

# 2019 WA State Thespians College Auditions Instructions

## Requirements:

1. Only students who graduate in spring 2020 (or those from 2019 who took a gap year or did community college) may audition for college theatre programs at the WA State Thespians College Audition Festival.
2. Colleges and universities at auditions are seeking a minimum 2.75 grade point average. If you are below 2.75, you may still audition, but it's up to the individual schools whether they will consider you for a callback.
3. College and universities are seeking actors (straight acting and musical theatre) in the Performance Auditions and designers (all areas), stage managers, directors, marketers, playwrights, and future theatre educators in the Tech/Production Portfolio Presentations. See details below for specific requirements.
4. The application is a writable PDF. Please TYPE into the PDF, print and sign, and snail mail the hard copy.
5. Headshots must fit in the corner space provided on the form, attached with clear tape. Wallet size photos work best. Any photos that do not fit in the space provided will be discarded and not included with the copy of your application given to the college representatives.
6. Application fee: \$40 for inducted Thespians and \$50 non-Thespians (payable to WA State Thespians). Refunds will not be given due to cancellation.
7. Completed & signed college/university audition forms must be MAILED with application fee to:

Roosevelt High School  
Attn: Ben Stuart  
1410 NE 66th Street  
Seattle WA, 98115

Postmark deadline: **Friday, October 4, 2019.**

## Questions about application, payment, or the day of the event?

Contact Ben Stuart.

Phone: 206.252.4967

Email: [btstuart@seattleschools.org](mailto:btstuart@seattleschools.org)

## AUDITION LOCATION:

Roosevelt High School Theater  
1410 NE 66th Street  
Seattle WA 98115

## Day of Schedule:

**Registration:** 8:00-8:30 a.m.

**General Meeting & optional group vocal warm up w/ accompanist:** 8:40 a.m.

**Performance Auditions & Tech/Production Portfolio Presentations:** 9:00 - 12:30 p.m.

**Break/Lunch:** 12:30-1:30 p.m.

**Callback Interviews:** 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

## Applying:

Only the two page application form will be provided to the college reps. Do not attach any additional documents to your application. Transcripts, separate resumes, oversize headshots, and Health & Consent forms will all be discarded if included with your application. Resume space on the application form is limited--only use that space. Students should bring extra résumés/headshots to present to the colleges at callback interviews.

**What to bring on the day of:**

All registered students must **bring two** copies of your Health and Consent forms. One copy will be kept on file while the other will be kept on your person at all times. You are encouraged to bring extra copies of your headshots and resumes to distribute during the afternoon callback and interview session. Students presenting Tech/Production Portfolios should bring all materials needed for your presentation (see below for more details). Some snacks will be available for purchase, and many coffee shops, convenience stores, and restaurants are within walking distance of the host school.

**Should my parent or vocal coach come along on the day of the event?**

Pursuing theatre beyond high school is YOUR process and journey and the event is organized so that you can get through the day on your own and with the support of your peers. Colleges are looking for curious, passionate, prepared, and self-reliant students. There will be no space available for private warm ups or coaching and colleges are looking to you to lead the charge during callback interviews.

**When you arrive and during auditions & portfolio presentations:**

When you arrive, you will check in, verify payment, and turn in one copy of your Health & Consent Form (keep the other on your person in the event of an emergency). There will be a brief general meeting in the RHS Theater with further instructions after which the event accompanist will lead everyone who wishes in a vocal warm up. During this time, students presenting Tech/Production Portfolios may troubleshoot the presentation equipment and available resources (see below). Once the morning audition session has begun, all students will wait in the commons area. The audition order will be pre-determined and you will be called in to the staging area in small groups. Please keep the energy in the commons quiet and focused so everyone can hear their names when called. Some additional college representatives may be available in the commons area to quietly meet with students about their programs while you wait.

**Accommodations for Students with Specific Needs:**

All students are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the Washington Unified College Auditions. The facility is ADA compliant. If you need special assistance during the event or other accommodations to be successful, please contact the event chair, Ben Stuart, at [btstaurt@seattleschools.org](mailto:btstaurt@seattleschools.org) at least 48 hours prior to the day of the event.

