

Casting FAQ's

Do I need to come with something prepared?

No. We do not expect polished performances in auditions. We are looking for potential. If the show is a musical, of course basic singing talent must be tested. On the acting side, we are looking for personality traits which will be suitable for TRAINING you how to perform. The best auditioners know how to project their own personality, and don't try to fool the auditors into thinking they are someone else.

What are you looking for when we read and sing?

The most important thing is courage. The actor who approaches a reading of a role with clarity, who stands tall and speaks loudly, who projects THEIR OWN personality is the one who stands out. Another important characteristic is sensitivity. Is the reader LISTENING and responding to the person reading with them? How does the reader REACT to what is spoken?

If the show is a musical Singing also requires courage, but also a bit of practice and training. You will be tested to see whether you can sing on pitch, and project your voice. If you are not the strongest singer, then the best approach to take is to put your personality and meaning into the lyrics you are given to sing. If Rod Stewart can sing, anyone can sing.

It cannot be denied that physical characteristics also enter in to the picture...but not as much as you may think. Your suitability for a particular role is influenced by your appearance and size. But (for example) the perfect 11 year old curly-haired redhead, but one who cannot convey ANNIE's character will not be cast if there is a better PERFORMER who may not be quite as perfect in appearance. The ability or potential to PROJECT YOUR PERSONALITY—to use your traits to communicate the character you are reading is the most important thing you must project to the casting directors.

How much time will this require?

Most DCS plays are assembled in a series of 20-25 rehearsals over a period of 4-8 weeks depending on the show. The last 10 days prior to the production dates are the most crucial, and generally anyone cast will need to be present on most all of those dates.