

Tree House Youth Theatre Auditions 2020/21



Why do we have auditions?

Auditions are an important part of the life of an actor, whether it be for community theatre, high school theatre, or professional theatre, all actors need to learn how to audition. There are some fundamental skills required, and that is what we are teaching at Tree House. Every actor will get a part in *The Shakespeare Sonnet Collective*, and the audition process will be done in a supportive group setting. This process will prepare participants for when they will do solo auditions when they move up to the 13-17 year old Performance Program. On September 20 we will be working on the monologue in preparation for the auditions taking place on September 27. Each actor will have time to work one-on-one with our Artistic Director to develop their audition. It is important that actors start memorizing their monologue right away, as this will allow them to really utilize the rehearsal time effectively.

What should be prepared?

Attached to the email that was sent out is *Sonnet 18* by William Shakespeare. The sonnet is fairly short, and includes a modern day translation to help your youth understand what is being said. Each monologue must be memorized, as this will show the director how each actor prepares, and their level of dedication. We highly recommend that actors begin to memorize right away, in order to best utilize the rehearsal time. One great way of memorizing at this age/skill level is to make a goal to memorize one line per day. By cutting down the monologue into smaller chunks, it may seem less daunting.

What should each actor bring?

- **A head shot.** This is just a picture showing your youth's face. For the purposes of Tree House, this does not have to be a professional picture. It would be totally acceptable for you to come with a photo that you printed off using a standard printer. All we need is a picture of your face, that's it. If a participant forgets to bring in a photo, we will take one at the time of the audition.

What should each actor wear?

Each actor should be comfortable, and professional. We don't need Sunday Best, but also don't want Saturday Morning Cartoon Marathon. Showcase who you are, and avoid clothing with logos. Try to dress in something that won't distract from your audition.

What will happen at the audition?

Our younger actors will audition on September 27 in a group setting. Each participant will take a turn presenting their monologue in a supportive environment. This will be less of a formal audition process and will focus more on a workshop atmosphere.

When will the cast list be sent out?

As this is a collection of sonnets by Shakespeare, the story will be created in rehearsal. Characters, and relationships between them will evolve over time. Some of the sonnets may be performed as a collective group, while others might be done as a monologue or dialogue. As such, no formal casting will be sent out. As we rehearse, the play will take shape.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please let us know.