

Stagebugz Theatre

Audition Guide

Spring 2025

Audition Tips!

1. Selecting Songs and/or Monologues

- a. Remember that selecting material is not meant to be stressful, and your directors want to see the material YOU love! This style of audition is meant to allow actors more freedom to perform something they are comfortable with.
- b. Choose material you will be excited to perform! Auditions can be nervewracking; the easiest way to calm nerves is to choose something you are comfortable with AND that you love doing!
- c. Look for something in the style of the show so the casting team can see what strengths you'll bring to this particular production. Or, if there's a specific role you're hoping to play, you may want to consider something that fits that character. For example, if you want to play the villain, you might try a song or monologue performed by a villain from another show.
- d. Find something that shows your range. You want to show the directors as much as you can in a short audition, so you can look for monologues with several different emotions or songs that demonstrate your vocal range. You can always cut lines out of a longer monologue to include just your favorite parts, or select the best 60-seconds of a longer song.

2. Preparation

- a. Memorization is great, but it's the least important part of your audition! Spend your time thinking deeper about your character and the story you're telling instead of on trying to memorize it perfectly. If you need to look at it during your audition, that's okay!
- b. For songs and monologues, make sure you can answer these basic questions about your character. Reading or watching the source material* (this means the play/musical/movie your material came from) can be super helpful, as you want to understand the context of your piece! If you can't find the source material or it doesn't provide answers, you can make up answers to these questions.
 - i. Who are they? How are they similar or different from you, and how can you portray this through your voice and/or body language?
 - ii. Who are they talking (or singing) to? How do they feel about this person?
 - iii. What do they want from the person they're talking to? This is called your *objective*.
 1. What will happen if they don't get what they want? These are called *stakes*.
 - iv. What do they do to get their objective? These are called *tactics*, and they are actions your character does to another character to get what they want (i.e. to beg, to convince, to alarm, to excite, to encourage, to guilt, to trick, etc.).
 - v. What has happened so far that led to your character delivering this song or monologue?

*Please note, while all the suggestions below are PG, some of the source material deals with more mature themes. Parents are encouraged to review the play or musical before allowing your performer to read it.

- c. Prepare enough that you feel comfortable, but don't overprepare or stress out! Your directors just want to get to know you and your strengths better; Stagebugz auditions are not a test or a competition!

3. Performance

- a. Start your performance with a slate, or an introduction of yourself. Tell us your name, age, and what you will be performing!

- b. It's valid and totally normal to be nervous! Just remember that we are there to support you, and we want you to do great. If you need a little bit of time to get comfortable, or you mess up and want to start over, that's okay!
- c. You're welcome to bring in your monologue or lyrics, but make sure to hold it low enough that we can see your face! If you need to read off the page, instead of burying your face in the paper, take a look at your next line, look up, deliver it, and then look at your next line.
- d. The most important thing we (and many directors) are looking for in an audition is your stage presence- what makes you, you! If you're singing, we want to see you acting at the same time! If you're acting, really commit to your character!
- e. Most importantly, have fun! Think of an audition not as something stressful, but as an opportunity to perform and do what you love!

Material Suggestions

The below songs and monologues are some suggestions for actors who would like some help finding material that fits them. This is by no means an exhaustive list; you are welcome to perform any other material you would like if you don't find something here or already had a piece in mind!

*Please note, monologues can be changed to fit any gender or age, so don't feel restricted if there is one you love but the character is different from you. Songs can be as well, though you may need to sing it up or down an octave to make sure it fits your range and you don't have to strain your voice!

Songs– All Ages and Voice Types

These are songs typically sung by an ensemble of varying ages and voice types, and you can easily find a verse or harmony that feels most comfortable in your voice. These are great options for performers who are unsure what their voice type is or who would like to be considered for a wide range of roles!

- "Alone In The Universe" from *Seussical*
- "Do Re Mi" from *The Sound of Music*
- "If Only You Would Listen" from *School of Rock*
- "I Whistle A Happy Tune" from *The King And I*
- "I Won't Grow Up" from *Peter Pan*
- "No One Is Alone" from *Into the Woods*
- "Somewhere Hovering Over Indiana" from *A Christmas Story*
- "Story of My Life" from *Shrek*
- "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" from *Mary Poppins*
- "The Candy Man" from *Willy Wonka*
- "Watch What Happens" from *Newsies*
- "When I Grow Up" from *Matilda*

***Performers are also welcome to sing a favorite Christmas song instead of choosing a song from a musical!

Songs– Treble Voices, Uptempo, Younger Performers

These suggestions best fit singers with a higher vocal range, generally females. They are traditionally sung on stage by kids and are written specifically to showcase younger voices. Uptempo songs are light and fun, and they are a great way to show off your stage presence and comedic chops!

