



Audition Guide

Directed by Becky Tower

WHO: All actors grades 6th-12th

WHERE: Greenville Area Recreation & Community Center | 900 E Kent Rd. Greenville, MI

WHEN: Monday, Dec. 1 or Tuesday, Dec. 2 from 3:30-5:30pm

NOT ALL ACTORS WHO AUDITION WILL BE CAST. Our stage is limited, so we are unable to cast everyone who auditions. We typically cast between 25-35 actors depending on the show.

CALLBACKS: Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 3:30-5:30pm

READTHROUGH: Thursday, Dec. 4 from 3:30-5:30pm MANDATORY parent meeting to follow readthrough.

REHEARSALS: Monday-Friday, 3-5:30pm, beginning Jan. 5 (subject to change)

FEES: If cast in the production, each actor will be required to pay a \$25.00 production fee. Auditioning is FREE!

PERFORMANCES:

February 20 @ 7pm

February 21 @ 7pm

February 22 @ 2pm

Audition Guide:

Auditions will be held in the Upper Level of the Greenville Area Recreation & Community Center. Parents and supporters will not be allowed in the audition room. This is simply because it can sometimes make actors more nervous to have familiar eyes watching them. The casting staff will include the director, assistant director, and any other show staff that is relevant. They will be seated behind a table for the duration of the audition, and actors will be seated in the performing space. The entire audition will take approximately 30 minutes. Following their audition, actors will be released and can head out.

Acting Portion

For this audition, actors will perform both a monologue and scenes from the show.

1. Monologue - Actors should select a monologue from the provided options. These do NOT need to be memorized, but you should know it well enough that the paper does not inhibit your performance. Actors will stand up one at a time, let casting staff know what monologue they will be performing, and then perform the monologue. For tips on this, check out the “Audition Tips” section below.
2. Audition Sides - The director will sort actors into scenes and assign them characters to read for. They will have time to look over the scenes briefly and ask any questions they have regarding the scene, their character, word pronunciation, etc. They will then be asked to stand and perform the scenes. Each actor will read for a few different characters in different scenes. For tips on this, check out the “Audition Tips” section below.

Dancing Portion

Actors will be briefly taught a portion of choreography (typically 15-30 seconds of a dance). They will then run through the dance a few times. Their final times will be done without the choreographer guiding them, and they may split into smaller groups so that each actor can be seen. We highly recommend learning the choreography BEFORE attending your audition. For tips on this, check out the “Audition Tips” section below.

Our audition choreography will be to the song “Chillin Like a Villain” and will be taught by Maddi Mayle. Audition choreo will be taught at the audition workshop (register online at garcc.recdesk.com) and will be posted at greenvillemi.org/hcat on Nov. 26th.

Vocals Portion

Each actor will be required to sing the selected section of the audition song on their own. Vocal directors may also check each actor’s range. Actors may indicate on their audition sheet that they want only an ensemble role so they do not need to sing alone during the show, BUT they will still be required to sing alone at auditions in order to cast them. For more tips on how to prepare for a vocal audition (and be less nervous!), check out the “Audition Tips” section below.

Our vocal audition songs will be “Rotten to the Core Part 2” and “Be Our Guest Part 1.” Please see the Audition Vocals Info at greenvillemi.org/hcat for more information.

Note on Auditions:

Actors should be prepared to NOT read for every character. The director and staff have limited time and cannot have every actor read for every role. The show staff will decide and assign actors to read for certain roles. Actors should respect the show staff's assignments of characters and refrain from asking to read something specific. More specific assignments will be done at callbacks.

What are Callbacks?

Callbacks are an invitation-only expansion on auditions. Not every actor will be asked to come to callbacks, but this does not mean they are out of the show. Show staff invite those who they need to see again because they want to see things like onstage chemistry for characters who are friends. Actors who are called back will only read for a few select characters. They will also be expected to sing other songs from the show.

Callback List & Cast List

The list for callbacks will be posted following the second day of auditions. It will be shared to the GARCC Facebook page (facebook.com/YourGARCC) and sent to the emails used on the SignUpGenius. The cast list will be put in the same locations and sent out after the conclusion of callbacks.

