person.

An *ideal* audition will include **two contrasting monologues**, each one not more than two minutes in length. One of these may be a song; or, a song may be done in addition to the two monologues. The song should not be longer than one minute and can be as short as sixteen bars.

We will provide an accompanist for those singing. If possible, please send a copy of your music in advance!

If, for some reason, you are not able to prepare two selections, we will be happy to have you present only one.

NOTE: The total audition should be no more than 5 minutes.

It may be a good idea to seek the help of a drama coach for guidance in finding appropriate material and preparing the audition.

Following is a checklist of some things to keep in mind.

1. Try to choose selections that are relatively close to your own age and life experience. Generally, characters of old age are not good choices.
2. Avoid selections that demand extreme use of accents or dialects.
3. Avoid gimmicky selections that are dependent on tricky staging, props and/or costumes. A simple chair will be provided in the audition space.
4. There are several ways in which the selections can be considered contrasting: modern vs. period; comic vs. serious; prosaic vs. poetic; realistic vs. stylized. You can also look to the rhythms of the characters involved to find contrasting qualities.
5. Do not explain the selection or "set it up" by giving a background to the scene. Simply introduce yourself and tell us what you will be doing. Example: "My name is Robert de Niro. I will do a monologue from *The Matchmaker* by Thornton Wilder, Hamlet's "Advice to the Players" speech, and a song from *Paint Your Wagon*." When you are finished, simply smile and say "Thank you!"
6. If you plan to sing using a tape or CD accompaniment, please avoid using one which already provides a singer.
7. Each audition will be video taped.

A final word of advice: *Take your time, have fun and enjoy yourself!!!!*