

## **A Few Helpful Tips for Auditioning!!**

### **1. Know the Material**

Having your lines down pat is key in ensuring a successful audition. Practice them day and night until they are engrained in your brain. Apart from simply knowing the lines of the scene you'll be performing, make sure you know the play in its entirety, too - at least the storyline of the character for which you're auditioning. This will help you better understand your specific scene and help you commit to characteristic choices for your part.

### **2. Practice on a Stage**

Reading lines off a piece of paper in your bedroom is definitely something you should do in the beginning stages of practicing for your audition. Once you've got those lines down practice on an actual stage if you can. You don't want to look like a deer in the headlights once you step on stage for your actual audition. Practicing under similar conditions to the actual audition will help!

### **3. Recruit a Partner**

Performing a monologue is intimidating, to say the least. Even seasoned theater performers get a bit nervous at the mention of the word. Rather than going into the audition alone, choose a scene that requires you to work with a partner – OR choose someone to practice with! It will make the whole process so much easier knowing you have someone by your side. But be careful of who you pick. You shouldn't enlist your bestie who doesn't care about being in the play just because they're the easiest choice. Instead, reach out to a fellow auditionee who will take it seriously.

### **4. Don't Dwell on Mistakes**

If you flub a line or take a small stumble, don't let it get to you. The best thing to do in those types of situations is keep going. Sure the director is watching for how well you know the lines, but that's not the only thing that matters. They also want to know that like any good actor you can improvise if the situation calls for it. Seamlessly coming back from a mistake is sure to make you stand out.

### **5. Be the First to Audition**

This is one of the oldest tricks in the book, but it's always best to audition in one of the first time slots. Normally the best is saved for last, but that is *not* the case when it comes to the audition process. Directors often know immediately who is right for the role based off of one stellar audition. If that person goes before you, well you're probably not going to get the part you initially wanted.

### **6. Have Confidence**

The most important part about the whole audition process is believing in yourself. Know that you did your very best and you left it all on that stage. Whether you get the part or not, be proud of the fact that you put yourself out there.

### **7. Be Kind to Everyone and Smile**

Remember that your audition for every show begins the moment you walk in the door. You may be perfect in the audition room, but rudeness or misbehavior in the lobby will be noticed.

### **8. Be on Time for Your Appointment**

Arrive early and MAKE SURE all of your paperwork is filled out in advance. This includes all conflicts.

### **9. Use Your Waiting Time Wisely**

It is great to see old friends and make new ones at an audition, but be sure to take some time to focus on your audition. In fact, one of the best pieces of advice I've heard is to isolate yourself from others, but do a different task than running lines. This will just make you nervous. Instead, read a book, play a game, do something that takes your focus, but won't add to anxiety. If you have adequately prepared for the audition, this is truly your best use of time.

### **10. Dress Appropriately**

We often always ask that actors come dressed for movement. This means you should dress in clothes that are comfortable and will not impede your movement, but still be neat, clean and nice looking.

### **11. Don't Watch the Directors**

While doing your audition, do not look directly at the people you are auditioning for, unless specifically directed to do so.

### **12. It's OK to be Nervous.**

Don't worry about being nervous. Just about everyone is nervous. Do your best to smile and have a good time. Just remember that everyone making the decisions want you to be amazing. They are automatically on your side!