

Making the Most of Your Audition

“If you act like an artist, they’ll treat you like an artist.” – Woody Allen

What to expect at your audition:

- You can meet in the cafeteria either right after school or come back to school 15 minutes before your scheduled audition time. You will turn in your audition form as you enter the cafeteria. We will take attendance using those forms to make sure we have a form from everyone. Then we will describe what’s about to happen again to make sure everyone knows what to expect.
- 5 students at a time will be escorted to Mrs. Wyatt’s room where you will audition for Mrs. Wyatt, Ms. Zacks, Mrs. Ciecierski, Mrs. Fidyk, and Mrs. Hayes.
 - The casting committee will call you individually to sing a song for them. You will NOT sing the entire song. Don’t worry. NOBODY sings an entire song. The casting committee just needs to hear enough to feel like they have a good idea about your voice.
 - You will be asked to read a few lines from the play either by yourself or with one of the other students auditioning at the same time.
- The rest of you will be divided into groups of 5 people and will engage in a variety of activities including:
 - Creating a menu for a “mad tea party”
 - Theatre Vocabulary Game
 - Getting to know stage directions game
 - Character Movement Freeze game
 - Design your own Wonderland
- Groups will rotate through the stations and the audition until everyone has had a chance to audition.

Before the Audition:

- **Get to know the show.** Check out the Plot Summary and character descriptions on the Shutterfly site. Check out YouTube to see other schools/groups productions of Disney’s Alice in Wonderland Jr. (searching Alice Jr. will bring up many examples).
- Know which part you would most like to have, but don’t have your heart too set on any particular part. ALL parts are equally important!
- **Choose a song you know really well** and that will allow you to demonstrate your singing ability in 30 seconds or less. Make sure your song is appropriate for school (no bad words or inappropriate content), and that the energy in the song matches that of this show. Don’t choose a soulful ballad or a song that is soft and wispy. Pick a song that is high energy and fun and you can sing so everyone in the cafeteria will hear you. If you can’t think of a song to sing, you can sing “Happy Birthday.”
- You will be singing a cappella (without music). You can sing any part of that song that you think demonstrates your voice best. You don’t have to start at the beginning. REMEMBER you will not be singing the entire song. Most likely you will be singing for less than 20 seconds.

At Your Audition:

- Be patient and quiet while you wait for your turn. Your behavior while waiting will show the casting committee whether you will be able to **be respectful and remain on task** during rehearsals. You don't want to make a bad impression.
- When singing your song don't be afraid to do a little acting too. This doesn't mean you need a full on dance choreographed (PLEASE DON'T DO THAT!), but you should **show some emotion** with the tone of your voice and facial expressions. Look like you are having fun. **YOU SHOULD BE HAVING FUN!**
- Make sure you sing loud enough for a person in the very back of the room to hear you, but don't sing so loud that you sound like you are shouting. You should be singing.
- When you are asked to read lines from the play take a minute to read it to yourself before you read it aloud. Try to put emotion in your voice. Use facial expressions. **Get into the character.** This is easier if you have an idea of what that character is like from reading the plot summary and character descriptions mentioned above.
- Auditions can be scary and sometimes nerves can make you mess up some. THAT'S OK! Don't freak out. **Take a deep breath and do your best.**
- The casting committee members know that you are nervous. Promise they will be kind!