- "A Little Bit of You" from *Frozen*
- "Born To Entertain" from *Ruthless*
- "Come to the Fun Home" from *Fun Home*

- “Do You Wanna Build A Snowman?” from *Frozen*
- “Hard Knock Life” from *Annie*
- “I Know It’s Today” from *Shrek*
- “I Want It Now” from *Willy Wonka*
- “I Know Things Now” from *Into the Woods*
- “It’s Possible” from *Seussical*
- “Let Me Entertain You” from *Gypsy*
- “Naughty” from *Matilda*
- “Perfect Nanny” from *Mary Poppins*
- “Tomorrow” from *Annie*

Songs– Treble Voices, Uptempo, Older Performers

These suggestions best fit singers with a higher vocal range, generally females. They may be more technically difficult or utilize a wider range to showcase older or more developed voices. Uptempo songs are light and fun, and they are a great way to show off your stage presence and comedic chops!

- “Astonishing” from *Little Women*
- “In My Own Little Corner” from *Cinderella*
- “Gimme Gimme” from *Thoroughly Modern Millie*
- “Good Morning Baltimore” from *Hairspray*
- “I Speak Six Languages” from *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*
- “Little Girls” from *Annie*
- “Matchmaker” from *Fiddler on the Roof*
- “My New Philosophy” from *You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown*
- “People Will Say We’re In Love” from *Oklahoma*
- “Popular” from *Wicked*
- “Pulled” from *The Addams Family*
- “Put On A Happy Face” from *Bye, Bye Birdie*
- “Shy” from *Once Upon A Mattress*
- “Sixteen Going on Seventeen” from *The Sound of Music*
- “Stupid With Love” from *Mean Girls*
- “Wouldn’t It Be Lovely?” from *My Fair Lady*

Songs– Treble Voices, Ballad, Younger Performers

These suggestions best fit singers with a higher vocal range, generally females. They are traditionally sung on stage by kids and are written specifically to showcase younger voices. Ballad songs are slower and more heartfelt, and they are a great way to show off your acting skills!

- “Castle On A Cloud” from *Les Miserables*
- “Everlasting” from *Tuck Everlasting*
- “Goodnight My Someone” from *The Music Man*
- “Let Me Sing and I’m Happy” from *White Christmas*
- “Maybe” from *Annie*
- “Once Upon A December” from *Anastasia*
- “Part of Your World” from *The Little Mermaid*
- “Quiet” from *Matilda*
- “Santa For A Day” from *How The Grinch Stole Christmas, The Musical*
- “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” from *The Wizard of Oz*
- “The Girl I Mean To Be” from *The Secret Garden*

- “The Sound of Music” from *The Sound of Music*
- “What It Means to be A Friend” from *13, The Musical*

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- “Being Mrs. Banks” from *Mary Poppins*
- “Climb Every Mountain” from *The Sound of Music*
- “Dead Mom” from *Beetlejuice*
- “Far From the Home I Love” from *Fiddler on the Roof*
- “Home” from *Beauty and the Beast*
- “If I Loved You” from *Carousel*
- “I’m Not That Girl” from *Wicked*
- “Ireland” from *Legally Blonde*
- “Just Breathe” from *The Prom*
- “Just Pretend” from *Mrs. Doubtfire*
- “My White Knight” from *The Music Man*
- “On My Own” from *Les Miserables*
- “Requiem” from *Dear Evan Hansen*
- “The Earth and Other Minor Things” from *Gigi*
- “What I Did For Love” from *A Chorus Line*
- “What’s Wrong With Me” from *Mean Girls*
- “Worse Things I Could Do” from *Grease*

Songs– Bass Voices, Uptempo, Younger Performers

These suggestions best fit singers with a lower vocal range, generally males. They are traditionally sung on stage by kids and are written specifically to showcase younger voices or unchanged male voices. Uptempo songs are light and fun, and they are a great way to show off your stage presence and comedic chops!

