

YoungArts 2024 Application Requirements

Theater

Please be sure you follow all requirements related to your application. Failure to comply with any of the requirements listed below may make your application ineligible for an award.

Application Requirements

Selections should demonstrate your versatility as an actor. Each piece should be presented "in character" and performed in context of the show's plot. All audition submissions must be fully memorized. When choosing material, we encourage you to showcase work that is meaningful to you rather than to the Panelists.

You may apply in either *SPOKEN ONLY* or *MUSICAL THEATER*, not in both. Please note the different requirements between the two categories.

Spoken Only

Applicants must submit **two (2) separate digital video recorded monologues for theater (not film)** to include the following and in the following order:

- **One (1) contemporary monologue (not to exceed two (2) minutes) from a play** (not a musical) written **during or after** the 1950's on.
- **One (1) classical monologue (not to exceed two (2) minutes) from a play** written **before** 1950. We are looking for elevated or stylized text. Some examples are (but not limited to) Shakespeare, Chekov, Ibsen, Shaw, the Greek comedies and tragedies etc.
 - Gender roles can be fluid.

Total audition time for both monologues, not including introductions, should be approximately 4 minutes.

Musical Theater

(Please submit in this category if Musical Theater is your strength)

- **Two (2) separate digital video recorded CONTRASTING song selections (approximately 32 bars or 1 minute 30 seconds each)** Should show arc of the character with a beginning, middle and end.

- One Legit style song from the musical theater canon. Standard Broadway repertoire can include, but is not limited to: Rodgers and Hammerstein, Rodgers and Hart, Lerner and Loewe, Stephen Sondheim, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Kurt Weill, Cy Coleman, Jules Styne, Bock and Harnick, Kander and Ebb, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, etc.

- One song should be from a contemporary musical theatre show or can be a published contemporary piece* (rock, pop, hip-hop, jazz, gospel, country, etc)

Some examples of writers from contemporary musical theatre: William Finn, Sara Bareilles, Michael R Jackson, Jason Robert Brown, Adam Gwon, Shaiman & Wittman, Pasek & Paul, etc.

Some examples of writers of published contemporary pieces: Joni Mitchell, Tracey Chapman, Dolly Parton, Paul McCartney, Max Martin, etc.

***Published contemporary pieces do not need to be from an existing musical, but they must be sung with intention and rooted in circumstances.**

Musical Theater (cont.)

- **One (1) contemporary monologue (not to exceed two (2) minutes) from a play** (not a musical) written **during or after** the 1950's.

If submitting in musical theater (songs), total submission, including introductions and monologue, should be approximately 6 minutes.

Note: If selected as a Finalist, you must be prepared to perform your submitted selections as well as additional assignments live for the panel during YoungArts Week.

Musical Theater Accompaniment Requirements

- Accompaniment should be one piano or a pre-recorded format without any background vocals. Please do not include the accompanist in the frame while recording your piece.
- Please do not accompany yourself or perform songs a Capella.
- Please test your sound level so that we can hear both your voice and the accompaniment well.

Guidelines for Recording Your Audition:

- Each audition piece should contain the following introduction: For monologues: "My piece is from (title of play) by (author) in the (role/character)." For song: My song is (title) from (Musical) by (composer)." You can do this to the camera.
- Keep camera at eye level and have a fixed point of focus (not into the camera) for your performance.
- For songs: Please do not embellish the music. Sing the notes that are on the page as the composer has written. Your song choice should show your vocal range.

Before recording your pieces, film a test. Perform the first few lines of your monologue, then watch and listen to it on playback. Check the following important things:

- **Sound:** Make sure there is no echo or any ambient noise and that your voice and accompaniment are clear.
- **Lighting:** Position yourself indoors, in a well-lit room, against a plain wall/background.
- **Framing:**
 - Songs: Framing should be hips/waist up to just above top of the head.
 - Monologues: Framing should be from middle of the chest to just above the head. If using a phone, please position in landscape mode (horizontally) rather than portrait mode (like a selfie)
- **Clothing:** Wear clothing that is simple, comfortable, and non-distracting. Wear something that has a gentle contrast to the backdrop and will help us see you clearly.

Media Submission Requirements:

- After you have recorded your pieces, please review for picture and sound quality.
- When uploading, verify that image is upright (not sideways) and plays smoothly.
- Save and name your files with their titles and upload each selection as a separate video file.
- List the following information for each audition piece in the spaces provided on your application. For monologues: Title of Play, Playwright and Role/Character. For songs: Title of Song, Title of Musical, and Composer.
- Do not put your name or any identifying information in or on your media submission.
- Please do not do any of the following as it may disqualify you:
 - ▶ Do not edit within a piece.
 - ▶ Do not use special effects, dissolves, fades or wipes.
 - ▶ Do not submit pre-recorded live performances, such as recitals, concerts, or competitions.

Reviewers and Panel are looking for:

- Material that is fully memorized, thoughtfully prepared, and professionally presented. All of this, along with your ability to connect to a character demonstrates a commitment to the craft as you begin to prepare for a career in the field.
- Performance ready pieces that can stand on their own
- Creativity and openness are qualities we look for in consideration for YA finalist. We want to get a sense of who you are in the pieces.

Note: If your work has been submitted to other competitions, you are responsible for getting permission to submit to YoungArts.