

Choice Application for the 2019-2020 School Year

7th - 12th Grade Audition Requirements– Page 1

Students must be passing all academic subjects to apply to SOA



Creative Writing

- On-site writing sample
- Question and Answer Session
- Prepared portfolio to include **three** pieces of writing: two poems and a short story
- Pieces may be typed or handwritten. Submit on white 8 ½” x 11” paper and place in a 9” x 12” manila folder.
- No artwork should be included. Portfolios should be brought to the School of the Arts at the time of the audition. The student should retain originals and submit only copies, as portfolios will not be returned. **Do not send the portfolio with the application. Please do not write your name on the portfolio pieces or folder**

Visual Arts

- On-site drawing test
- Prepared portfolio consist of seven works created within the past year with at least one created outside of school. **Please don't place your name on any of the art pieces or on the portfolio board.** Also, please **don't** fasten your art pieces with staples or thumbtacks. (Portfolios must be picked up the week after the audition.)

Works must represent at least two art mediums.

- Mediums include pencil, pen & ink, acrylic, oil, water color, pastel, charcoal, or photography. Only one photo may be included.
- Artwork should include a portrait, a still life and a landscape, **two of these must be drawn from real life.**
- 3-D artwork, such as sculpture or ceramics, may be submitted or represented in a photo.
- Artwork should be mounted on a 3' X 4' tri-fold display board, available at office supply stores.
- Cartoons may not be included

Fashion and Design Major (9th—12th Grade only)

- Submit 3-5 drawings of original costume or fashion designs appropriate for a child, teen or adult (male or female) on a human figure/model (croquis). Place drawings in a manila folder with the applicant's name on the back.
- Students must bring in 1-5 of the best garments either constructed or altered by them. Accessories may also be included.
- Student will participate in a **90 minute audition** including an on-site design challenge assessment in which the applicant will use a variety of materials to create original designs. **ALL MATERIALS WILL BE PROVIDED.**
- Students will participate in a 5 minute question and answer session about their designs.

Vocal Music

- Echo sing simple & complex intervals and rhythmic patterns
- **All students must sing “My Country ‘Tis of Thee.”**
- Prepared solo with accompaniment (not a cappella singing). Provide your own cassette tape, CD, or pianist for accompaniment. A piano, CD player or speaker to play from your mobile device will be provided. **Accompaniment tape or CD may not have voices.** Solos must be limited to 2 minutes. Song choice should **not** be a “Pop” song. Folk, hymn, patriotic, Broadway, or classical art songs are acceptable.
- Question and Answer Session

Students who do not have an accompanist may choose one of the following songs and a staff accompanist will be provided: 1) “America the Beautiful” – B flat major key; 2) “The Star Spangled Banner” – B flat major key; 3) “Candle on the Water” from Disney’s Pete’s Dragon – C major key.

7th—12th grade openings are based on vacancies created when students leave SOA.

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Piano

- Play from memory two pieces of contrasting style from classical piano literature. Bring a copy of the music for the judges
- Sight-reading of music
- Question and Answer Session

Rising 7th & 8th Grade:

- Students should be prepared to play white key major scales (C,D,E,F,G,A,B) and (A,E,D) minor scales two octaves, cadence chords for these scales. They will also take a theory survey.

Rising 9-12th Grade:

- Students should be prepared to play all major scales and the white key minor scales two or more octaves, hands together; cadence chords for these scales. They will also take a written theory test.

Theater Arts

- Prepared monologue - The monologue should be a memorized piece that is between 30 seconds to one minute long demonstrating the ability to create a character. The student will be judged on the believability of the character, stage presence, creativity, and evidence of preparation. See website for example monologues.
- Structured improvisation - Students will demonstrate the ability to focus, take direction, and express creativity.
- Cold reading - Unfamiliar passage to be read aloud with expression
- Question and Answer Session

Instrumental Band—(Guitar is not considered a band instrument)

- Solo showing technical achievement. Student must bring in extra copy of solo for the judges.
- Sight-reading to demonstrate ability to read notes and rhythms
- Question and Answer Session

The following scales can be found at www.bandlink.org and then clicking on the “All-State” drop-down tab. Go to “auditions and resources” and click on the required section.

Rising 7th & 8th grade:

- Play scales as designated by SCBDA for Jr. Region All State Band

Rising 9th & 10th grade:

- Play scales as designated by SCBDA for Clinic All State Band

Rising 11th & 12th grade:

- Play scales as designated by SCBDA for Senior All State Band

Percussion: *Percussionist are expected to follow the SCBDA percussion audition requirements for the SOA audition.*

This information can be found at www.bandlink.org and then clicking on the “All-State” drop-down tab. Go to “auditions and resources”, and scroll down to the percussion audition information. NOTE: Drum set is not included as a part of the audition.

String Orchestra

Students may play solos or scales that are comparable to or more difficult than the following minimum requirements.

- 7th Grade: **A)** Two two-octave major scales of student’s choice **B)** Any solo from Suzuki Book 2 **C)** Sight Reading
- 8th Grade: **A)** Two octave G, C and F major scales **B)** Any solo from Suzuki Book 3 **C)** Sight Reading
- 9th Grade: **A)** Two three-octave major scales of student’s choice **B)** Any solo from Suzuki Book 4 **C)** Sight Reading
- 10th Grade: **A)** Three-octave D, G, C, F and B-flat scales **B)** Any solo from Suzuki Book 5 **C)** Sight Reading
- 11th Grade: **A)** Three-octave F major and B minor scales **B)** Any solo from Suzuki Book 6 **C)** Sight Reading

Dance

- Group audition is in a class setting which includes teacher-directed warm-up and movement exercises.
- Students will not perform a prepared dance.

Students should wear a leotard with tights or close-fitting athletic wear. Students need to be able to dance barefoot for the audition.

Criteria for acceptance is based on flexibility, creativity and coordination. Students will demonstrate strength and control, flexibility, coordination, physical energy, focus and following direction, musicality and self expression.

Students applying for 11th or 12th grade will be required to show choreographing abilities after the main audition is completed.

FYIs for your Theatre Audition Monologue!

The first thing you should know about auditions is that everyone involved in the process sincerely wants you to do your best. So do we. Here are a couple of helpful hints.

- Do a monologue that fits you. Also, do something that is age appropriate. No ten year old grandmas or grandpas please!
- Do a monologue that is multi-dimensional and a dramatically active piece. You should be working toward a goal in relationship to the other character in the scene; silence on his or her part does not equal absence. If your character is telling a story, why must that story be told right now? Why doesn't anyone interrupt you? How do your listeners react? How does that reaction affect you?
- Do a piece you know well. Don't rely on adrenaline to get you through.
- Do a monologue that reflects your good taste and artistic sensibility. Students who try to shock or barrage auditors with profanities are indeed remembered, but not fondly.
- Do a piece that doesn't require a dialect (unless you do it brilliantly), props, costumes or gimmicky staging.
- The piece should be memorized! This means you will not be bringing your script into the audition room and giving it to one of the judges so he can give you a prompt if you go up on a line. Memorized means you don't need that.
- Plan ahead and give yourself enough time to prepare. Get help! Ask your teacher or a local theatre company for help in finding someone to coach your work. To avoid conflicts of interest, our department will not recommend specific coaches.
- Do the monologue for lots of different people in lots of different types of performing situations. For your class. In your living room for mom and dad and the dog! At church. The more times you do the piece in lots of different performance situations then the more you will feel confident in doing it for the audition.