

# ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AUDITIONS

Young men and women who wish to audition for the ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMINGARTS should prepare two contrasting monologues or one monologue and a song.

Below are a few suggested monologues as well as recommendations for reference books to help you choose a monologue the suits you well.

## A FEW AUDITION TIPS

Here are a few tips about auditioning:

- Choose a monologue that you understand and enjoy. For example, Shakespearean monologues can be tricky if you aren't comfortable with language – so don't do Shakespeare if you don't understand what you are saying. Choose a modern monologue instead – one that you really 'get'.
- A monologue should not be more than 1- 2 minutes in length.
- Remember that acting is about you. That's what you will spend most of your training to learn – how to utilize yourself to bring the character to life. It's very important to make the audition be about sharing yourself and your work. Be confident, take your time and relax.
- If you're going to sing, make sure you choose a song that is in your range. And please bring your sheet music with you to the audition.
- When you are auditioning, don't try to make the director your scene partner. Just create a 'second character' in your imagination somewhere to the right or left of the director. Using an empty chair as your scene partner is not a good idea as it tends to lower your eyes and turn your attention to the ground.
- If you have experience in the theatre. Please bring a typed resume. This will speak well about your professionalism. It makes it easier on everyone too.
- A headshot (photo) is not a requirement but it can be helpful if you have one. It helps the director remember you. If possible, bring an 8x10 headshot.
- If you have a cold or you feel you're not at your best, don't apologize. Just rise above it and do your best.
- Walk on stage confidently. We want you to succeed. We're on your side. So don't be shy. Come out, introduce yourself and enjoy your audition

BELOW ARE 11 Monologues that you may use. OR – you may pick one of your own.

To help you in a search, go to: <http://www.stageagent.com/Shows/Monologues/> There, you can search for classical, modern, musical theatre based on type, age and comic or dramatic.

## **MONOLOGUE #1 - Modern**

Character name: Emily Webb  
Gender: Female  
Age Range: 16 — 25  
Show: [Our Town](#)  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: dramatic, contemporary  
Notes: Emily is talking to George, a boy whom she loves very much. However, in this monologue, she is quite upset with him.

**I don't like the whole change that's come over you in the last year. I'm sorry if that hurts your feelings, but I've got to- tell the truth and shame the devil. Up to a year ago I used to like you a lot. And I used to watch you as you did everything? because we'd been friends so long? and then you began spending all your time at baseball? and you never stopped to speak to anybody any more. Not even to your own family you didn't? and, George, it's a fact, you've got awful concieted and stuck up, and all the girls say so. They may not say so to your face, but that's what they say about you behind your back, and it hurts me to hear them say it, but I've got to agree with them a little. I'm sorry if it hurts your feelings? but I cant be sorry I said it.**

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## **MONOLOGUE #2 - Modern**

Character name: Emily Webb  
Gender: Female  
Age Range: 16 — 25  
Show: [Our Town](#)  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: dramatic, contemporary  
Notes: Emily has died and has just joined the deceased at the graveyard. She talks to her dead Mother-in-Law (Mother Gibbs) in this monologue about what Mother Gibbs has missed since she's died.

**Mother Gibbs, George and I have made that farm into just the best place you ever saw. We thought of you all the time. We wanted to show you the new barn and a great long cementdrinking fountainfor the stock. We bought that out of the money you left us. Don't you remember, Mother Gibbs - the legacy you left us? Why, it was over three hundred and fifty dollars. Well, there's a patent device on the drinking fountain so that it never overflows, mother Gibbs, and it never sinks below a certain mark they have there. It's fine. It won't be the same to George without me, but it's a lovely farm. Live people don't understand, do they? They're sort of shut up in little boxes, aren't they? I feel as though I know them. Mother Gibbs, when does this feeling go away? - Of being? one of them? How long does it?? I never realized before how troubled and how? how in the dark live persons are. From morning till night, that's all they are - troubled.**

### MONOLOGUE #3 – Modern, Comedic

Character name: Wicked Witch Of The West  
Gender: Female  
Age Range: 30 — 75  
Show: The Wizard of Oz (RSC version)  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: comedic

