# Youth Auditions at The Rose

We want to share some information that will help you and your child prepare for and understand the audition process for a mainstage show at The Rose Theater. Specific questions may always be addressed in an email to [auditions@rosetheater.org](mailto:auditions@rosetheater.org). We ask that you do not contact our box office with audition related questions.

# Know Before You Go

(For Every Show)

* Read the audition announcement because it will have specific instructions about what to prepare and the age range for the actors we are looking for. Always make sure your child is wearing comfortable clothes that allow them to freely move. If applicable, specific dance wear will be indicated in the audition announcement.
* Look over the audition announcement for the time frame during which performances and rehearsals take place. Bring specific rehearsal conflicts (dates and times) with you to the auditions. Offers have been withdrawn in the past for youth artists who have more conflicts than those listed at the time of the audition.
* *You will need to be prepared to have someone wait with your child during the audition process.* The Rose Theater is unable to provide supervision, so dropping off your child and returning when they are finished is heavily discouraged.
* Arrive with your child at least 10 minutes before their audition in order to fill out paperwork.
* If your child has a headshot and resume, please bring those, though they are not required.
* Auditions may last several hours, so be prepared to wait with your child. Parents are not allowed to view auditions so that we are able to closely approximate rehearsal conditions.

(If The Show is a Musical)

* Your child should come prepared to sing 16-24 measures of a song that highlights their voice.
* The song does not need to be a song from the musical they are auditioning for.
* Bring sheet music for the song so that the accompanist provided can help your child. We need to hear how well your child follows live accompaniment, so this is an important point to emphasize. Plenty of websites provide sheet music for popular songs your child might know.
* Your child may also sing acapella (without accompaniment), though this does not allow us to make an accurate judgment on how well they follow live accompaniment and is discouraged.
* Your child will be taught a dance by our choreographer at the audition so need to prepare a dance ahead of time.

# The Audition Experience for Youth Artists

* Depending on what the audition announcement asks youth artists to prepare, your child will likely do one or a combination of the following: read directly from the show’s script, perform a monologue, perform a song, be taught a dance combination as part of a group.
* In the audition room, your child will perform for the show’s director and, if applicable, an accompanist, music director, and/or choreographer.
* Some youth artists will be released without being asked to stay and dance or sing (if the show is a musical). This does not mean they aren’t cast.
* Nerves are a natural part of performing, so encourage your child to accept that. We always give youth artists the chance to try again if they “mess up”, so there is very little pressure on them.

# Callbacks and Next Steps

* Callbacks are follow-up auditions that help directors make final casting decisions. If your child is called back, a member of the production team will call or email with an invitation prior to the scheduled callback date, which is always listed on the audition announcement.
* Not everyone will be called back. You will usually know within a few days if your child is called back for a particular show. If not called back, it is appropriate to discuss with your child the fact that they will likely not be asked to participate in that show. *We do not always call or write to let you know that your child has not been cast.*
* If your youth artist is not cast in a production, they may still have had a very successful audition, but we might have been looking for a different kind of performer for a particular role. Often times, great actors are not cast because they are just not what a director envisioned for a specific role. *Your child should always keep trying out if they are interested in theatre!*

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