



The Ten Most Frequently Asked Questions About Auditions and Classes!

1. What happens at auditions?

Auditions happen the first two days of each session. They are fun and informal. They are an opportunity for us to meet each other, and for us to find out more about you and your preferences. When you first get to camp, there will be an all-camp meeting to say hello, then people will separate into audition workshop groups. At these workshops, directors and musical directors will introduce you to the audition scenes and give you a chance to practice your music.

The same musical director who helps you at this workshop will be the one who plays at your actual audition. You will already know each other and have had a chance to chat about your music and the best choices for you. Forgot your music? We find copies for you! Audition groups are separated by age and what dorm you live in. At the workshop, you choose a partner to read a scene with. If you haven't already met a friend or room mate, the directors will help you meet someone and go over the scene with you and your partner. Everyone reads the same scene. It is short and easy...a scene between two people your own age in a common situation. Lots of practice time! You will fill out an "audition sheet" and be assigned a number. Then...

Time to Audition! We request no platform or flip flop shoes, no hats, no acting "accents" please! Be Yourself!

First, you will walk on stage with your partner and **read** the scene together. **READ, DO NOT MEMORIZE!** Then, if you are trying for Musicals or Either, you and your partner will take turns singing the 16 bars (**with the piano**) that you have rehearsed with the musical director during your workshop. Your partner is always with you. It's fun! You're on stage, in a theater. There are adult stage managers with you to help. If you need to, you start over. Only the casting committee is watching (no other kids) and they are excited to meet you and discover your talent.

2. What if I can't sing (or dance)?

Everyone is at Stagedoor to learn. This is your chance to try things you've never done before, with others who are doing the same thing! For those who don't WANT to sing and dance, there are drama productions that don't require either. **BUT** if you WANT to do a musical, and feel inexperienced, **GO FOR IT!** Dancers, especially, are often reluctant to sing. **If you want to do a musical, you MUST sing at the auditions, even if it is "Happy Birthday".** Talk to the musical director at the workshop. They are there to help. This is **YOUR** chance to follow a dream. **MANY** non-dancers choose musicals and pick up skills during the rehearsals. Remember there are **ALL** levels of talent and experience at Stagedoor. No one is judging you! We will **ALL** grow together, helping each other.

3. What song should I sing?

There is no right or wrong answer to this question. **We request that you choose a song from musical theater or a musical movie. No opera or radio pop songs.** After that, everyone is on their own. Choose a song that shows off your voice, is appropriate to your age, and suits your personality. You should **LOVE** your song and feel good singing it. It is important that **YOU** understand the song you are singing, and tell the story as you sing. **You may choose 16 bars to show us your voice.** If you can't hit the big note at the end, don't go there. If you can, be sure your 16 bars takes you that far. **BRING SHEET MUSIC WITH YOU IN THE CORRECT KEY if possible.** If you don't have it, we have a large music library on campus and can help you find what you need. If you come unprepared, but decide to sing anyway, **IT'S OK!** We will help you choose something! We want **YOU** to have every opportunity to follow your dream.

4. What if I'm not sure if I want musical or drama?

Before auditions, you will fill out an "audition sheet" that tells us who you are. On this sheet, you get to choose if you want to perform in **MUSICALS, DRAMAS, or EITHER.** Choosing **EITHER** means you can't decide between musicals and non-musicals and that you would be happy with either choice. **PLEASE think about this decision!** Many people who really WANT to do musicals put **EITHER** because they are afraid or feel unprepared to sing or dance...remember you are here to do what **YOU** dream of doing! **Follow your heart.** Some people do musicals all the time at home and look forward to the chance to try something different, or dance constantly at home and want to concentrate on their acting. Many come from school programs that don't offer musicals and are eager to try one. **MOST IMPORTANT, do what you REALLY want to do. WE HONOR YOUR CHOICE AND PUT YOU IN THE TYPE OF SHOW YOU REQUEST!! EVERYONE IS CAST IN A SHOW!**