- “A Million Dreams” from *The Greatest Showman*
- “Bare Necessities” from *The Jungle Book*
- “Come to the Fun Home” from *Fun Home*
- “Gary Indiana” from *The Music Man*
- “Giants In The Sky” from *Into the Woods*
- “I Just Can’t Wait To Be King” from *The Lion King*
- “I’ve Gotta Crow” from *Peter Pan*
- “Little People” from *Les Miserables*
- “Name in Lights” from *The Boy From Oz*
- “Partner In Crime” from *Tuck Everlasting*
- “Perfect Nanny” from *Mary Poppins*
- “She’s In Love” from *The Little Mermaid*
- “Who Will Buy” from *Oliver!*

Songs– Bass Voices, Uptempo, Older Performers

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- “Consider Yourself” from *Oliver!*
- “Dancing Through Life” from *Wicked*
- “Friend Like Me” from *Aladin*
- “Gaston” from *Beauty and the Beast*
- “How Can Love Survive?” from *The Sound of Music*
- “I Can Do That” from *A Chorus Line*
- “If I Were A Rich Man” from *Fiddler on the Roof*
- “Jolly Holiday” from *Mary Poppins*
- “Marian the Librarian” from *The Music Man*
- “Oh, What A Beautiful Morning” from *Oklahoma*
- “Sit Down, You’re Rocking the Boat” from *Guys and Dolls*
- “Sixteen Going on Seventeen” from *The Sound of Music*
- “Stop” from *Mean Girls*
- “Tonight” from *West Side Story*
- “Wick” from *The Secret Garden*
- “Without Love” from *Hairspray*

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- “Electricity” from *Billy Elliot*
- “Getting Tall” from *Nine*
- “Never, Neverland” from *Peter Pan*
- “Not While I’m Around” from *Sweeney Todd*
- “My Best Girl” from *Mame*
- “Round-Shouldered Man” from *The Secret Garden*
- “Tell Her” from *13, The Musical*
- “The Middle of a Moment” from *James and the Giant Peach*
- “When Christmas Comes To Town” from *The Polar Express*
- “Where Is Love” from *Oliver!*

Songs– Bass Voices, Ballad, Older Performers

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- “Different” from *Honk!*
- “Empty Chairs and Empty Tables” from *Les Miserables*
- “Pure Imagination” from *Willy Wonka*
- “Proud Of your Boy” from *Aladdin*
- “Mr. Cellophane” from *Chicago*
- “Santa Fe” from *Newsies*
- “Seventeen” from *Tuck Everlasting*
- “Stranded At The Drive-In” from *Grease*
- “Maria” from *West Side Story*
- “Something There” from *Beauty an the Beast*
- “Take A Chance On Me” from *Little Women*

- “Ten Minutes Ago” from *Cinderella*
- “Waving Through a Window” from *Dear Evan Hansen*
- “When Words Fail” from *Shrek*

Monologues– Kids

It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown by Charles Schultz

SALLY: I was robbed! I spent the whole night waiting for the Great Pumpkin when I could have been out for tricks or treats! Halloween is over and I missed it! You blockhead! You kept me up all night waiting for the Great Pumpkin and all that came was a beagle! I didn't get a chance to go out for tricks or treats! And it was all your fault! I'll sue! What a fool I was. And could have had candy apples and gum! And cookies and money and all sorts of things! But no, I had to listen to you! You blockhead. What a fool I was. Trick or treats come only once a year. And I miss it by sitting in a pumpkin patch with a blockhead. You owe me restitution!

Junie B. Jones The Musical by Marcy Heisler

JUNIE B.: Dear First Grade journal. Yay! Yay! Hooray! Today is the last week before winter break! Winter break is the school word for I gotta get out of this place, I tell you. ‘Cause blabbermouth May is tattletailing on me every day almost! That’s how come yesterday I chased her down on the playground. And I threw grass on her head. It was very fun. Except I hope Santa did not see me do that. That guy watches me like a hawk this time of year.

Frozen by Jennifer Lee

OLAF: Hi! I’m Olaf, and I like warm hugs! Isn’t winter so beautiful? I love it! But it’s so white. You know, how about a little color? Must we bleach the joy out of it all? I’m thinking like maybe some crimson, chartreuse... How ‘bout yellow? No. Yellow and snow is a no go. Am I right? Oh, and summer?! I don’t know why, but I’ve always loved the idea of summer, and sun, and all things hot. Sometimes I like to close my eyes and imagine what it’d be like when summer does come...

