

Summer Academy F.A.Q.

How do I schedule an audition? When does audition scheduling begin?

Call Education Administrator Eric Evans at (585) 232-1366, ext. 3035 any time after February 28, 2012.

What happens at the audition?

Your audition will be about ten minutes long. You'll have the chance to meet several members of the Summer Academy staff during your audition, and they'll have the chance to meet you! You will be expected to present a memorized one-minute monologue. You will also have a brief interview with members of the staff. They may ask questions about the pieces you've chosen, and they may want to learn a little bit about who you are, why you're interested in theatre, or why you think this program might be a good fit for you. Don't stress! It should be a casual and fun experience.

How do I choose a monologue?

Use all the resources at your school; a director, a teacher, or other students who are involved in theatre may be able to steer you toward great ideas – never be shy about asking for advice. There are many collections of monologues at the library. Once you have found some pieces that seem like possibilities, then your challenge is to narrow down your choices. Look for a piece you feel like you really understand. Look for a character you can connect with. Look for a piece that makes you curious about the rest of that person's life (and read the whole play, if you can). A good piece will usually grab you because you know you can express something *honest of yourself* through that character.

What should be included on the resume?

Your resume can include any of your experiences that you think might be useful to your success in this program. If you have performed in plays, that's a good place to start: please tell us the title of the piece, your role, and where and when the play was produced. If you have worked in other areas of the theatre (running lights, painting sets, volunteering as an usher), you can include that information, too. You might also include other performance experience besides theatre, such as voice or dance training. Any activity that can show how you are motivated and prepared to participate in this program is appropriate for your resume.

Who will be present at the audition?

You will meet 2-3 of the Academy staff members and a piano accompanist.

What if I am outside the suggested age range?

All Summer Academy participants must be twelve years old by the first day of the program, July 9, 2012. This means that some students may audition at age eleven, provided that they will turn twelve before the Academy begins. No exceptions will be made. The maximum age to audition is eighteen; a student who will turn nineteen before the end of the Academy is still eligible to participate in the program.

How many students are accepted into the program?

Thirty students are selected to participate in the Academy. Geva will also select several alternate candidates. If a student is accepted but is unable to participate, then an alternate will be invited to join the program.

May a student attend for more than one summer?

Yes; students may attend a maximum of three Academy sessions.

What is the criteria for acceptance into the program?

This is a hard question to answer! So many different qualities combine in a good candidate for the Summer Academy. We're looking for curious young actors who really want to explore and stretch, and who are not afraid to try new things. We're looking for students who want to express themselves through theatre, and who do the work to choose and prepare audition pieces they really care about. We're looking for students who are not afraid to work. You're on your way if you have a strong voice and can use your body expressively, and if you are well prepared and focused in your audition. We don't care too much about auditions that make the actor look really cool; we look for young actors who use the words of a play to show us something honest. We ask about your experience because it can help us to learn what interests and inspires you, but it is not necessary to have previous theatre experience to succeed in this program. Choosing a summer academy class is very much like casting any play. We select a company of individuals who all have different abilities, experiences and strengths that will complement each other.

When will we be notified if I have been selected?

All applicants will be notified of their status by April 18, 2012.

What should I do if I have been accepted into a program that conflicts with the Summer Academy dates?

Many Summer Academy students audition for multiple opportunities, and talented candidates are often faced with difficult decisions if they are accepted to more than one program. Interest in other programs should not prevent a student from auditioning. Please do bring your schedule and possible conflicts at the time of the audition. If you are accepted to the program, the Summer Academy will require a full commitment. Because absence from classes and rehearsals negatively impacts the entire group, it is not possible to accommodate other activities which conflict with the class hours. Because the program also involves outside memorization and preparation, we strongly suggest that participants avoid scheduling many additional activities during the five weeks of the program. Please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have with our staff before making the decision to enroll.

Are scholarships available? How do we apply for a scholarship?

Full and partial scholarships are available to many accepted students. The scholarship application takes the form of a simple questionnaire about the family's request for assistance. Scholarship applications are not completed until after the audition process and have no bearing on a student's acceptance. Families should not let concerns about tuition prevent a student from auditioning.

We may have answered many of your questions, but we're always happy to go into more detail or answer additional questions. Please call Eric Evans at 232-1366 ext. 3035 to discuss any other issues or concerns.