

## Notes from 2010 Shooting Stars Performing Arts Workshop

**Presenters:** Christine Dotterweich Bial, Kansas Arts Commission; Melinda McCrary, Kansas City Reparatory Theatre; Ronald McClellan, Mid America Nazarene University.

**Question:** What are the key elements to putting together a great audition/interview?

### ***Theatre Tech (Interview):***

- \* Present a neat package!
  - For example, if you worked on costumes include renderings and fabric swatches and pictures of the finished costume.
  - Include scale drawings, material samples, queue changes and quick changes.
  - Include a 1-2 paragraph summary of your design perspective. This will not only help explain your work but can also serve as a nice intro for your interview.
- \* Self presentation is just as important!
  - Dress for the occasion and present yourself professionally.
  - Show confidence and enthusiasm but not arrogance.
  - Show that you are a team player; a collaborator.
  - Be prepared to answer/discuss – “Why do you do theatre tech? / Why is it important to you?”
- \* What to bring to the interview on December 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Bring in your portfolio to show hard copies (paper) of your drawings, materials, fabric swatches etc.
  - Bring in a DVD/CD with photos of costumes, set, productions etc. Use the DVD/CD to complement your portfolio.

### ***Winds/Percussion, Strings and Voice (Audition):***

- \* Keep in mind:
  - Attitude – How you present yourself; show confidence not arrogance.
    - How you approach the music:
      - Not necessarily your technical ability (playing/singing all the notes)
      - But also your musicianship (how you play/sing the notes, how you play/sing with your accompanist)
    - If you make a mistake, don't show it! Keep playing/singing.
    - Dress professionally; no flip flops; nice, clean, comfortable clothes
  - Ability – judges are looking at your potential not perfection, i.e. fewer notes played well is better than many notes played poorly.
    - Are you a serious musician, someone who is prepared; a team player and wants to be there?
    - Do you play more than one instrument, do you sing too? Share that on your resume!

- Activities – Share how your playing/singing fits in your life.
  - When did you start and how long have you been studying instrument or voice?
  - Are you involved in extracurricular activities with it? Such as ensembles, accompanist for others, teach/tutor others.
  - Do you have a leadership role in your instrumental/singing group(s) i.e. section leader.
- Achievement – Don't be afraid to share your ACT/SAT scores, your GPA or other activities on your resume
  - Also include if you've participated in District or State Ensembles.
  - Did you compete in regional or state solo competitions? If so, add your scores to your resume.
  - Other Festivals or Competitions?
- Aspirations – What are your goals? What do you want to be doing in 3, 5, or 10 years?
  - Can you imagine yourself not playing or singing?
  - If you don't plan to pursue music professionally that's ok! But do you plan to include it in your life?

### ***Theatre Performance (including voice)***

- \* Attitude – How you present yourself; show confidence not arrogance.
  - Appropriate clothing; nothing revealing, comfortable yet professional shoes – NO FLIP FLOPS! You want the judge to not think about your clothes.
  - When you introduce yourself also introduce the pieces being performed and the playwright/composer.
- \* Choice of material – should be age appropriate.
  - Material needs to be from a published, reputable play.
  - Monologues must be from a play (make sure you've read the play; context and understanding)
  - You're performing a character but show your intelligence and sense of humor.
- \* Voice – show your heart and strengths
  - Pick material that moves you.
  - Choose material that shows flexibility, i.e. 2 contrasting pieces.
  - Look at how you sing/work with your accompanist.
- \* Adjustment – if given feedback take it well.
  - Judges aren't looking for perfection, looking for potential.

### ***Due December 4<sup>th</sup>:***

- Release Form – let us know if you need another one emailed to you.
- Judging Form and Resume – must complete on our website; use this link:

[http://www.artsjoco.org/shootstars/judging\\_perform.html](http://www.artsjoco.org/shootstars/judging_perform.html)

### ***Auditions December 12<sup>th</sup>***

- **IMPORTANT** - Send us any scheduling conflicts ASAP!