



FLORIDA THEATRE CONFERENCE

Secondary School Division

Guidelines for Audition Candidate Nominators

The competition is keen and applicants must be limited to those who seriously intend to pursue a career in theatre and to those whom you feel have the potential to do so. FTC expects these auditions/interviews to give new impetus to theatre educators to present the most outstanding talent they have discovered and trained.

1. Nominators should study both this form and all of the GUIDELINES FOR CANDIDATES thoroughly.
2. Candidates must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and an SAT (or equivalent) score of 1100 or above.
3. Candidates should be nominated based on their ability to succeed in furthering their study of theatre beyond high school. Candidates should not be nominated solely on their past service, nor merely to have the school represented.
4. Nominees may choose from: acting, musical theatre, design, management, theatre education, or general technical theatre.
5. The following rules will be adhered to:
 - a) ACTING auditions have ONE MINUTE to perform a monologue,
 - b) MUSICAL THEATRE auditions may have an ADDITIONAL 30 SECONDS before or after the monologue,
 - c) An accompanist will be provided. NO RECORDED MUSIC IS TO BE USED,
 - d) No auditions may be performed acapella (without accompaniment),
 - e) DESIGN / TECHNICAL / MANAGEMENT auditions will be set up in a separate area, students should be prepared to discuss their work one-on-one with the adjudicators,
 - f) TIME STARTS AFTER NAME AND NUMBER in the introduction,
6. Nominators should be familiar with the work of the candidate and should assist the candidates with the selection and preparation of their presentations,
7. The nominator's evaluation should be an honest assessment of the candidate and the candidate's potential to succeed in the selected area of specialization,
8. AUDITIONS WILL BE CLOSED, but nominators and parents may attend the callback interviews.

ALL APPLICATIONS AND FEES MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 28TH.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Nominators share the responsibility of providing FTC with all completed application materials and audition fees within the established deadline.

Applications must be received in the school's registration packet.



FLORIDA THEATRE CONFERENCE

Secondary School Division Guidelines for Acting / Musical Theatre Audition Candidates

**Minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0
SAT (or equivalent) Score of 1100 or Above**

College/University Representatives and Secondary School Representatives have established these audition and interview processes to help each other and you. They are friends of yours who identify with the pressure you may feel. They are pulling for you, so relax and do it.

1. HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS ARE ELIGIBLE TO AUDITION.
2. Seek the assistance of your nominator to prepare your audition.
3. Use new material at call-backs to demonstrate versatility.
4. The following rules will be adhered to:
 - a) ACTING auditions have ONE MINUTE to perform a monologue.
 - b) MUSICAL THEATRE auditions may have an ADDITIONAL 30 SECONDS before or after the monologue.
 - c) An accompanist will be provided. NO RECORDED MUSIC IS TO BE USED.
 - d) No auditions may be performed acapella (without accompaniment),
 - e) TIME STARTS AFTER YOUR NAME AND NUMBER in your introduction,
5. All performance pieces should be fully memorized, you will have a performance area of 12 feet by 16 feet.
6. A table will be provided if needed to display portfolio materials.
7. When your turn comes, walk quickly to the stage, say your name and number.
8. Due to poor sight lines - avoid sitting, kneeling, lying on the floor as part of your business.
9. Keep choreography simple. Remember that you may not have an ideal dance surface.

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Mail completed applications to:

Florida Theatre Conference,
Att: Robert Ankrom
9022 41st Way N
Pinellas Park, FL, 33782



FLORIDA THEATRE CONFERENCE

Musical Theatre Auditions Guidelines

Preparing the music for the piano accompanist.