Matilda by Dennis Kelly

LAVENDER: Hello. I'm Lavender, by the way. Matilda's best friend! There's a bit coming up that's all about – me! Well, not ALL about me. But I play a big part in it. But I'm not going to say what happens, because I don't want to spoil it for you. (*She starts walking off stage, but stops.*) All right. Look. What I do is I volunteer to give the Trunchbull a jug of water. And on the way back . . . No! I don't want to tell you anymore because I don't want to ruin it! (*She walks completely off stage. After a moment, she runs back on.*) Well . . . On the way back, I find a newt. A newt is like a really ugly lizard that lives in water. And so I pick it up and . . . No! I'm not saying any more! (*Beat.*) I'm going to put the newt in the Trunchbull's jug! It's going to be brilliant!

Stepsister Speaks Out by Rebecca Price

ANASTASIA: It isn’t easy being the ugly stepsister. Everybody always feels so sorry for poor little Cinderella, but what about me? I deserve a little sympathy, too. Does my fairy godmother ever turn up with a magic wand? Does the prince ever dance with me at the ball? Not on your life! If you ask me, that Cinderella is weird. She is so good-natured that it’s downright sickening. If you had to dust and sweep and clean all day long, would you go around singing to the birds? Of course you wouldn’t. No sensible person would! A lot of people think I’m jealous of her. Maybe I am. And with good reason! I worked out every day for three whole weeks before the

ball. I got a perm and a facial and a manicure, and I even bought a new gown. I mean, I was ready. “Princey,” I thought to myself, “here I come!” And what happened? Little Cindy whips together a dress out of some old curtains from K-Mart, waltzes off to the ball and snags the prince. It isn’t fair! It really isn’t fair!

Monologues– Tweens

Anne of Green Gables by Peter DeLaurier

ANNE: I’m Anne of Green Gables and I’ve come to confess. It was all my doing, Miss Barry. Diana would never think of such a thing as racing to a bed and jumping on it. She’s far too ladylike, whereas I am merely an orphan who doesn’t know any better. So I think you ought to forgive Diana and let her have her music lessons back. I don’t know what it’s like to be awakened from a few hours of precious sleep by two ferocious, wild girls landing on one’s head, but I can imagine it must have been terrifying in the extreme. And if you had any imagination you could have put yourself in our place. Don’t you have any imagination?

You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown by John Gordon

CHARLIE: I think lunchtime is about the worst time of day for me. Always having to sit here alone. Of course, sometimes, mornings aren’t so pleasant either. Waking up and wondering if anyone would really miss me if I never got out of bed. Then there’s the night, too. Lying there and thinking about all the stupid things I’ve done during the day. And all those hours in between when I do all those stupid things. Well, lunchtime is among the worst times of the day for me. I guess I’d better see what I’ve got. Peanut butter. Some psychiatrists say that people who eat peanut butter sandwiches are lonely... I guess they’re right.

Stupid Is Just for 2Day by Lindsay Price

TROMBONE: I’m standing in front of the whole school. It’s some world-environment, world- recycling, some kind of save the world kind of day. I’m supposed to read a poem. A save the world poem. I really hate save the world poems. The only reason I’m in the Environment Club to start with is because my parents said, “Join more clubs.” So, whatever. I’m in the Environment Club, but I hate the people in the Environment Club. They’re very serious about the environment. It’s not a fun club. It’s very much a “the earth is dying” kind of club. Which I know, we should be concerned about the earth. But couldn’t we be concerned AND eat pizza at the same time? Every once in a while? But I’m a trooper, so I start reading the stupid save the world poem. And I can see my friends out of the corner of my eye, off to the side. Laughing. I don’t want to be laughed at because my parents made me join the Environment Club. So I fart. Loudly. Right in the middle of the poem. Right in the middle of the assembly. It’s a spectacular fart. One of my best. (pause) I’m not in the Environment Club any more.

The Fifth of July by Lanford Wilson

SHIRLEY: I’m going to be the greatest artist Missouri has ever produced. No—the entire Midwest. There have been very famous people—world-famous people—Tennessee Williams grew up in Missouri. He grew up not three blocks from where I live now. But me! Oh, gosh, me! I’m going to be so great! People will die. Certain people will literally have cardiac arrests at the magnitude of my achievements: “Oh my goodness, look! Is that she? Is that she? Is it? IT IS! IT IS SHE! IT IS SHE! AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!” She died of cardiac arrest and astonishment at the magnificence of my achievement in my chosen field.