Next time I enslave a whole nation, I must check out there intelligence first. Nikko, Nikko! Where is the commander of my aerobatic apes? There you are. I have an important task for you. My enemies are about to enter the Haunted Forest. I want you to rouse your men and snatch the sickening little girl and her equally nauseating little dog. Exhausted? What do you mean you're exhausted? Alright, alright. I'll conjure up a spell to take the fight out of her. Now which of my creepy crawlies shall I send to plague her? The flibberty gibbet? No! The fly by night? No! Aha! I have it! The jitterbug! Well may you gibber. There is no more infectious bug in my book of spells. Once bitten, they can never stop dancing till they drop! And when they do, you shall be there to scoop up the little brat and the little brute and bring them both to me! Now go! Do my bidding! Fly, fly, fly! Soon those darling little slippers will grace my dainty feet... I wonder if the winkies do shoe repair?

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### MONOLOGUE #4 – Modern – Musical Theatre

Character name: Sally  
Gender: Female  
Age Range: 15 — 25  
Show: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: comedic

A 'C'? A 'C'? I got a 'C' on my coat hanger sculpture? How could anyone get a 'C' in coat hanger sculpture? May I ask a question? Was I judged on the piece of sculpture itself? If so, is it not true that time alone can judge a work of art? Or was I judged on my talent? If so, is it fair that I be judged on a part of my life over which I have no control? If I was judged on my effort, then I was judged unfairly, for I tried as hard as I could! Was I judged on what I had learned about this project? If so, then were not you, my teacher, also being judged on your ability to transmit your knowledge to me? Are you willing to share my 'C'? Perhaps I was being judged on the quality of coat hanger itself out of which my creation was made...now is this not also unfair? Am I to be judged by the quality of coat hangers that are used by the dry cleaning establishment that returns our garments? Is that not the responsibility of my parents? Should they not share my 'C'?

## MONOLOGUE #5 – Modern – Musical Theatre

Character name: Val  
Gender: Female  
Age Range: 20 — 35  
Show: A Chorus Line  
Duration: 0 — 2 minutes  
Monologue Type: comedic, contemporary

**So, the day after I turned 18, I kissed the folks goodbye, got on a Trailways bus - and headed for the big bad apple. Cause I wanted to be a Rockette. That was my plan. New York, New York. Except I had one minor problem. See, I was ugly as sin. I was ugly, skinny, homely, unattractive and flat as a pancake. Get the picture? Anyway, I got off this bus in my little white shoes, my little white tights, little white dress, my little ugly face, and my long blonde hair - which was natural then. I looked like a damn nurse! I had 87 dollars in my pocket and seven years of tap and acrobatics. I could do a hundred and eighty degree split and come up tapping the Morse Code. Well, with that kind of talent I figured the Mayor would be waiting for me at Port Authority. Wrong! I had to wait 6 months for an audition. Well, finally the big day came. I showed up at the Music Hall with my red patent leather tap shoes – ready for the Rockettes! And I did my little tap routine. And this man said to me: Can you do fan-kicks? - Well, sure I could do terrific fan-kicks. But they weren't good enough. Of course, what he was trying to tell me was...it was the way I looked, not the fankicks. So I said: To hell with you, Radio City and the Rockettes! I'm gonna make on Broadway!**

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## MONOLOGUE # 6 – FEMALE – CLASSICAL

Character name: Juliet  
Gender: Female  
Age Range: 12 — 18  
Show: Romeo and Juliet  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: dramatic, classical, (abridged)

**Gallop apace, you fiery-footed steeds,  
Towards Phoebus' lodging! Such a wagoner  
As Phaeton would whip you to the west  
And bring in cloudy night immediately.  
Spread thy close curtain, love-performing night,  
That runaway's eyes may wink, and Romeo  
Leap to these arms untalked of and unseen.  
Come, night; come, Romeo; come, thou day in night;  
Come, gentle night; come, loving, black-browed night;  
Give me my Romeo; and, when he shall die,  
Take him and cut him out in little stars,  
And he will make the face of heaven so fine  
That all the world will be in love with night  
And pay no worship to the garish sun.**

