



2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
The Performing Arts
Application Process:
It's About Time

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The Performing Arts Application Process: It's About Time

Presenters

Amy Goldin

COPA, Inc.: College Options in the Performing Arts

Chris Andersson

Nothing But Drama

Former Director of Admissions at NYU Tisch Drama

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The Performing Arts Application Process: It's About Time

Panelists

Pam McDaniel

Western Connecticut State University

Neal Humphreys

The Hartt School, University of Hartford

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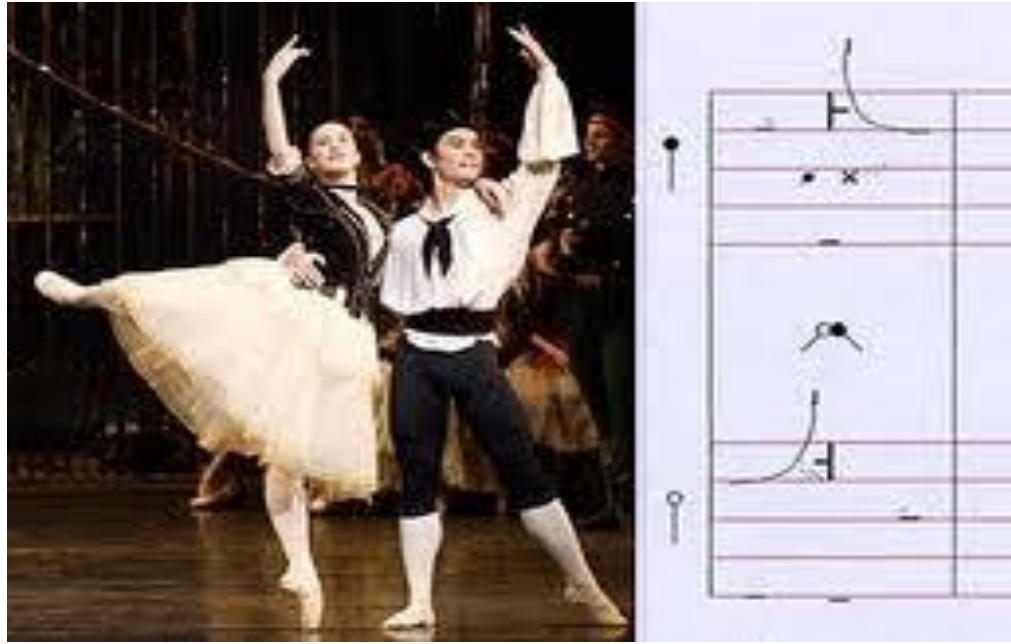


Today's Topics

- The Performing Arts Application Process
- Getting Started, Getting Organized
- The Performing Arts Application Timeline
- What is a Pre-Screen?
- Q&A

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The Performing Arts Application Process



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Getting Started

Two Parallel Processes

- Application
- Artistic Review

Applications

- Common App? Coalition? School's own?
- Is an Arts Supplement required?
 - This requirement may be “hiding” on school website
- Must an applicant apply to the school first before scheduling an artistic review?

Artistic Review Requirements

- Audition required?
- Dates, deadlines, requirements and guidelines, materials to gather

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Audition Required?

It is imperative that you confirm requirements every year.

B.F.A.'s (and B.M.'s) very likely require auditions

- Many require pre-screens as well, which are digitally recorded preliminary auditions and which precede in-person auditions
- Some schools require pre-screens only for certain majors
- A pre-screen requirement changes the timeline for audition prep
- Passing the pre-screen will trigger the applicant's ability to reserve an audition date

B.A.'s MIGHT require auditions. Requirements vary:

- by school
- by program
- by major
- YEAR-to-YEAR

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Auditions: Things to Know

- Students usually need to submit a school's application before they will be permitted to schedule an artistic review
 - There are exceptions – few and far between but they do exist
- Some schools prefer artistic reviews to be done on campus but regional audition sites may be offered
 - Student should ask who does the reviews at the regional sites
 - Is it the faculty of the department or local evaluators?
- If it is difficult for a student or family to travel, they should inquire about a digital submission option for their artistic review
 - In a digital artistic review, the applicant uploads videos of monologues, songs, music performances or portfolio material for review. The applicant may be contacted via Skype or a similar platform for an interview component

Audition Preparation Tips

- Apply to the school and submit required pre-screens as early as possible in order to secure preferred audition dates and locations
- Organize potential and confirmed audition dates
- Don't make travel plans until your preferred dates are confirmed
- MT and Classical Voice auditions: check accompanist situation
- Follow the directions found on websites to the letter
- Prepare with a professional coach
- Students should use the resources around them. Also, keep in mind their music, drama or art teachers. Do they work/volunteer at a local community arts center? Have them reach out to alumni from their high schools who have gone on to study art in college

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Beware: No standardization!

Musical Theater

- 16 bars? 32 bars? Entire song?
- Songs written before 1960? After 1990?
- Will there be a dance call?

