

Audition Policy

It is the policy of the Ankeny Community Theatre (ACT) to cast regardless of color, race or disability. The director will cast the best choice for each role after everyone has had the opportunity to audition. Invitation to an audition by the director does not guarantee that you will be cast. Ankeny Community Theatre does not pre-cast roles unless explicitly stated in the publicity notices. Occasionally, the cast might be expanded to accommodate a large turnout of performers. If the director believes that a particular role cannot be cast satisfactorily after auditions have been held, other actors may be contacted.

Audition/Rehearsal Facts

ACT knows how you feel when you walk into a room full of eligible people who are trying out for the same part you are. Especially if it is your first time! We want you to feel comfortable at auditions and we strive to make it a positive experience for everyone. We aren't professionals from New York or born actors and actresses. We are your normal, everyday individuals looking to have a great time with fellow cast and crew members. Our goal is to put on a wonderful show for the audience.

Here are a few hints and facts about auditions and rehearsals.

Who may audition? Anyone may audition, depending on the age groups required for the selected play. Some people come to auditions who are long time community theater actors. Some have never been on stage before. No experience is necessary for tryouts.

When are the auditions? Auditions are usually on Sunday and Monday nights but may be held at other times at the discretion of the director. Call back dates, if held, vary depending on the director of the play. ACT auditions one show at a time. The auditions are posted in local area newspapers, area media community web calendars, and on the ACT web site. You can sign up on the ACT web site to receive email notifications of upcoming auditions.

Do I have to prepare for auditions? No, you don't have to prepare for auditions unless the show is a musical. For musicals, you will be asked to bring your own piece of prepared music. You may bring a CD with pre-recorded instrumentals. An accompanist will be provided for you if you plan to use sheet music. You can also choose to sing one from the play. Normally ACT does not make scripts available prior to auditions; however, directors may have individual policies. Most directors post information on the ACT website in regards to character information and a synopsis of the show. Looking at this before auditions will give you an idea of what parts are available for you. Please be advised that stage productions of movies or books familiar to you might have differences in cast and content.

When are rehearsals? At auditions, the director may hand out a copy of a rehearsal schedule. Some directors wait to finalize the rehearsal schedule until after the cast has been chosen. All schedules are subject to change. Most shows rehearse at least 4 days a week. The days depend on the individual director's schedule. Some rehearsals may be on the weekends. Rehearsals may be added as it gets closer to the show date. The average rehearsal time is six weeks before the show opens. Musicals usually have a longer rehearsal time.

How long do daily rehearsals last? Rehearsal times vary depending on the director. Most rehearsals will run 2 -3 hours. Starting times vary. Shows with children in the cast usually start earlier in the evening than those made up of adults. Starting times are usually 6:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

What happens after the audition? All those who audition are contacted to let you know whether you got the part or not. This contact is typically by phone within 1 or 2 days of the last audition date. A cast list is usually posted on the ACT web site within a week of auditions.

We love to see brand new faces as well as familiar ones. If you have other questions, you are welcome to contact us by email or call the theater at 964-5007 and leave a message. A volunteer or board member will contact you.