

YoungArts 2025 Application Requirements

Theater

Please follow the requirements related to your discipline/category as closely as possible. Failure to comply with the requirements may make your application ineligible for an award.

Application Requirements

Each selection should be performed "in character" and in context of the show's plot while demonstrating your artistic versatility. All selections must be fully memorized. We encourage you to choose material that is meaningful to you. Gender roles can be fluid.

You may apply in either *SPOKEN ONLY* or *MUSICAL THEATER*, not in both.

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.

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

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

Examples 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 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.

Total submission for Musical Theater, including introductions, songs and monologue, should be approximately 6 minutes.

Note: If selected as a winner with distinction, you will be required perform one of your submitted selections live on stage for the panel during National 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.

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)."
- Keep the 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.
- **Sound:** Make sure that your voice is clear without background noise. For songs, make sure that the accompaniment is clear but not overpowering your voice.
- **Lighting:** Position yourself indoors, in a well-lit room, against a plain wall/background.
- **Framing:** Keep the camera at eye level and have a fixed point of focus (not into the camera)
 - 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).
- **Clothing:** Wear clothing that is simple, comfortable, non-distracting, and has a gentle contrast to the backdrop so that you can be seen clearly.

Media Submission Guidelines

- When uploading, verify that the video image is upright (not sideways or upside down) 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:
 - ▶ edit within a piece.
 - ▶ submit pre-recorded live performances, such as recitals, concerts, or competitions.