

CENTRE COUNTY'S OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMAN PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR PERFORMING ARTS AUDITIONS

Your Performing Arts presentation cannot exceed 120 seconds. It could be shorter. The timing starts from the time you begin to speak, or accompanying music begins to play for an instrument or vocal. It will be difficult to exhibit multiple talents in the allowed time limit, so select the talent you do best and are most comfortable with. Do something that will be entertaining for an audience and yet show your ability with that talent. If you are debating between two talents, do both and let our judges advise you on which to use. The judges will not disqualify your talent presentation if you are overtime in the auditions, but will in the fall finals.

Due to fire regulations, no open flame talents are permitted. Avoid talents that are not live. Slides or movies should be avoided unless they are for effect to compliment your performance.

You should provide your own accompanist. Your music can also be on tape or CD. We will have a boom box available. All accompaniments will be on tape or CD for the fall show and we will guide you on how that is best accomplished.

Do not spend a lot of time perfecting a costume for the audition. By all means, if you have one, use it. Before you begin your presentation, you should set the scene by telling the judges how you would dress for your talent if you were to be chosen as a finalist. If used, the costume should be in good taste and compliment rather than detract from your presentation. Outfits used in twirling, for instance, are brief by nature and they are considered in good taste for that type of performance.

Any prop used should be functional (chair you sit on or pole you lean against or touch) for your performance and should not be used simply to set a mood. Avoid overdoing props since some can actually detract from your presentation. It's really you that is being evaluated.

We will not use mikes for the auditions, but want you to use a mike if you are a finalist in the fall. For the audition, speak and sing so that you can be heard. The judges are close to you.

No spots will be used in the auditions, just regular stage lighting.

You may use music if you sing or play an instrument. You can use prompt cards for skits or readings, although for best effect, you should try to memorize these presentations as much as possible. For the finals, your presentations must be memorized.

We would like the talent you use in the auditions be the same category of talent you use for the finals. i.e., you can do a different vocal or reading or instrumental number for the finals, but try to stick to the same talent category. This allows us to assign your numbers and groups so that the production does not have the same type of talent following each other. However, you can switch if our talent coordinators feel you should.

Five talent judges will rate you on stage presence, effectiveness in projecting to the audience, execution, degree of achievement in light of difficulty, creativity and showmanship.

The judges realize that your talent may not be perfected and will also attempt to evaluate the potential of your presentation. However, it is best to be prepared.

Please call Julia Cronin Rater at (814) 235-5554 or e-mail at jcroninrater@mqblaw.com if you have any questions about your Performing Arts auditions.