

### Actor Training Program Audition Monologue Requirements:

- Four memorized monologues (two heightened text and two contemporary), each approximately two minutes in length.
- At least one of the heightened text selections must be from a play by William Shakespeare.
- At least one of the heightened text selections must be in verse.
- In addition to Shakespeare, heightened text selections may be drawn from any writers whose text is poetic or elevated.
- Contemporary selections should be from writers working in the 20th and 21st centuries.

**What do you mean by heightened text?** By heightened text, we mean text that has elements, often poetic, that lift it beyond everyday speech. While that could be said of many contemporary plays, we want to see you work on a play for which language is the primary engine of the action and whose stakes require you to actively pursue your character's need through image-laden text.

**May both of my heightened text monologues be from works by Shakespeare?** Yes.

**May I choose a heightened text piece that is not by Shakespeare?** Yes. We welcome texts from all global traditions in strong English translations.

**May I use source material that is not from a play for my contemporary monologue (e.g., a novel or screenplay)?** In general, the faculty prefer monologues to be selected from published plays. However, if you feel strongly about a particular piece that is not from a play, you may prepare it as long as your other monologues are from plays.

**Does Juilliard provide a list of suggested monologues (or a list of monologues to stay away from)?** No. Please choose monologues with which you feel a particular connection, whether they are commonly known or less so. Beware of using monologue books to select your pieces: it is essential that you read the entire plays from which your monologues are selected so that you thoroughly understand the character's circumstances and to whom they are speaking and why.

**May I use an accent?** If you feel that a piece that you have selected warrants the use of an accent, you are welcome (but not required) to do so.

**May I choose a character of any gender identification?** Yes.

**How strict is the two-minute time limit?** Although we do not use a timer in the audition room, we do ask you to be respectful of the time limit. It's fine if your monologue is slightly less than or a few seconds over two minutes.

**How important is it to select a character who is in my age range?** We are interested in discovering who you are as an actor. You may choose any character with whom you imaginatively connect.

**Do I need one comedic and one dramatic monologue?** Not necessarily, although we do ask that the different characters you choose allow you to bring different aspects of yourself and reveal your capacity for transformation.

**What furniture will be in the audition room?** In New York, there will be a chair and a wooden cube for your use. In Chicago and San Francisco, there will be two chairs.

**What should I wear?** You should wear clothes that allow you freedom of movement for the warm-up. Even if you choose to change into other clothes for your audition itself, you need to be able to move freely. Avoid particularly high heels or heavy boots that might pre-determine your physicality.

**May I bring a hand prop?** In most cases, props in auditions do not add to the scene and can be distracting for the actor. However, if you would like, it is fine to use something that you might have with you on a normal day: water bottle, scarf, piece of paper, pencil or pen, cell phone, handbag. These items can also be used to stand in for other objects used by the character. Of course, do not bring weapons of any kind.

**What about the song?** We ask that you prepare a part of a song (16 bars – twice the length of “Happy Birthday”) to sing a cappella (unaccompanied). It can truly be ANY song that you would like to sing, in any language, from any genre. If you are asked to sing, it is an opportunity for our faculty to find out information about your vocal range and instrument. A trained singing voice is not required for admission.

**May I use the same monologues from my prescreening audition in the in-person audition?** Yes. Applicants who are invited to an in-person audition after passing Zoom prescreening are permitted to use the same monologues—or to change them.