Red Bank Regional Visual and Performing Arts Academy

Audition & Portfolio Requirements for 2022-2023

PLEASE REFER BACK TO THE RBR WEBSITE FOR AUDITION SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

It is recommended that you begin working on the portfolio requirements for your major immediately. Majors with a visual component, such as art, photo and creative writing, have portfolio requirements which take time to prepare. Majors with a performance component will also need time to rehearse/prepare/memorize audition pieces prior to submission. Drama requires memorization. Just remember, your portfolio/audition will reflect the amount of time you have put into it. You may need an adult to assist you in the preparation and process. Use the following table of contents to find the major of your choice.

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**Commercial Photography Major**

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program for the serious art student. Level 1 is an introductory course to 35mm film and darkroom photography. Topics covered will include the use of the 35mm manual camera to concepts and skills of photographing and printing. Level 2 includes digital photography with emphasis on Photoshop tools and techniques including scanning and studio lighting. Level 3 introduces alternative and creative photo processes, as well as career opportunities in photography. Level 4 concentrates on portfolio development through the use of independent projects based on the elements and principles of design. Throughout the four year experience, history, aesthetics and critiquing are integral parts of each curriculum. Guest artists, photo-shoot field trips, and museum-related field trips supplement instruction.

**Scope and Sequence of study:**

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<td>Commercial Photo 1*</td>
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*Indicates class meets daily for 82 minute block (both A & B Day)

**Application/Portfolio/Interview requirements for Commercial Photography Major:**

**Portfolio – Portfolio will consist of 10 photos and 1 pencil sketch.**

**Photography Component**

Students must submit a portfolio of ten 4x6 photographs consisting of the following subject matter:

1 – Close-up landscape  
2 – Wide-angle landscape  
3 – Still life arrangement in natural light  
4 – Still life arrangement in artificial light  
5 – Self-portrait (think creatively)  
6 – Portrait in natural light  
7 – Portrait in artificial light  
8 – Abstraction  
9 – Choice shot  
10 – Choice shot

**Drawing Component**

Pencil sketch of a still life on an 8x10 piece of paper. Choose three fruits and/or vegetables and arrange them in a strong composition.

**Interview Component:**

1 – Applicants should be prepared to talk about the life and work of a historical photographer that they enjoy.
2 – Applicants should be prepared to talk about their photographs and their experiences taking them.
3 – During the interview, applicants will arrange a still life (using objects we provide) and take several digital images. Be prepared with a camera of your own! Smartphones are acceptable as long as the screen is not cracked.

**PRINTED Photos and drawing should be submitted with application by Dec. 2nd 2022.**

*Photographs are judged on composition, creativity, and technical qualities, such as focus, contrast, camera settings, cropping, art elements, art principles, and originality.*
Creative Writing Major

This program is a vocationally focused 82-minute block per day accelerated writing course for the serious student of writing. Taught in a genre approach in a workshop setting, the course demands that the student set individual reading and writing goals in addition to working in assigned forms. Cross-disciplinary projects, classroom visits by professional writers, competitions and publication opportunities, and field trips to readings and festivals are emphasized.

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*Indicates class meets daily for 82-minute block (both A & B Day)

Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Creative Writing Major:

Students must submit, along with their application, a minimum of four writing samples which demonstrate their versatility and creativity in at least two of the following genres: poetry, fiction, non-fiction, journalism, playwriting, screenwriting, and essay writing.

Students will meet with the Creative Writing teacher on audition day; a scheduled time will be individually provided.

Within the interview students will:

- read one of their original pieces
- discuss their goals in the creative writing program and other areas of interest,
- and to critique a piece by another writer (piece to be provided in interview for analysis)
- recite a piece of writing from memory. This piece can be prose, poetry or any other piece, and can be an original work by the student or written by someone else. Students should bring a copy of the text they have memorized to the audition.

Writing Samples should be submitted with application by Dec. 2nd 2022.
Dance Major

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program which encompasses the four cornerstones of dance: performing, creating, knowing history and culture and analyzing and critiquing. Students will develop their technique while exploring different styles of dance in the performance aspect of class. They will engage in the choreographic process and learn constructive critique skills. Students will perform dance works in two showcases as well as assemblies and community outreach throughout the year and will work with a guest artist in a mini-residency twice a year. They will also engage in research to explore careers, dance history and the influence of dance in culture. The class meets for an 82-minute block daily.