Acting

- Classical or contemporary monologues? Both?
- Is a monologue from a film OK? Musical Theatre? Original work?
- 60 seconds? 90 seconds? Two minutes?

Music

- Entire concerto? One movement? Etudes OK? Etudes required?
- For jazz musicians, a specific solo or choose your own?

Portfolio

- 1 project? 2 projects? 10 projects?
- Digital or hard copy? Or both?
- What content is required?

Organize, organize, organize!

- What materials must they track and gather?
 - Audition checklist
 - Dates, deadlines, locations and required content
 - Does the required audition content differ from the pre-screen?
 - Résumé
 - Headshot
 - Repertoire list
 - Multiple spreadsheets
- What content is required of them to submit?
 - Photographs; short films; visual art portfolio pieces; filmed monologues, songs, or choreography; recorded music samples; writing portfolio; etc.
 - What types/sizes of files will be permitted to upload?
 - Must they submit all material at once or can they “save & quit”?
- How does an applicant submit artistic review material?
 - Via SlideRoom, Acceptd, Slate or school’s own submission platform

Performing Arts Timeline

Freshman-Sophomore Years

- Truly consider the role studying the performing arts will play in your college plans
- Take stock of your depth of interest in the field
 - Extent of your training thus far
 - Attitude towards practice and learning
 - Willingness to push yourself beyond what you've already learned
 - Ability to accept and learn from criticism
 - Readiness for a life of employment challenges
- Begin to build a preliminary college list, digging deeper than the "best of..." lists
- Visit campuses or plan to visit throughout your first three years of high school

Performing Arts Timeline

Junior Year (FALL)

- SEPT: Plan attendance at college fairs, PVA fairs, campus visits
- OCT: Research summer high school programs and organize application and audition requirements
- NOV/DEC: Begin applications to summer high school programs, schedule auditions if required and prepare audition material

Junior Year (SPRING)

- JAN/FEB: Submit summer applications, attend auditions
- MAR/APR: Research additional summer opportunities, i.e., internships, volunteer work, community arts center job, camp counselor at drama/dance/music/art camp

Performing Arts Timeline

Junior Year (SPRING)

- As the semester starts to wind down and your student is in the clear from school plays, concerts, art shows, recitals, and final projects, they should work towards the following:
 - Finalize core list of schools
 - Begin work on pre-screen materials, if required
 - Begin work on applications and essays
 - Create an arts résumé
 - Compile a repertoire list and accompanying material
 - Craft an artistic statement as a basis for arts-specific apps

Performing Arts Timeline

Senior Year (FALL)

- If required, pre-screen deadlines fall quite early in the semester
 - SEPT: Finalize choices for pre-screen content
 - SEPT: Learn digital recording and upload requirements
 - SEPT: Record pre-screen content
 - OCT: Submit applications to schools with pre-screens
- For remaining schools
 - OCT: Map out application deadlines and audition requirements
 - OCT: Submit applications and request artistic review dates
 - OCT: Once audition appointments are secured, make travel plans
 - OCT: Work on résumés, repertoire lists, artistic statements
 - OCT: Polish final choices of artistic content, especially if different from pre-screen material
 - NOV: Early Decision artistic reviews
 - DEC 1 is application deadline for some arts schools

Performing Arts Timeline

Senior Year (SPRING)

- Early Decision II and Regular Decision auditions begin as early as the second week of January
 - Unified Auditions for theater schools occur at the end of Jan/beginning of Feb
- Stay organized and on top of all the particulars
- Create checklists and backup materials
 - Which pieces will I do for each school?
 - What am I required to bring to my audition?
 - What will I wear at my audition?
 - Will there be a dance call?
 - Prepare multiple copies of résumés, photos, artistic statements, sheet music, portfolio material
- Coordinate all travel arrangements



What exactly *is* a Pre-Screen?



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A Pre-screen is...

...a video, audio, or digital upload of a student's artistic work that may—or may not—lead to an invitation for a live audition or interview.

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Pre-Screens

- Required by SOME schools for SOME programs
- Usually similar to—or even identical to—audition requirements
- May require some kind of introduction clip
- May require a shorter additional video “essay”
- Specifics vary school by school, major by major
 - Check: What is the process to submit? (SlideRoom, Acceptd, proprietary platform)
 - Check: If pre-screen is accepted, when and where is the callback?
 - Check: If pre-screen is not accepted, will the school still accept the student into the general population?
 - Check: If accepted into the school but not into the audition-based major, can student re-audition in the subsequent year for admission to performance major (aka Internal Transfer)?

Some dates are VERY EARLY

“The new pre-screen applications should be live
June/July.”

Elon University

<https://app.getacceptd.com/elon>

“Pre-screenings can be submitted
to getacceptd.com/cmudrama
after September 1”

Carnegie Mellon University

Q&A

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THANK YOU!

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Thank you for joining us today!



We look forward to seeing you again in 2020!