The Trouble With Cashews by David McGregor

PAUL/PAULA: Just look...right over there. What do you see? Watch when she goes for a nut. And...she did it again! Seriously? You don't see it? She's only eating the cashews! Okay, let me ask you something. What's in that bowl? Nuts. Now, what kind of nuts? Assorted nuts. That means there's peanuts, almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, and cashews. Now, is it just a random assortment? Equal amounts of every nut? No! It's mostly peanuts. Listen, I know you're not some kind of nut expert, but that means that peanuts must be the easiest to grow and the cheapest to harvest and people like them *less* than other nuts. Of all the nuts in that bowl, what kind of nut do people like the *most*? Cashews. Aunt Dorothy is deliberately eating only the most expensive and tastiest nuts. You know the worst part? She knows what she's doing. That's why she keeps looking around to see if anyone is watching. And it would be okay if it was just Aunt Dorothy eating all of the cashews at a family party, but there are plenty of people out there in the world just like her. In fact, do you know what we're witnessing here? The end of humanity. The total and complete destruction of human beings as a species. We are doomed.

Monologues– Teens

Cocktails at Pam's by Stewart Lemoine

ESTELLE: Do you want to know what I really hate? I hate the fact that although I despise green pepper, everyone else seems to love it. And a myth has sprung up, you know. People have said to me, "Well, if you don't like it just pick it out." But that's so stupid. Green pepper doesn't work like that. It is insidious and pervasive, like noxious fumes that kill you and your family while you sleep. Look, I know you all like green pepper and so you think I'm over-reacting. But this is something that has caused me a lot of unhappiness and I just don't want to go through that anymore... I do like red pepper though. I want you all to know that.

Little Women by Kate Hamill

JO MARCH: You're right! You're so right, Aunt March! You're so right, Amy! We never should have gotten into the war. Who cares if people are being enslaved? That's hundreds of miles away; why should it bother us?! Why should we take any action?!! Who cares if families are starving in the tenements? That's right in our backyards, but why should we lift a finger? No, no, I think we should sit on our hands and shut our mouths, lest we disturb the others! Civility at all costs, that's what I say! Civility before humanity! We should have no objections, isn't that it, Amy, no egocentric aspirations to change the world? We should be adults! And the adult thing is to do nothing and say nothing– and if we accomplish nothing, than it's for the best. We should just stay at home, and close our eyes, and accept the SAME EVILS, FOREVER!

Picnic by William Inge

MILLIE: Madge, how do you talk to boys? How do you think of things to say? I think he's a big show off. You should have seen him this morning on the high diving board. He did real graceful swan dives and a two and a half gainer, and a back flip... the kids stood around clapping. He just ate it up. And he was braggin' all afternoon about how he used to be a deep-sea diver off Catalina Island. Do you believe it? Madge, I think he's... er... girl crazy, too. Alan took us into the Hi-Ho for cokes and there was a gang of girls in the back booth – Juanita Badger and her gang. When they saw him, they started giggling and tee-heeing and saying all sorts of crazy things. Then Juanita Badger comes up to me and whispers, "I think he's the cutest thing I ever saw." Is he Madge? Madge, do you think he'll like me? I don't really care. I just wonder.

Puffs by Matt Cook

MR. VOLDY: I'm going to ask an uncomfortable question right now. I ask for an honest response. Where are my shoes? I've been back three years, and three years – barefooted. No one has offered me a pair of sneakers, or some lounge loafers. Wingtips. At first, I thought oh – maybe this is the fashion – but quickly learned – no – that's not it. One year later, my little piggies are still out for all to see – it became about the principle of the matter – I'm the Dark Lord. Surely someone will offer me some shoes. Or at least ask if I'm comfortable. But now; we are in the woods. We've spent a whole evening outdoors. My feet are wet – I've stepped on several pointy rocks – I may need a tetanus shot. So, no. I am not comfortable. So where are my – what? The megaphone is still on? Really? Oh my. I am just having a day, aren't I?

The Book of Mormon by Robert Lopez, Trey Parker, and Matt Stone

ELDER CUNNINGHAM: Well... It's just you and me now, companion. From this point on, according to rule number 72 we are never allowed to go anywhere without each other except the bathroom! It's so awesome because all my friends always end up leaving me, but YOU CAN'T! HA HA HAAA! OKAY! Favorite movies! Are you a Star Wars guy or a Star Trek guy! I WANNA KNOW everything about you. Personally I like Star Wars but I'm willing to like Star Trek more if YOU think it's better.

Stagebugz Audition Monologue

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