**About Performance Auditions:**

Auditions must be solo presentations--other students may not perform with you or observe. You will begin your audition with only an introduction: name, school, title of selection(s), playwright/composer/lyricist. Students will be allowed a maximum of **two** minutes (not including the introduction). Time will be called if students exceed the two-minute maximum. Time will not permit oral or written critiques. If time is called, do not panic or feel bad. You will not be disqualified or anything, we just have to keep the process moving.

In the performance category you may perform one, two-minute selection (song or monologue) or two contrasting one-minute selections (two monologues or one song/one monologue). Musical auditions must be accompanied by piano—no taped music or a cappella singing will be accepted. An accompanist will be provided; bring sheet music. No dance auditions will be permitted. When choosing your performance piece, please avoid selections with dialects, accents, and any classical material unless you have been specifically trained in these areas. One straight-back chair and one small table will be available for performers. Costumes, scenery, and hand props are not permitted. Dress neatly—it makes a good impression.

**Tech/Production Portfolio Presentations:**

Visit <http://www.washingtonstatethespians.com/College-Auditions.php> for a Guide for Tech Portfolio Presentations with more details and tips.

Tech/Production Portfolio applicants such as theatre technicians, designers, stage managers, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, theatre educators, marketers etc... will be allowed a maximum of **four** minutes (not including the presentation set up) to present your portfolios to the room of auditors. Time will be called at the four-minute mark. If time is called, do not panic or feel bad. You will not be disqualified or anything, we just have to keep the process moving. After four minutes, there will be **one** minute for the college representatives to ask you questions after which, time will be called again to finish the Q&A portion of your presentation.

You will begin your presentation with an introduction: name, school, and intended area(s) of study or interest. The room will be the same large space as the performance auditions and the auditors will be seated to watch your presentation. Dress neatly—it makes a good impression.

Resources available for your presentation:

- All portfolios must be either physical books/binders OR digital presentations in Microsoft PowerPoint format. Additional materials such as costume construction samples and set models are permitted. An easel, bistro table, and costume rack will be available to display such materials.
- A projector, screen, and doc-u-cam will be available to enlarge and project a physical portfolio, or you may wish to bring a digital presentation (Microsoft PowerPoint only) on a thumb drive. NO internet access will be available during the presentation. NO connectivity to a personal electronic device will be available. Speakers will be available and connected to the presentation station computer.
- Avoid shiny sleeve protectors if bringing a portfolio in a binder to display under the doc-u-cam as they will reflect the ceiling lights and may distort the image.

**About the audition room:**

Audition sessions are closed to delegates who are not auditioning. The audience at the audition sessions will consist of the representatives of colleges and universities. The emphasis during the auditions must be on presentation and performance. The audition area will be approximately 8' x 8'. No special lighting will be available. A straight back chair and small table will be available for Performance Auditions. A doc-u-cam, projector, screen, easel, costume rack, and bistro table will be available for Tech/Production Portfolio presentations. Before your introduction, you will be allowed to set the stage.

**About Callbacks:**

In addition to participating in the audition or portfolio presentation, college/university representatives may call students back for interviews. Callback interviews will take place in the afternoon in separate rooms as well as at tables in the commons area. If you do not receive a callback to a school you are interested in, you are welcome to stop by their room or table to ask for feedback and make a personal connection, but please wait for a break between people on their callback list.

Some schools may ask actors to perform additional material or to workshop the material from the morning audition. For those who presented tech portfolios, callbacks will be a chance for representatives to take a closer look at your portfolio and ask you deeper questions. If you have more materials to share in an electronic format, you may present them on a personal laptop or other device during the callback time. Internet access will not be available to display digital materials during callbacks.

College and university representatives will not make specific offers during the audition day. Instead, they may contact students following the auditions with offers. Mailing representatives personal thank you cards or emails shortly after the event is recommended.