

Production Arts Audition Requirements

OUR PROGRAM

Developing artists and artisans, the Production Arts department focuses on the conceptual, technical, and artistic elements of design and performance management working collaboratively to tell a compelling story. Students in this department are introduced to a range of skills including but not limited to: sketching, set design and construction, costuming, lighting and stage management, audio and video production, storytelling, creative collaboration, and producing. Students should be prepared for some after-school hours throughout the year to work on builds.

A collaborative energy and team spirit are essential to succeed in this department!

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR AUDITION

Design Project: Prior to the audition, find a fairy tale or well-known traditional story, and reimagine it as a play for an audience. Choose one of the following to complete and bring with you into your audition:

- Make a model of how you imagine the set
- Make a costume piece accompanied by costume renderings
- Make a prop that plays a key part in your story

Written Response: Write a one to two page essay describing your design. Include what story you chose and why you chose it. How does the story influence your design choices? What was your inspiration? What challenges arose? How does this design showcase your personal artistry?

Portfolio: Prepare a binder or folder for the auditioning panel to keep and review with the following included:

- A headshot or school photograph of yourself
- A few short sentences that describe you as a designer (ex. Your style, favorite skills, inspirations and influences, etc.)
- Examples of your past work including but not limited to: prompt books, craft or design projects, artwork or sewing examples

Interview: Be prepared to discuss your experience and interest in the following areas:

- Costumes
- Set design, construction & painting
- Lighting
- Audio and video production
- Stage Management

Be ready to articulate your design choices and construction from the *design project* you bring with you. You may be asked questions about why you are eager to train in this field of study. We welcome you to share any other applicable skills you have relating to this major (ex. sewing, painting, musical engineering, working backstage, crafting, etc.).

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***Tips for a great interview:**

- Be on time
- Dress professionally
- Be confident!
- Take a moment to collect your thoughts before answering a difficult question
- Make eye contact with your interviewers
- Practice answers ahead of time at home
 - *How will you describe your design project?*
 - *What more can you tell us about the work in your portfolio?*
- Show us your personality
- Have a couple questions in mind to ask your interviewers

Any questions regarding general audition policies may be directed to Ann-Marie Squerrini, Director of Admissions at asquerrini@charterarts.org.

Any questions regarding the pre-audition design project or portfolio may be directed to Rae Labadie, Artistic Director of Production Arts at rlabadie@charterarts.org.