



Tips for Preparing an Audition

Old Brick Playhouse – 09/10

In Advance:

- 1) Don't wade in, jump in!
- 2) Memorize the monologue, Memorize the monologue!
- 3) Think of the audition as an opportunity to show your skills rather than a root canal. Enjoy the exercise, and don't lead the auditors to believe that you are in physical pain.
- 4) Make certain that you know the meaning of each word – if not ask us.
- 5) Decide
 - a. Who – Who is your character? What is their age? To whom are you speaking?
 - b. What – What happened just before the monologue began to cause this person to say these things?
 - c. Where – Where are you?
 - d. Why – Why bother doing this monologue? What makes it important?
- 6) Prepare physical characteristics
 - a. Practice saying the monologue in the mirror out loud.
 - b. Develop physical traits (ie how this person walks, talks, moves)
 - c. Rehearse maintaining eye contact.
Avoid:
 - Making the staff paranoid by looking behind our heads
 - The typewriter scan
 - Looking at the floor
 - hyper stare
 - d. Wear clothes that are comfortable and fit, not something that you can't move in or 4" heels. It would be terrible if you tripped, unless of course – it was planned.
- 7) Delivery
 - a. Remember that you are telling a story that is very important. You are a storyteller. If you think the story is boring, we will really think it is boring. What you are saying has to be very important to you – urgent if you will. This makes people want to listen to what you have to say. Pretend it is the biggest and most shocking secret you have ever known.
 - b. Speak loud and articulate.
Avoid: The mumble
 The speed freak – talking so fast that you whiz through
 Adlibbing
 - c. Avoid the most common movement actor traps
 Swaying, dancing, pacing, wringing hands, jingling your change.
 - d. Make movement relevant to the plot.
 - e. If you make a mistake, keep going, they don't know the difference. Just press forward and act like you planned the mistake. They will never know.
 - f. Remember that you are trying your best, and that's all that an auditor expects.