



## MTA AUDITION & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

### AUDITION APPLICATION PROCESS

- All audition candidates must complete an online application at [app.getacceptd.com/mississippitheatre](http://app.getacceptd.com/mississippitheatre) by **December 20th**.
- We partner with Acceptd to host our applications. Please visit our landing page to learn more and begin an application.
- Candidates must be prepared to provide the following:
  - High school name & school address
  - GPA
  - ACT score
  - SAT score (optional)
  - List of theatre experience
    - Production
    - Role/Position
    - Theatre/School Affiliation
  - List of extracurricular activities
  - Offices held and awards received
  - Height & hair color
  - Special skills
  - Headshot
- Candidates may provide the following
  - Resumé
  - Audition video

### PERFORMANCE AUDITION PROCESS

- One teacher from each group should check in at 5:30 p.m. to confirm all candidates.
- Performance candidates should report to the HOLDING AREA at 6:30 p.m.
- Performance auditions will begin between 7:00 and 7:30 (depending on the length of technical auditions).
- Candidates will be brought into the performance area in flights of 10-20 students.
- Candidates should be a respectful audience for each candidate.
- When instructed, singing candidates should approach the accompanist and briefly introduce themselves, the piece, and the tempo.
- Candidates should begin with their slate: **Name and audition number**.
- At the end of their piece, candidates should repeat their name and audition number.
- At the end of each flight, performance candidates are dismissed to return to their group.
- Candidates should dress professionally.

[mississippitheatre.org/scholarships-auditions](http://mississippitheatre.org/scholarships-auditions)

## BEST PRACTICES FOR PERFORMANCE AUDITIONS

- ACTING ONLY
  - Candidates who are acting ONLY will have **60 total seconds**.
  - Candidates should choose **one monologue** from a **published play**.
  - Time starts at the beginning of the slate (Name and audition number – **do not** introduce the audition piece).
  - A timekeeper will call stop for auditions that go over.
- ACTING & SINGING
  - Candidates who are both acting AND singing will have **90 total seconds**.
  - Candidates should choose **one monologue** from a published play and **16 bars** (approximately) of a song from a musical, song cycle, or revue.
  - Time starts at the beginning of the slate (Name and audition number only – **do not** introduce the audition pieces).
  - A timekeeper will call stop for auditions that go over.

## [CHECK OUT THIS SAMPLE AUDITION](#)

### BEST PRACTICES MUSIC PREPARATION (for singers)

- Singing Audition
  - An accompanist will be on site to play for musical auditions.
  - Students should bring their own sheet music.
  - Students are not permitted to sing acappella or use pre-recorded tracks
  - Songs should be approximately 16 measures of music.
- To best assist the accompanist
  - Music should be able to stand on its own (use a file folder with marked music taped inside) and any page turns be easily managed
  - Clearly mark the starting and stopping measures in the music.
  - Clearly mark the desired tempo.
  - If starting with a monologue, include the last line of the monologue on the top of the sheet music.
  - Bring music in desired key – **accompanist will not transpose**.

## [CHECK OUT HOW TO MARK YOUR SHEET MUSIC](#)

### HELPFUL TIPS

- Rehearse and prepare the audition as if it is a full-length performance.
- Do not use props.
- Dress professionally.
- Do not wear distracting jewelry.
- Avoid pop songs for singing auditions.

## [CHECK OUT WHAT MAKES AN AUDITION STAND OUT?](#)

## TECHNICAL INTERVIEW PROCESS

- One teacher from each group should check in at 5:30 p.m. to confirm all candidates.
- Technical candidates should report to the INTERVIEW AREA at 5:30 p.m. to prepare their portfolios on the provided tables.
- Each candidate will have the space of half of a folding table to place their portfolio and work samples.
- Interviews will be held in a “speed dating” style with each College & University representative having 2 ½ minutes with each candidate.
- The technical interviews will last approximately 1–1 ½ hours. At the conclusion of the interviews, candidates are dismissed to return to their group.
- Candidates should dress professionally.

## BEST PRACTICES FOR TECHNICAL INTERVIEWS

- Technical interviews will be held in a “speed dating” style
  - Candidates will set up their portfolio and work samples on a half of a folding table.
  - Candidates will have **60 seconds** to introduce themselves and an **overview** of their work to a College & University representative.
  - College & University representatives will have **60-90 seconds** to ask questions about the candidate’s work.
  - A timekeeper will call time and representatives will move to a new candidate.
- Portfolios
  - Portfolios can be physical or digital (personal hotspot is recommended if using a digital portfolio).
  - Candidates should provide work samples:
    - Images and physical objects are acceptable.
    - Images of production designs (scenic, lighting, costume, props, etc.).
    - Concept statements, production research, process images, hand rendered or CAD designs/technical drawings, etc
    - Stage Management documents:
      - Rehearsal schedule
      - Rehearsal reports
      - Production report
      - Blocking examples
    - Arts Administration documents:
      - Marketing materials (production posters, brochures, digital marketing)
      - Budget examples
    - Playwriting
      - Topic research
      - Plays or musicals written
      - Works in progress

## HELPFUL TIPS

- Rehearse your interview with a teacher or trusted advisor.
- Dress professionally.
- Focus on introducing your work briefly to allow representatives time to ask you questions.

## MTA SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

MTA 2025 will award one \$500 scholarship to a deserving high-school senior who intends to major or minor in theatre (performance, technical, or design) at a Mississippi college or university. The award is presented during the Annual MTA Festival. **Deadline: December 20th.**

Students wishing to apply for the MTA scholarship must register for the MTA auditions and complete the scholarship application on the [Accepted platform](#).

The one-time \$500 scholarship will be paid directly to the college or university upon receipt of the student's student identification number.

Scholarship recipients are required to take courses in a theatre-related program at a Mississippi college or university and scholarship recipients are required to participate in the MTA Dream Team during their first year of college.

Scholarship applicants for acting and technical-related theatre majors must register for and participate in the college and university auditions at MTA State Festival in January. This event is held the Thursday evening prior to the start of the festival. Members of the scholarship committee will be there to observe. The top 5 applicants will go through an interview with the Scholarship Committee at MTA 2025.

Scholarship candidates will answer the following questions in the online application:

1. How has your passion for theatre shaped your academic and personal life?
2. What specific aspect of theatre (acting, directing, playwriting, technical design, etc.) interests you the most, and why?
3. How do you see theatre influencing your career and long-term goal?
4. What challenges have you faced in pursuing theatre, and how have you overcome them?
5. How do you balance your academic responsibilities with your commitment to theatre?
6. How would you use theatre to address a social issue or inspire change in your community?
7. How would receiving this scholarship help you achieve your goals in theatre?
8. What sets you apart from other candidates applying for this scholarship?