Audition Tips*General Tips*

1. When others are auditioning, be sure to stay quiet. It's important to be respectful of everyone during the audition, and you may learn something by watching others!
2. Stay positive! Don't talk down your skills or others. Being positive will help boost your confidence and therefore your entire audition!
3. Do your best with every character you read for. Some actors get caught up in wanting only a certain role, so sometimes we've seen them read really good for roles they want and then not try as hard for those that they don't. While this seems like a smart trick, it will not work! All it tells the director is that you only care about certain things or that your skills are limited to only a certain kind of role. Always try your hardest for every role.
4. Don't be afraid to mess up. Auditions are the beginning of a show, so no one expects you to be performance ready! You can use your mistakes to showcase other abilities you have like a positive attitude and not letting the audience know you messed up!
5. The casting staff are rooting for you!

Monologue Tips

1. Build your scene - Monologue can feel clunky and awkward, but by creating an imaginary space inside your head, you can pull an audience in with you! Decide what the set might look like and where a director might have blocked you if you were doing the full scene. If you want imaginary set pieces, props, or scene partners "on stage" with you,

be sure to act like they are always there (e.g. if you reference a table that you pick something up from, don't walk through the imaginary table later!)

2. Where to look - Choose a place to look that is meaningful to your script. Your eyes are an important part of telling your story. Be thoughtful about where you're looking (and don't just stare at the paper!) Are you talking to someone? Then pick a spot to be your imaginary scene partner. Are you thinking aloud? Then pick a few places where you might focus on while you're thinking. Are you talking to the audience? Be bold and look at the casting staff!
3. Center yourself - There is no rule saying that you have to start as fast as you can. Take a minute to close your eyes, breathe, and step into the character before you start your monologue. Bonus: This will show the casting staff that you are being meaningful with every aspect of your acting!
4. How to select a monologue - there's really no "wrong" method. You could pick a character that you really want just in case you don't get to read for them in a scene. You could also pick a monologue because it shows your most interesting or strongest skills. You could also pick one that you think will be "unpopular" so you stand out from a crowd. Whatever you decide, just be sure to give it your all and be bold!
5. Try to memorize it - the better you know it, the more you can showcase your "acting" skills rather than your "reading" skills. It's not required, but it will help YOU.

Audition Sides Tips

1. Come prepared - read over scenes before your audition. It's also good to be familiar with the context of the scene: what emotions are present? How do these characters know each other? Where does this scene take place?
2. Don't be afraid to ask questions - if you aren't familiar with the scene, or if something never quite clicked for you while reading it, don't be afraid to ask! Asking questions shows the staff that you are invested and want to be informed.
3. Try for every character - a big part of your audition is casting staff looking at your attitude. If you only try hard for the roles you want, it can send the wrong message.

Dancing Audition Tips

1. Learn it ahead of time - the choreography walkthrough is typically posted 1-2 weeks prior to auditions. To help you feel more confident (and to show the staff more of what you can do), learn it in advance.
2. Keep a positive attitude - even if you mess up, or if you're frustrated as you're learning it, stay positive! Show the staff you're there to try your best AND have fun. You won't be perfect, and that's okay!
3. Don't forget to act - try to portray the emotions and story that your character would be feeling if you were performing the dance in the show. This is easier to do if you've practiced in advance and don't have to focus on remembering the moves as much.

Vocal Audition Tips

1. You don't have to be perfect!!!!!! - The vocal director isn't expecting you to be performance-ready. They are just looking for someone they can help get performance-ready!
2. Practice in front of someone at home - While practicing on your own is super helpful, it can feel very different to sing in front of someone else. You don't want the first time you sing in front of someone to be at auditions - it'll already feel nerve-racking, so don't add that pressure on there!
3. Practice with the vocals AND the instrumental track - you won't be able to sing along with the vocals at auditions! So be sure to try it with just the instrumental.
4. Be loud & proud - Even if you are the most talented singer in the world, it won't matter if the staff can't hear you! Most directors are more inclined to cast someone who was loud but a little off over someone who was spot on but too quiet!

Questions: mhuntoon@greenvillemi.org