Scope and Sequence of study:

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Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Dance Major:

Students will attend a 2 hour audition for the dance department. Students should wear dance attire or black pants and a black tank top or t-shirt. They should bring any dance shoes and socks or go barefoot. Hair should be pulled back if it is long enough. Students will engage in a sampling of ballet, hip hop, jazz, contemporary and across the floor work. It is not necessary to know all styles. Students will learn a jazz combination to finish the audition that will include a brief improvisation section. Judges are looking for enthusiasm, stage presence, musicality, ability to recall a short phrase of choreography and students' willingness to grow and implement corrections.

Please email Mrs. Scacco at cscacco@rbrhs.org with any questions.
Media Production Major

This is a vocationally focused 4 year sequential program that provides students with training in computer applications that involve video, sound, and photo editing. During the 4 years, students will learn how to correctly use the Adobe software to create different types of Media. Students will learn the basic and then advanced techniques within the broadcasting and film industry. Students will complete electronic portfolios to highlight their work over the 4 years. Their skill will also be put to the test by producing promotional videos for the school, entering film contests, and just general class projects.

Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements:

Hands On Portion

Using video equipment and/or a Smartphone record three videos:

Video 1 – Introduction (3 Parts): Record yourself introducing yourself (Part 1) and explain why you want to be a part of the Interactive Media (Media Production) Program (Part 2) along with describing what you think the major is (Part 3). Please make sure you have all three parts covered in this section.

Video 2 – You are the Star: Recreate a scene from your favorite movie/TV show but put your own spin on it. This section should be about a minute long and include you speaking the dialogue with an added bonus of your creativity on it. It can be anything from costumes to accents to props. It does not matter as long as you make it creative and it shows your personality. You will not be judged on your actual acting ability but the overall attempt you make on camera. This portion is to see how comfortable you are with being recorded and to see if you are willing to be creative on film.

Video 3 – PSA: Record a one minute Public Service Announcement on the “Hazards of Teen Bullying” You will not star in this video. You must direct people on how to act out your vision. You will not be judged on the acting ability within the piece but this is to see if you can get a message across using this media along with your ability to give directions. There should be facts and statistics included in this video. You must also include a Video Storyboard/sketches of your shots with your PSA. It can be emailed, mailed, or brought with you to the interview.

Optional:

Video 4 – Editing Skills: If you have the ability and equipment, combine the three videos together for one long video. Edit the footage to create one seamless video with titles, effects, credits, etc added to the piece. This part is not necessary but can show your added skill within the area of Interactive Media (Media Production). If you do not have the equipment to do so then you do not have to complete this section.

Each video should be submitted through an email that includes:

~Email Attachment of the videos
~A link to each of the uploaded files on the Internet (YouTube, Vimeo or Google Drive).

Label your Video submission correctly with your name and the type of video it is. Please do not submit audition pieces as “untitled”, and/or as “numbers”.

Interview Portion for Media Production:

Come prepared to speak about yourself and your desire to be in the program. You will be recorded during the interview to simulate a real life situation. Since the class is not purely video based, bring with you any examples of work that showcases your skills and creativity. It can be more videos, a short animation, photography, and/or artwork. We are looking for well-rounded students so the more you bring the more of yourself will be reflected. If you do not have any pre-existing work then just come prepared to speak about yourself and your desire to learn, work, and be in the Interactive Media Academy (Media Production Academy).

Portfolio Due by E-mail Dec. 2nd 2022 *All materials should be sent to: lboyle@rbrhs.org and cgrillo@rbrhs.org
**Multimedia Music with a Concentration in Brass**

VPA Brass Major is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program for the serious brass instrumentalist (trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, or tuba) that prepares the serious music student for the demands required to pursue music in a conservatory, college or university. The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the brass player through experiential learning in brass instrument technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship. Aside from the main focus of performance of music, students will explore various genres of music history, gain live performance and studio recording experience, and experiment with technology-based performance. Aspects of music production, business and music law will be addressed. Career readiness and exploration will be addressed throughout the curriculum. Various instructional technologies and internet applications will be integrated into the curriculum (such as use of spectrograms and oscilloscopes in musical training). Field trips, performances, and participation in concerts will be reflected in students’ grades. Students enrolled as a Brass Major must register for the appropriate levels of Brass Major and VPA Music Theory. RBR Band is required for all levels as well.

