



## **MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY (MTC) Program and Audition Information**

Thank you for your interest in the Musical Theatre Conservatory (MTC) program at Imagination Stage! MTC is an intensive acting technique training opportunity for students entering grades 7-10 (completing the program as 8-11 graders). The program runs on a two year/four semester model. The first three semesters are spent studying acting, voice, and movement in a classroom setting. The fourth and final semester is spent applying their acquired skills towards rehearsing and performing a fully supported musical production with a guest team of directors and designers from the professional theatre community of Washington, DC.

**AUDITIONS:** While year-round classes and summer productions are open to all students, Conservatory spots are open only to students selected through an audition process. Candidates should have previous acting, singing, and/or dance classes in their background in addition to experiences being in productions.

**COMMITMENT:** Due to the intensive and ensemble nature of the program, actors who are accepted into the program are done so with the understanding that they will, to the best of their ability, remain committed to the program for its entire two year duration. Actors must have consistent and dependable attendance, and participate with focus and dedication.

The Musical Theatre Conservatory's course of study includes:

- Rigorous physical and vocal warm-up practices.
- Approach to healthy singing technique including proper mouth shapes, vocal placement and resonance, breath support, and range building.
- Acting technique focused on character development, inner monologue, motivated actions, and objectives and tactics.
- Basic movement/dance awareness, grounded in the Broadway jazz style.
- Scene work from musicals spanning genres, styles, and time periods.

**AUDITION PROCESS:** Each candidate is required to prepare one monologue and one song for their audition. After each is performed, the auditors will work with you in a rehearsal-like setting, discussing and incorporating any notes they may have. During this section, we encourage you to play, make creative choices, and have fun! After your audition, there will be a short interview.

Audition monologues will be provided when you schedule your audition. Song suggestions are also available, but you are welcome to bring in your own selection (criteria for selection is provided upon



scheduling your audition). A piano accompanist will be provided to play piano for you during your audition.

Requirements for Selection into the Conservatory Program may include the following:

- Solid vocal pitch, tone, and volume.
- Previous acting course work (a dedicated acting class without a singing component).
- Demonstration of clear acting choices and risk taking in audition.
- Demonstration of clear motivation and intention of the character in both monologue and song work.
- Demonstration of storyline interpretation in song.
- Ability to interpret direction and make quick and appropriate adjustments to their performance.
- High level of focus, concentration, and personal discipline.
- Demonstration not only of the desire to perform, but a commitment to learning technique.

Please email or call Nikki Kaplan ([nkaplan@imaginationstage.org](mailto:nkaplan@imaginationstage.org)/301-280-1624) to ask any questions and to begin the scheduling process.