

# Preparing For Your AMDA Audition: MUSICAL THEATRE

## Audition Requirements

**Musical Theatre:** The performance of one, two-minute monologue (contemporary or classical) and two minutes or 32 bars of a song from the musical theatre or classical repertoire. Applicants are required to bring sheet music in their key to the audition, and should be prepared to meet with an accompanist. Please indicate where you start and end your song on your sheet music.

The audition performance should not exceed 4 minutes in total. Monologues should be from published plays. Original materials may not be used. The use of props during your audition is not permitted.

## Before The Audition

- Select and memorize the material.
- Mark the music and be sure it's in your own key.
- Tape your music accordion-style or place it in a binder if photocopied.
- Be prepared to communicate cuts and tempo to the accompanist.
- Rehearse: try out your material on family, friends, and teachers.
- Prepare an additional song and monologue; adjudicators may request a second piece.

## In The Audition Room

- Your audition begins immediately from your entrance and continues until you exit.
- Present strong, effective posture
- Enter and leave with confidence i.e. keep your head up, avoid looking at the floor.
- Keep your focus and energy.
- Do not use props or costumes. This is an audition, not a performance.
- After you finish, wait for a response from the adjudicator before you leave the room, even if it is just a "thank you."
- Thank all panelists (i.e. adjudicator, pianist etc.)
- Be prepared to articulate why you are auditioning for AMDA and why you want to pursue training in the performing arts. This is your opportunity to express your passion and your professional goals.

## Dress And Appearance

### Clothing

**Women:** Dress Neutral – casual but nice: pants/skirt and blouse, or a simple dress. No denim, shorts, or extreme miniskirts. All clothing should be clean and pressed. No flip-flops, sneakers or crocs. Character or jazz shoes are acceptable.

**Makeup:** Light base, natural lips, light eye makeup and simple blush. No heavy make-up, false eyelashes, bright lipstick, or theatrical make up.

**Men:** Dress Neutral – casual but nice: pants/khakis, shirt and/or sweater; tie and jacket if you're comfortable but not required. No denim or shorts. All clothing should be clean and pressed. No flip-flops, sneakers or crocs.

**Hair:** Hair should be pulled back and away from the face. Natural hairstyle with no extreme color.

**Jewelry:** None – please remove all jewelry before auditioning

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## How To Select Your Monologue And Song

### Monologues

#### Select:

- Characters from monologues that you could play today or five years from now.
- Contrasting styles: Classic or Contemporary (1950's-current), Comedy or Drama.
- Material from published plays and musicals.

#### Avoid:

- Material that you do not fully understand emotionally or intellectually.
- Overt sexual references.
- Excessive profanity.
- Portraying victims or perpetrators of violence, addiction, or abuse.
- Costumes and props.

Remember that it is very important to READ the play from which your monologue is taken and know the full name of the playwright. Be prepared to answer questions the adjudicator may have about the play, the scene or the character. While monologue collections and internet sites may be useful, they cannot substitute for a full comprehension of the play and the character's arc.

### Songs

#### Select:

- Songs that show the most secure parts of your vocal range.
- Songs that reveal something about you.
- Songs that will help the adjudicator remember you.
- Songs with lyrics that you understand.

#### Avoid:

- Long narrative songs.
- "Signature" songs of star performers.
- Overexposed songs from very popular or current shows.
- Songs with difficult piano accompaniments or songs that take the focus off the singer and place it on the accompanist.

Remember: Your personal favorites may not be the material that best serves you.