**Required Courses and Sequence of study:**

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<td>RBR Band</td>
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<td>VPA Music Theory 1</td>
<td>VPA Music Theory 2</td>
<td>AP Music Theory</td>
<td>Advanced Music Technology</td>
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**Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Brass Major:**

**Part I - Solos** *(Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces.)*

Applicants are required to prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and period. (These pieces should be of comparable difficulty to the Intermediate All-Shore Band solo or Youth/Regional Orchestra solo.)

**Part II - Scales**

Applicants must also play two major scales, memorized, in the pattern of a quarter note followed by 6 eighth notes. Range requirements can be found under the “Audition Information” section on the CJMEA website: [www.cjmea.org](http://www.cjmea.org).

**Part III - Sight Reading**

Applicants will perform a short piece at sight.
Multimedia Music with a Concentration in Percussion

VPA Percussion Major is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program for the serious percussionist that prepares the serious music student for the demands required to pursue music in a conservatory, college or university. The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the percussion player through experiential learning in percussion technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship. Percussionists will study to be proficient in all areas of percussion including snare drum, mallet percussion, timpani, and drum set; however, students can have a concentration in an area. Aside from the main focus of performance of music, students will explore various genres of music history, gain live performance and studio recording experience, and experiment with technology-based performance. Aspects of music production, business and music law will be addressed. Career readiness and exploration will be addressed throughout the curriculum. Various instructional technologies and internet applications will be integrated into the curriculum (such as use of spectrograms and oscilloscopes in musical training). Field trips, performances, and participation in concerts will be reflected in students’ grades. Students enrolled as a Percussion Major must register for the appropriate levels of Percussion Major and VPA Music Theory. RBR Band is required for all levels as well.

Required Courses and Sequence of Study:

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<td>Percussion Major 4</td>
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<td>RBR Band</td>
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<td>VPA Music Theory 1</td>
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<td>Advanced Music Technology</td>
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Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Percussion Major:

Part I - Solos *(Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces.)*
Applicants are required to prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and period. Percussionists may choose to audition on more than one instrument (snare drum and mallets for example). These pieces should be of comparable difficulty to the Intermediate All-Shore Band solo or Youth/Regional Orchestra solo.

Part II - Scales and Rudiments
Applicants must play either 2 snare drum rudiments or 1 rudiment and one scale on the mallets. Prepared rudiments and the scale range requirements can be found under the “Audition Information” section on the CJMEA website: www.cjmea.org.

Part III - Sight Reading
Applicants will perform a short piece at sight.
Multimedia Music with a Concentration in Bass, Cello, Guitar, Violin and Viola

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program that prepares the serious music student for the demands required to pursue music in a Conservatory, College or University. The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the soloist through experiential learning in technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship. Aside from the main focus of performance of music, students will explore various genres of music history, gain live performance and studio recording experience and experiment with technology-based performance. Aspects of music production, business and music law will be addressed. Career readiness and exploration will be addressed throughout the curriculum. Various instructional technologies and internet applications will be integrated into the curriculum (such as use of spectrograms and oscilloscopes in musical training). Field trips, performances, and participation in concerts will be reflected in students’ grades.

Scope and Sequence of study:

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<td>String Major 1</td>
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<td>VPA Music Theory 1</td>
<td>VPA Music Theory 2</td>
<td>AP Music Theory</td>
<td>Advanced Music Technology</td>
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Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for String Major:

Part I - Solos  (Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces.) Applicants are required to prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and periods. (These pieces should be of comparable difficulty to the Youth/Regional Ensemble solo.)*

Part II - Scales  Applicants must play two contrasting major scales memorized, in the pattern of a quarter notes followed by eight notes. We follow the range requirements of CJMEA which can be found under “audition information” on their website: [www.cjmea.org](http://www.cjmea.org)

Part III - Sight Reading  Applicants will perform a short piece at sight.
Multimedia Music with a Concentration in Woodwinds

