



WHAT SHOULD I WEAR TO AN AUDITION AT LIVE ARTS TO REALLY SHINE?

ALLI VILLINES. Actor, Singer, Dancer

- Always wear something comfortable but pulled together and professional. If you don't normally wear heels don't think you're all of a sudden going to be comfortable in them for an audition. Ladies, Be wary of too much leg or cleavage. Guys, pull yourself together and put on some slacks and a decent shirt.

BETSY TUCKER. Director

- **NEVER** wear flip flops.
- Clothes you can move in, if asked to move.
- Something that you feel makes you look good –OR– Something that suggests the character(s) you are auditioning for.

GERI CARLSON SAULS. Choreographer, Director, Actor, Dancer & Singer

- Research the show. If there is a particular character you are auditioning for then dress suggestive of that character.
- Dress nicely. I don't recommend shorts, tank tops, torn jeans, etc. Nice jeans, nice shirts, a skirt for the girls - just look put together. Sloppy dress does not make a good impression, at least for me.
- If you have a dance audition before you sing, you can bring a change of clothes for the vocal and/or reading. You'll be happy to get out of your sweaty clothes & the staff will appreciate the effort you take. You will have time to change. There is always a break between the two.
- **DANCE.** Wear something you can move in. Try to avoid really baggy clothes. We need to see how you move. That doesn't mean you can't start in a sweatshirt or warm ups. Just be prepared to remove them when you actually perform. If it is a show that calls for a showgirl look, show off your legs!
- **DANCE SHOES.** Bring all of your dance shoes, or if you don't have dance shoes, bring shoes that you can move in. You can dance barefoot, but sometimes the stage is not safe for that. Sneakers can work well. Try not to have anything too bulky though. Be prepared! If it is a tap show, bring tap shoes! [If you have them. If not, don't let that stop you from auditioning!]
- Ladies, bring a pair of heels. Many traditional musicals require at least walking, if not dancing, in heels.

JULIE HAMBERG. Artistic Director, Director

- First and foremost be comfortable.
- Dress so you feel like a million bucks! Confidence and ease are essential.
- Wear clothes you can move in – this precludes really short, tight skirts and spike heels, women, unless that's vital for the character you're going for.

KATE BENNIS. Actor

- I always wear something that suggests, almost subconsciously, the character and time period of the play. For instance, I auditioned recently for the role of a servant circa 1845. I wore a calf-length gray skirt and black shirt that tied around tight to the waist. I wore my hair pulled back in a simple, low bun (just Google, "hairstyles 1840") and makeup that was muted enough to look like no makeup, but made my eyes pop. I looked around the waiting room at big blonde hair, red shoes, and designer jeans. After that, the casting agent put out a note before the call-backs asking for people to wear something reminiscent of the time. I do not advocate, however, wearing a costume. Notice I did not wear a hoop skirt and corset!
- DANCE AUDITIONS: Show your legs...probably even men! I learned the hard way...for a professional production, I showed up with a long skirt. The director had me hike it up so he could view my legs. Indeed.

KATE MONAGHAN. Director, Actor, SM, Playwright, Musical writer

- Don't let your clothes become another "character" in your audition. Wear something that fits, that's easy to move in, and that you don't have to think about (i.e., is it riding up, is the neckline gaping, etc.)
- Beyond that, if you own something that would be appropriate for the play or character you're auditioning for, wear that. If not, wear distinct colors that flatter your skin tone - black or white or jewel tones (neutrals don't pop in an observer's memory).

LYDIA HORAN. Director, Actor, Singer

- Wear something you are comfortable and can move in.
- Dressing for a particular role might be helpful to you and the director, but don't overdo it. It's more important that you show who you are.

MARTY MOORE. Director, Actor

- Wear something that flatters you, without over powering you. Your outfit should be comfortable enough for you to move around in, while still stylish and respectful of the opportunity to audition. Don't dress for the part, dress like yourself.

MATTHEW JONES. Music Director

- Dressing for auditions is tricky. In general, do not dress for a particular character--even if that character is your dream role.
- For a voice/acting audition, try to strike a balance between "dressing up" and completely casual. Dance auditions usually require dance clothes.
- Don't wear sneakers, shorts, extremely short skirts, or jeans.
- Think, "Blank slate" because the audition team will be imagining you in a variety of different contexts. Let your audition--not your outfit--impress the directors.

MENDY ST. OURS. Director, Actor

- It doesn't hurt to allude to the part that you want to get. That doesn't mean to actually dress like the town fool if you're going for a silly part. But a bright color or something a little fun helps us see you in that part. If you are going for the role of a vixen, why not wear a dress?
- Ultimately, it doesn't matter what you wear. As long as you look clean, kind, and like you care about being there, we will see a person who will invest in our show and respects the process.
- The character NEVER walks in the door. No matter how brilliant you are, we are two different people and will at least see slight differences in the character. So much more important than trying to LOOK like the character, is to BE the person we want to work with for 6 weeks.

RAY NEDZEL. Director, Actor, Producer

- Unless the audition announcement requests specific clothing, wear something like the character might wear -- not complete or even overt. The audition is acting, so give yourself a little costume.
- Above all, be comfortable; wear something that makes you feel good, something you think you look good in.

SHAWN HIRABAYASHI. Playwright

- Where something comfortable that, ideally, shows you've given some thought about the character you're auditioning for.

WILL KERNER. Artist, Director

- Dress so that you feel comfortable, but perhaps in a way that indicates your personal style.