### MONOLOGUE #7 MALE – Musical Theatre

Character name: Sancho Panza  
Gender: Male  
Age Range: 25 — 55  
Show: Man of La Mancha  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: comedic

My lady, my master has sent me to present to you a missive, (seeing her confusion) it is a sort of letter. My master warned me to give it only into your hand (seeing her problem). No I can't read either. But my master, foreseeing such a possibility, recited it to me so I could commit it to heart. It is no dishonor My Lady, as he explained it, noblewomen are so busy with their needlework. Embroidering banners for their knights. He said they had no time for study. I know, I don't understand it either but I can tell you from experience that knights have their own language for everything, and it's better not to ask questions because it only gets you into trouble.

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### MONOLOGUE #8 MALE – Musical Theatre

Character name: Schroeder  
Gender: Male  
Age Range: 16 — 29  
Show: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: comedic

I'm sorry to have to say it to your face, Lucy, but it's true. You're a very crabby person. I know your crabbiness has probably become so natural to you now that you're not even aware when you're being crabby, but it's true just the same. You're a very crabby person and you're crabby to just about everyone you meet. Now I hope you don't mind my saying this, Lucy, and I hope you're take it in the spirit that it's meant. I think we should be very open to any opportunity to learn more about ourselves. I think Socrates was very right when he said that one of the first rules for anyone in life is 'Know Thyself'. Well, I guess I've said about enough. I hope I haven't offended you or anything.

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## Monologue #9 MALE – Classical

Character name: Romeo  
Gender: Male  
Age Range: 16 — 25  
Show: Romeo and Juliet  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: dramatic, classical (abridged)

**But soft! What light through yonder window breaks?  
It is the East, and Juliet is the sun!  
Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,  
Who is already sick and pale with grief  
That thou her maid art far more fair than she.  
And none but fools do wear it. Cast it off.  
It is my lady; O, it is my love!  
O that she knew she were!  
She speaks, yet she says nothing. What of that?  
Her eye discourses; I will answer it.  
I am too bold; 'tis not to me she speaks.  
See how she leans her cheek upon her hand!  
O that I were a glove upon that hand,  
That I might touch that cheek!**

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## MONOLOGUE #10 MALE – Musical Theatre /Classical

Character name: Don Quixote(Cervantes)  
Gender: Male  
Age Range: 30 — 60  
Show: [Man of La Mancha](#)  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: dramatic

**I shall impersonate a man. His name is Alonso Quijana, a country squire no longer young. Being retired, he has much time for books. He studies them from morn till night and often into the night as well, and all he reads oppresses him; fills him with indignation at man's murderous ways toward man. He broods and broods and broods and broods and finally from so much brooding, his brains dry up. He lays down the melancholy burden of sanity and conceives the strangest project ever imagined--to become a knight-errant, and sally forth into the world to right all wrongs! No longer will he be plain Alonso Quijana, but a dauntless knight known as *Don Quixote de La Mancha!***

## MONOLOGUE #11 MALE OR FEMALE - CLASSICAL

Character name: Puck  
Gender: Male  
Age Range: 20 — 35  
Show: A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Duration: 0 — 1 minutes  
Monologue Type: comedic, classical (abridged)

### **My mistress with a monster is in love!**

(he laughs and laughs – then explains...)

**Near to her close and consecrated bower,  
While she was in her dull and sleeping hour,  
A crew of patches, rude mechanicals,  
Were met together to rehearse a play,  
Intended for great Theseus' nuptial day.  
The shallowest thick skin of that barren sort,  
Who Pyramus presented in their sport,  
Forsook his scene and entered in a brake.  
When I did him at this advantage take,  
An *ass's nose* I fixèd on his head!  
Anon his Thisby must be answerèd,  
And forth my mimic comes. When they him spy,  
Sever themselves and madly sweep the sky;  
So at his sight away his fellows fly,  
He "murder!" cries and help from Athens calls.  
I led them on in this distracted fear  
And left sweet Pyramus translated there,  
When in that moment (so it came to pass)  
Titania waked, and straightway loved an ASS!**