1. It is best to photocopy only the portion of music that is to be sung. Tape the photocopied music onto a file folder (substantial paper quality) that will easily stay open and on the music stand. If the excerpt is more than two pages, make the third page as an attached fold-out to avoid page turns. (Never offer to the pianist loose sheets that can fall off the music stand and are often in the wrong order.)
2. Mark the top of the first page with:
 - a) Title of selection
 - b) Show
 - c) Composer/lyricist
3. Mark the following musical indications:
 - a) Tempo (metronome marking is useful: quarter note = 120; half note = 60, etc.)
 - b) Mood indication from the score (moderate, swing, allegro, soft-shoe, etc.)
 - c) "Belltone = G" (or whatever the first note is) unless using a piano introduction
 - d) Any liberties that are to be taken with the tempo (ritards, breaths in the middle of sentences, rubato, moving forward, etc.)
 - e) The time signature and the key signature must be clearly included at the beginning of the selection.
4. Before taping the music onto the folder, cut out anything that is not to be played, such as unnecessary introductions, first endings, long postludes, instrumental cues, second verse words that are not going to be sung, etc. Then adjust what follows so that the pianist follows the score in a logical manner - no sudden jumping from score to score. Do not cross bars out and expect the pianist to jump over unused sections of music.
5. Always present the music in the key in which it is to be sung. Never ask a pianist to transpose at sight.
6. Never ask a pianist to play from a lead sheet which has only the melody, lyrics and chord symbols.
7. Make certain that the music is clearly copied and includes ALL of the top melodic notes and ALL of the piano bass notes. White-out anything that is distracting or unnecessary.
8. Ask an experienced pianist to read through the excerpt to see if anything is distracting, confusing or missing.
9. Prepare and practice what needs to be said to the pianist (including "hello" and "thank you"), so that valuable audition time isn't wasted at the piano. Point out anything that may be tricky to the pianist. Lightly tap the tempo and lightly sing the first phrase of music until the pianist nods that s/he understands. Then, go center and prepare to sing.
10. Always nod to the pianist for the belltone or the introduction when ready to sing.
11. Always thank the pianist when finished.
12. Avoid manuscript copies if possible. It is much better to have someone input the music into a software program (Finale, Sibelius). The printing is much easier to read.
13. Avoid the very difficult piano reductions of certain composers such as Jason Robert Brown, Michael John LaChiusa, John Bucchino, Stephen Sondheim, etc. A pianist who can't read this challenging music can destroy an audition. Many of these difficult accompaniments can be simplified by a composer/arranger and printed out in more easily-read version.
14. Do not waste valuable audition time asking the pianist to play a lengthy piano introduction. It is usually best to plan for a one-bar introduction or just a belltone. A belltone allows the singer to establish the tempo with pick-up notes. Furthermore, starting with a belltone avoids having the pianist accidentally set a wrong tempo and allow the singer to begin when s/he is ready.
15. Avoid selections that have meter, tempo, and key changes. An audition selection that maintains a steady, established tempo and key is most often successfully completed without error.



FLORIDA THEATRE CONFERENCE

Secondary School Division

**Guidelines for Design / Technical /
Management Audition Candidates**

**Minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0
SAT (or equivalent) Score of 1100 or Above**

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1. HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS ARE ELIGIBLE TO AUDITION.
2. Seek the assistance of your nominator to prepare your audition.
3. Students will be allocated a minimum table display space of 24 inches by 36 inches.
4. Auditions will be held Saturday morning – set up at 8:30AM, with college interviews from 9:00AM to 10:00AM. Note: Not all universities/colleges have programs in all tech/design areas.
5. Students should be prepared to discuss their work as the college rep's move from display to display.
6. Students may be called back by individual colleges later in the day to discuss work in more detail.

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AUDITON NO. _____

FLORIDA THEATRE CONFERENCE SECONDARY SCHOOL AUDITION FORM

Print this form, enter all information and send it with your registration form and payment.

Only this sheet will be duplicated for the College/University representatives.

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Height _____ Weight _____ Hair _____ Eyes _____

Area of Audition (Check One):

Acting Musical Theatre Technical Theatre/Design

List past theatre experience:

List honors and awards:

List special talents:

Please Paste a Recent
Black & White Photo

DO NOT STAPLE

Information given on this application is completely accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant _____

_____ is ranked _____ in a class of _____ at _____ School.

(Name) GPA is _____ on a _____ point scale.

Affix School
Seal Here

Please check one: SAT ACT PSAT Score _____ Test Date _____

Verified by: _____ Projected Graduation Date _____
(Counselor/School Office)

Before filling out this section, the nominator should review Guidelines for Nominators.

I nominate _____ as a candidate for FTC Secondary School audition/interview.

I have known the candidate for _____ years as a student. **Please give reason for nomination below:**

Signature _____ Position _____

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

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