VPA Woodwind Major is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program for the serious woodwind instrumentalist (flute, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, or oboe) that prepares the serious music student for the demands required to pursue music in a conservatory, college or university. The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the woodwind player through experiential learning in woodwind instrument technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship. Aside from the main focus of performance of music, students will explore various genres of music history, gain live performance and studio recording experience, and experiment with technology-based performance. Aspects of music production, business and music law will be addressed. Career readiness and exploration will be addressed throughout the curriculum. Various instructional technologies and internet applications will be integrated into the curriculum (such as use of spectrograms and oscilloscopes in musical training). Field trips, performances, and participation in concerts will be reflected in students’ grades. Students enrolled as a Woodwind Major must register for the appropriate levels of Woodwind Major and VPA Music Theory. RBR Band is required for all levels as well.

Required Courses and Sequence of Study:

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<td>Theory 1</td>
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Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Woodwind Major:

Part I - Solos (*Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces.*)
Applicants are required to prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and period. (These pieces should be of comparable difficulty to the Intermediate All-Shore Band solo or Youth/Regional Orchestra solo.)

Part II - Scales
Applicants must also play two major scales, memorized, in the pattern of a quarter note followed by 6 eighth notes. Range requirements can be found under the “Audition Information” section on the CJMEA website: [www.cjmea.org](http://www.cjmea.org).

Part III - Sight Reading
Applicants will perform a short piece at sight.
**Multimedia Music with a Concentration in Piano**

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program that prepares the serious piano music student for the demands required to pursue music in a Conservatory, College or University. The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the soloist through experiential learning in technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship. Aside from the main focus of performance of music, students will explore various genres of music history, gain live performance and studio recording experience and experiment with technology-based performance. Aspects of music production, business and music law will be addressed. Career readiness and exploration will be addressed throughout the curriculum. Various instructional technologies and internet applications will be integrated into the curriculum (such as use of spectograms and oscilloscopes in musical training). Field trips, performances, and participation in concerts will be reflected in students' grades.

**Scope and Sequence of study:**

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<td>Piano Major 1</td>
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<td>Concert Choir</td>
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<td>VPA Music Theory I</td>
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<td>AP Music Theory</td>
<td>Advanced Music Tech.</td>
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**Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Piano Major:**

**Part I - Solos** *(Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces.)*

Students must perform one piece each from any two of the following major musical periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic or Twentieth Century. Original or popular selections will **NOT BE ACCEPTED**

*Students have the option to play a third song that does not belong to one of the above categories (ex. Jazz, Pop, Broadway) if they so desire.*

**Part II - Scales**

Play major scales (sharps and flats) 2-4 octaves.

**Part III - Sight Reading**

Applicants will perform a short piece at sight.
Multimedia Music with a Concentration in Vocal Studies

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program that prepares the serious music student for the demands required to pursue music in a Conservatory, College or University. The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the soloist through experiential learning in technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship. Aside from the main focus of performance of music, students will explore various genres of music history, gain live performance and studio recording experience and experiment with technology-based performance. Aspects of music production, business and music law will be addressed. Career readiness and exploration will be addressed throughout the curriculum. Various instructional technologies and internet applications will be integrated into the curriculum (such as use of spectrograms and oscilloscopes in musical training). Field trips, performances, and participation in concerts will be reflected in students’ grades.

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**Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for Vocal Major:**

**Part I - Solos**  
*(Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces.)*

Applicants must sing/submit two prepared songs of contrasting character from memory. Songs may be selected from various genres such as opera, lieder, oratorio, art songs, musical theatre, folk songs, spirituals, standards or ballads. Jazz, pop, rock, country and other popular genres are welcome, but still need to show range and contrast.

Songs should be performed against a pre-recorded accompaniment/karaoke track. It is NOT ok to sing along with a youtube video where the commercial, principal vocalist is still present. That said, a track with only background vocals is acceptable.

**Part II - Scales**

Applicants must sing a “high” and “low” scale on open vowel [a] (two separate scales). For the “low” scale, please start at the top of the scale, descend down, take a breath, and ascend back to the top. Starting pitch for the “low” scale is Bb4. For the “high” scale, please start at the bottom of the scale, ascend up, take a breath and descend back to the bottom. Starting pitch for the “high” scale is Eb4. Starting pitches can be given, but scales should be sung without accompaniment.

