ArtsBridge Refresh 2021: Acting & Musical Theater

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

All classes will take place virtually on Zoom. The first day will begin with a short introduction from ArtsBridge staff and then students will be split into small groups for their classes.

The second day will continue with small group classes and end with a mock audition with all faculty. Students should dress as they would for a real college audition. All students will be present in the audition (Zoom) room. After each student presents their material in the mock audition, faculty will give individual feedback about their work.

WHAT SHOULD I PREPARE?

For ALL STUDENTS

In addition to the requirements listed below, students should have a few additional pieces in case the faculty ask to see something else (bring your book!).

Have a digital copy of your headshot, resume, and materials (sheet music/monologue text) ready to share electronically if the faculty ask to see them.

For High School Seniors

Seniors who are entering their audition season should bring the material that they plan to use for their college auditions. Song and monologue cuts should be based on the requirements of the schools to which they are applying. Students should have recorded accompaniment for each of their songs, if applicable.

For Non-Seniors

Two songs from the musical theater and/or pop-rock repertoire (MT students only)
- Please choose songs that show contrast
- Songs should be memorized and approximately one minute in length
- Please have recorded accompaniment for each of your songs

Two contrasting Monologues
- Monologues should be memorized
- Monologues should be age appropriate
- Monologues should be approximately one minute in length

TECHNOLOGY & SETUP

ArtsBridge recommends the following technology for the best virtual workshop experience:
- High speed internet connection
- Computer or tablet with front facing camera
- External speaker (to play recorded accompaniment, if applicable)
- Decent microphone (can be built into the computer/tablet or external)

ArtsBridge recommends the following Zoom audio settings for those who will be singing:
- Open the Zoom app on your computer and navigate to the settings. To get to the settings, click your profile picture/initials in the top right, then click "Settings" in the drop down menu.
- Once you're in the settings, click "Audio" from the list on the left of the screen to open the audio settings.
- In the audio settings, under "Music and Professional Audio," check the box at the top that reads "Show in-meeting option to 'Enable Original Sound' from microphone." You should always have original sound ON. This will keep the sound of singing from compressing and dropping suddenly in volume for the listener. When you are in a Zoom meeting, you will now have the option to turn on original sound in the top left of your screen. When the switch says "Turn original sound off" you will know that the original sound is on and vice versa.
- Once you've checked the box to enable original sound in your audio settings, additional checkboxes will appear below. Make sure that the checkbox for "High fidelity music mode" is checked. The checkbox for "Echo cancellation" should either be checked or unchecked to avoid an echo without headphones (This will depend on your individual setup and space, so we recommend that you test this before classes).

Here are a few helpful tips for setting up your space to maximize your time on Zoom:
- Make sure your camera is stable. If you're using a laptop or tablet, place it on a stable surface or use a stand so it won't move or shake (don't hold it in your hands!).
- Check your camera framing. Make sure that you have the ability to sit or stand as needed and that you will remain in the frame.
- If you are using a tablet, use the camera in landscape mode (horizontal).
- Check your space and your technology before your first day of class! Make sure your space is ready so that you can dive right in when classes begin.