

## **VCASS THEATRE ARTS AUDITION CRITERIA 2020**

### **ENTRY INTO YEAR 11, 2021**

#### **Audition and interview**

##### **Key Dates**

Workshop auditions and interviews will be scheduled in the week of August 17th, 2020.

\*Please Note: All audition dates are subject to change due to the availability of specialist panel members and room accessibility.

##### **Audition Location**

- Theatre Arts auditions are held at VCASS, 57 Miles Street Southbank.
- There is no parking available on the premises. The closest car parks are at the Arts Centre and the Australian Ballet Centre. There is also secure parking at 21 Bank St South Melbourne.

##### **PLEASE NOTE:**

You are applying to audition for an extension program that provides education above the standard school curriculum. This extension program attracts a fee of approximately \$750 per term plus essential education fees of approximately \$600 per annum.

##### **Audition requirements**

- Applicants must arrive at least 15 minutes before scheduled audition time.
- Applicants will participate in a group workshop audition followed later in the day by an individual interview.
- On audition day, all applicants must bring a **copy of your Semester 1, 2020 Reports**.

#### **Audition Format**

##### **Workshop Audition**

- The workshop audition will be of 60 minutes duration.
- This consists of a group workshop and a short text exercise.
- The text exercise will be presented in the workshop audition.
- On the day, applicants should be appropriately dressed for the workshop audition. Either 'theatre blacks' or loose comfortable clothing will be acceptable.
- Applicants should bring a water bottle and any hand properties or costume items necessary for their solo performance.

##### **Interview**

- The interview will be 10 minutes in length.
- Applicants will also have the opportunity to discuss their solo performance piece and explain the decisions they made in developing their work.

- In general, students are invited to demonstrate their interest and commitment to learning about theatre with a specific focus on contemporary ideas and practices.
- Students should also be willing to discuss performances they have attended in the past twelve months as well as performers that inspire and motivate them.
- Applicants should note that it is not the policy of the school to give feedback on the audition and interview. An email will be sent as soon as the discernment process is complete advising you of your result.

### Additional Information

#### What do I need to present in my audition?

The day will consist of two parts:

1. A group workshop  
Short text exercise
2. Interview and devised performance piece.

#### SHORT TEXT EXERCISE

- Choose **one** of the short text monologue pieces provided below and learn it for the audition.
- You will work with this material and will be required to present a part or all of the speech.
- When learning the speech take time to understand what is being said.
- We want to see how you connect with text and how you can draw character from the words provided.
- Don't get caught up in elaborate staging or searching for subtext.

#### SHORT TEXT MONOLOGUES

##### *Helena*

O, I am out of breath in this fond chase!

The more my prayer, the lesser is my grace. Happy is Hermia,  
wheresoe'er she lies;

For she hath blessed and attractive eyes.

How came her eyes so bright? Not with salt tears: If so, my eyes are  
oftener wash'd than hers.

No, no, I am as ugly as a bear;

For beasts that meet me run away for fear: Therefore no  
marvel though Demetrius Do, as a monster fly my presence  
thus.

What wicked and dissembling glass of mine Made me compare with  
Hermia's spherish eyne?

##### *Ophelia*

O, what a noble mind is here o'erthrown!

The courtier's, soldier's, scholar's, eye, tongue, sword; The  
expectancy and rose of the fair state,

The glass of fashion and the mould of form,

The observed of all observers, quite, quite down! And I, of ladies  
most deject and wretched,

That suck'd the honey of his music vows,

Now see that noble and most sovereign reason, Like sweet bells  
jangled, out of tune and harsh; That unmatch'd form and feature of  
blown youth Blasted with ecstasy –

### ***Macbeth***

Seyton!--I am sick at heart,

When I behold--Seyton, I say!--This push Will cheer me ever, or disseat  
me now.

I have lived long enough: my way of life Is fall'n into the sear, the yellow  
leaf;

And that which should accompany old age, As honour, love, obedience,  
troops of friends, I must not look to have; but, in their stead,

Curses, not loud but deep, mouth-honour, breath,

Which the poor heart would fain deny, and dare not. Seyton!

### ***Orsino***

If music be the food of love, play on; Give me excess of it, that, surfeiting,  
The appetite may sicken, and so die. That strain again! it had a dying fall:

O, it came o'er my ear like the sweet sound, That breathes upon a bank  
of violets, Stealing and giving odour! Enough; no more: 'Tis not so sweet  
now as it was before.

### **THE DEvised PERFORMANCE PIECE (Your Solo)**

You will have a total of 4 minutes to set up, perform and pack away.

We will not be able to see any more than two minutes of any piece.

- This is your opportunity to create a performance piece that shows us something about your interests and abilities.
- The piece should combine the elements of theatre namely body, voice, image and object.
- A starting point for your piece might be a photo, painting, piece of music, poem or news article. Something of significance to you and which stimulates your imagination for performance.
- You might like to consider including some or all of the following in the piece: text, action, objects/props/items of costume, sound/live music, fiction, space, senses.

Remember, there are no right answers or approaches here.

Take a risk, be as genuine as you feel you can. Keep it simple.

### **Theatre Arts curriculum information**

To view detailed information about the Theatre Arts curriculum at VCASS, please visit the

Theatre Arts page on our website: [Theatre Arts Handbook 2020](#)

**General enquiries:** For any general enquiries call our office on 03 8644 8644