**Part III - Sight Reading**

Applicants will perform a short piece at sight.
**Studio Art Major**

This is a vocationally focused, four-year sequential program for the serious art student. In each level, concepts and skills in Visual Communications, Design and visual art are combined in the study of both the Commercial and fine arts fields. Classes emphasize art skills, digital technologies, art history, aesthetics, linear and non-linear design, criticism and careers in preparation for college, advanced technical school or the workplace. Student exhibitions, interdisciplinary and community projects, professional guest artists, internships, workshops and museum/art-related field trips are part of the curriculum.

**Scope and Sequence of study:**

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<td>Studio Art 1*</td>
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<td>Studio Art 4*/AP Studio Art*</td>
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*Indicates class meets daily for 82 minute block (both A & B Day)

**Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for STUDIO Art Major:**

Students must prepare a portfolio of 10 Pieces of original artwork. *No copies, no cartoon or comic book characters are permitted.*

The Portfolio **must** include the following:

1. Self-portrait in pencil from observation. Looking at yourself in a mirror, not from a photo.
2. Figure drawing of a human form in pencil from observation. Don’t use a photo for reference.
3. Collage. A work made from different materials and mediums.
4. Outdoor scene painting using acrylic, watercolor, tempera or oil paint.
5. Still life of fruit in chalk or oil pastels.
6. Interior space in color pencil.
7. Student’s choice: painting, pencil sketches, computer art, pen and ink, sculpture, etc.**
8. Student’s choice: painting, pencil sketches, computer art, pen and ink, sculpture, etc.**
9. Student’s choice: painting, pencil sketches, computer art, pen and ink, sculpture, etc.**
10. Student’s choice: painting, pencil sketches, computer art, pen and ink, sculpture, etc.**

** Large sculptural pieces may be photographed.

All work should not exceed 16” x 20” excluding matting or mounting. Each piece should be cleanly mounted or matted on black, or white mat board with a 2” border on all sides. Matboard can be purchased at any stationery, craft store or dollar store.

**On-site still life drawing.** The day of the audition, the student will be required to draw a still life provided to him/her before his/her audition time.

**Interview:**

Applicants are expected to talk about the work in their portfolio; their creative and artistic process, as well as discuss artistic influences that are of interest to them. This will be part of the audition scoring.

**Scoring the Portfolio:**

The portfolio is scored based on a scoring rubric that focuses on artwork composition, technical skills, medium application, use of art elements and principles, creativity, overall look of piece, and presentation.

**Complete Portfolio (10 pieces) should be submitted on the day of audition on January 7th, 2023.**
**Theatre Arts Major**

This is a comprehensive, vocationally focused, career-oriented, four-year sequential program for the serious drama student. The training emphasizes work in voice, speech, movement, mime, acting, scene work and monologue work with an impetus in improvisation and the Stanislavski technique. Students prepare for a career in television and film with extensive on camera work. The program covers all aspects of theatre with the focus being the refinement of the actor's skill. Course work is augmented by guest artists, productions, and field trips. After school rehearsals may be required.

**Scope and Sequence of study:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9th Grade</th>
<th>10th grade</th>
<th>11th Grade</th>
<th>12th Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theatre Arts Major 1*</td>
<td>Theatre Arts Major 2*</td>
<td>IB Theatre HL1*</td>
<td>IB Theatre HL 2*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Indicates class meets daily for 82-minute block (both A & B Day)

**Application/Audition/Interview/requirements for Theatre Arts Major:**

Instructions for applicant:

Applications should be submitted by December 3th. **Audition:** You are to prepare one Shakespearean Sonnet and one Contemporary Monologue for the audition. Audition and meeting will take place Saturday, January 8th for an interview and for the improvisational part of the audition with the instructor. Audition will take place on the auditorium stage of the Joe A. Russo III Theatre.

**Part I**

Memorize and prepare to perform one of Shakespeare's Sonnets. (They are all available online)

**Part II**

Memorize and prepare to perform any 1 to 2 minute monologue or speech from a play, film or book.

**Part III**

You will be asked to perform an improvisation during the audition interview.

**Part IV**

The instructor will speak with you and ask you questions about yourself. You may also ask questions that you may have about the program at the interview session.

Criteria used for judging the student’s performance are memorization, preparation, movement, articulation, diction, projection, expression, and stage presence.