5. What is OTC or Our Time Cabaret?

Our Time Cabaret is a **Musical Master Class** that rehearses 2 hours every day. This means that those who are in the group give up 2 other classes to participate. The class creates a one hour revue style show that performs for the entire camp, and on show weekends for parents. **It is a long-time tradition at Stagedoor and requires the ability to learn much musical and movement material in addition to your primary production.** Some students perform in dramas, but sing in OTC. Call backs for OTC are pulled from the general auditions, then there is a singing and dancing audition at the call back. The list of those chosen (about 30) is posted the next day. **There is no age requirement for Our Time Cabaret.**

6. What is Players Ensemble?

Players Ensemble is the **DRAMA (non-musical)** equivalent of Our Time Cabaret. The group creates a one hour show that is performed for the entire camp and on show weekends for parents. **The material is sometimes created by the members and involves improvisation.** It rehearses 2 hours each day, so students give up 2 other classes to participate. Call backs for the Players Ensemble come from the general auditions. After an improve-based call back, the list is posted the next day. Players Ensemble is limited to 16 people who are mature and committed. **The age requirement for Players is 14 plus.**

7. When and how do I choose my classes?

Everyone signs up for classes during the first two days of camp. You will sit down, one on one, with a member of the education department and arrange your schedule. There are many classes at the same time each day, so you might need to make choices. Stagedoor keeps classes small, so you might find another section of the same class in a different time slot. **If you feel you've made a mistake, or regret a choice, you will have the opportunity to change.** We require that you attend at least ONE time slot of the initial classes you have chosen BEFORE you drop or change. There are 4 classes each day. One schedule Mon/Wed/Fri, another Tues/Thurs/Sat. This means you will have 8 time slots total for classes. Classes are held the first two weeks, with the third week being technical and dress week. It may sound confusing, but remember that a member of the education department will help you understand your choices, answer your questions, and give you the chance to make changes. **We encourage you to try things you've never done before!**

8. What about Master Classes?

Master Classes are for the more experienced or mature students who want to be challenged. There are Master Classes offered in Acting, Dance, Voice, Stage Combat, and Movie Making. **ALL these classes require an additional audition.** If you hope to get into a Master Class, you sign up for it and attend the first time slot. **During the first class, there will be an additional audition.** Lists go up the next day. Those who do NOT make it in to Master Classes will need to choose an alternate schedule of classes. **You may try again next session after directors see your performances!** Most Masters have age requirements: Master Acting 15+/Master Voice 13+/Movie Making 13+. Master Dance is based on the dance auditions. Master Stage Combat: Previous stage combat classes and entry is at the discretion of the instructor.

9. How do Dance Auditions work?

Separate Dance Auditions happen the first two days, and have 2 functions: Levels for classes are decided at auditions, AND dancers are looked at for placement in shows. **Those who want to take BEGINNING (level ONE) dance classes do not need to audition.** Those who feel they belong in Level Two and Three classes must audition for placement. The level you dance in at home may not be the same level at Stagedoor. There is no solo dancing during the audition. Groups are taught a combination in Jazz, Ballet, or Tap and have several opportunities to perform. **BRING SHOES WITH YOU FOR THE STYLES AND CLASSES YOU WANT TO AUDITION FOR.** Your level may change after the first couple of classes.

10. What shows will you be doing?

Part of the fun at Stagedoor is NOT knowing what shows will be produced until the cast lists go up!! **This is the ONLY place in the world that looks at the actors first and THEN chooses the shows!** The VIP SHEET you are getting ready to mail back to us is indeed a **VERY Important Paper.** We read every sheet...see what the kids from each different session are interested in...and then select a "pool" of shows matching the preferences indicated on your VIP Sheets. **FINAL decisions on shows are not made until the auditions are OVER!** Your first rehearsal will happen the third morning you are at camp. You will have a general meeting to meet the directors, announce the shows, and then cast lists go up! 15 minutes later.... **you will be rehearsing your new show!**

We hope this answers some of your questions! Get ready for the best summer of your life!

See You At Stagedoor This Summer!