

Preparing for your audition...

- **What should I bring to an initial musical theatre vocal audition?**
 - Headshot
 - Acting resume
 - Water/ lip balm/ headphones/ etc.
 - Clearly labeled sheet music
- **What is a headshot?**
 - An actor's photo with their name. (ZTP's WOZ team will also be taking additional photos at the audition.)
 - 8 x 10 or similar
 - Usually in color
 - Focused on the actor's face
 - Can be horizontal or vertical
 - Friendly, put together - the best version of you!
- **What should my acting resume include?**
 - Your name
 - Contact info
 - Physical address, email address, telephone number, website
 - Physical info
 - Height, weight, eye color, hair color, vocal part
 - Theater/ Film roles
 - Danny Zuko Grease
 - Texas State University
 - Special skills
 - Whistling, tumbling, juggling, etc.
 - Text should look neat and be easy to read
- **What should I wear to my audition?**
 - Smart-casual attire is suitable for most acting/ vocal auditions. Look your best, but be comfortable.
 - Men - nice jeans/ slacks, button up shirt, maybe a blazer. Stylish but neat.
 - Women - dress or nice pants, low heels/ flats, hair out of your face. Nothing too short or low cut.
 - Dance/ movement calls require dance/ athletic clothing and dance shoes (ballet, taps, point, etc.)
- **What will I need to prepare for an initial musical theatre vocal audition?**
 - Always check theatre websites for audition information. zilker.org/auditions has helpful info for WOZ.
 - For ZTP's WOZ: Please prepare a 16 bar musical cut in the style of or from the show demonstrating vocal range and dramatic ability.
 - Always have additional material ready in case the team would like to hear something additional.
 - You will usually tailor your piece to fit the style of the show/character for which you are auditioning.
- **What is a slate?**
 - A slate is the statement that introduces you to the auditioners when you walk into the room.
 - Hi, I'm (your name), and this is "Somewhere over the Rainbow" from The Wizard of Oz.
 - Hello, I'm Robert Martin and this is "Make 'em Laugh" from Singing in the Rain.
 - Wait to begin your piece until the auditioners are ready and watching you.
 - Afterwards, close your piece by saying:
 - Thank you, I'm (your name).
 - Speak slowly, in order to make sure your piece and especially YOUR NAME are clearly understood.
- **Is a vocal audition also an acting audition?**
 - Yes! Musical auditions rarely require actors to prepare monologues. You'll want to make sure you "act the song." Think of the words as a monologue accompanied by music.

Look at the lyrics, listen to what the music tells you, and ask yourself the following questions:
 - What is this character like emotionally and physically?
 - What does this character want? What's their obstacle?
 - What prompted this character to sing?
 - Does this character change during this song? How? Why?
 - Remember: musical theatre acting is not "faking" or "putting on." Musical theatre features characters who feel heightened emotions with gusto, and who are compelled to express themselves through song and dance. "When words are not enough, you sing, when song is not enough, you dance."
 - Something to think about: don't rely on previous knowledge of a well-known musical.
 - **Rediscover the characters. Connect. Commit. Make bold choices. Have Fun!**

Things to think about before your audition...

Do...

- *Familiarize yourself with the "world of the play." Read the script and listen to the music before you audition.*
- *Practice your audition at home. Know your words and music without having to hold the text in hand.*
- *Have your music neatly organized and easy for the pianist to navigate. Consider a binder with page protectors.*
- *Take care of yourself mentally and physically. Do you need to bring a granola bar? A book?*
- *Arrive 15 mins early. Check the audition notice or call board for requirements and last minute changes.*
- *Always be respectful, kind, and courteous, even in the waiting room. Your audition starts the moment you step onto the property.*
- *Be aware of any conflicts you may have during the rehearsal/ performance process, and let the team know on your conflict sheet.*
- *Support your fellow performers.*
- *Allow yourself time to catch your breath and prepare before auditioning, both in the hallway and the moment before you begin your song.*
- *Have confidence in yourself and your abilities. Directors want you to succeed.*
- *Be friendly and respectful to the creative team. Are you someone who is responsible and pleasant to work with?*
- *Be specific and appropriate in your acting choices. Embody the character the author has written. This is not the time to be wishy-washy. Neither is this the time to be overly dramatic if the character doesn't call for it.*
- *Collect your music and thank the pianist, afterwards.*

Don't...

- *Wear clothing that is too constricting, short, or that shows too much skin. Also beware of heels that are too high.*
- *Arrive late or unprepared. Strive to make a good impression and show the team you are great to work with!*
- *Mistreat or disrespect the building, furnishings, stage management, or audition facilitators.*
- *Complain. Auditions can be tedious. Take steps to ensure your best attitude.*
- *Bad-mouth other actors, the staff, or the production. It's a small world.*
- *Try and sing something that is out of your range, or that is obscure for obscurity's sake.*
- *Bother other actors when they are preparing.*
- *Rush through your audition.*
- *Waste time in the audition room.*
- *Expect your audition to go well in the room if it never went well at home. Most of the time, you will not be able to start your audition over.*
- *Leave the premises until you are asked to do so by a stage manager or theatre staff member.*
- *Speculate on whether or not you got the role. Audition, do your best work, be proud of yourself. Casting often has very little to with how talented you are. You may not be right for that production, but you are perfect for a role in something else.*