

TRAVELING PLAYERS COMEDY ENSEMBLE

WELCOME! We're so excited for you to audition! We can't wait to meet you – or see you again!

WHAT HAPPENS AT AUDITIONS?

We know that actors can shine in different ways, so we organize our auditions to allow actors with different strengths to shine. You will perform a “non-ologue” (see below), play improvisation games, and participate in group discussions as well as talk to the faculty one-on-one.

The audition is an opportunity for the faculty to get to know you and to see how you work and play with other potential members of the ensemble. It is also an opportunity for you to get to know your potential troupe-mates. You will have your best audition if you relax, have fun, and connect with your fellow performers! We have been told that our auditions are significantly more fun than the average audition. We plan to keep it that way.

THE “NON-OLOGUE”:

- **Choose one** (1) of the two (2) “non-ologues” to prepare. Please choose whichever you are more comfortable with.
- This performance **must be memorized**. You won't be able to read notes from a paper when you perform it.
- You'll perform for the rest the auditionees plus Isaiah Brown, Comedy Ensemble director.

Some helpful guidelines for the “non-ologue”:

- 60 seconds is a very short time. Is my piece simple enough to fit into that time without running over?
- 60 seconds is also a very long time. Do I have enough material to fill it?
- Do I have an ending? What about a beginning? Perhaps I need a middle as well.
- What kind of character am I playing? How does what I'm saying/doing *affect* me?
- How can I engage my whole body in the performance? (This doesn't always mean *moving* your whole body.) Are my physical gestures connected to my character?

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to ask...you can reach us at **703-987-1712** or you can email us at programassistant@travelingplayers.org.

ON AUDITION DAY:

Before arriving: Please be sure to eat. Dress in clothes that will allow you to move comfortably. Bring a water bottle. Then relax and have fun -- you're going to do great! You could very likely learn new skills and make new friends!

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NON-OLOGUE OPTION #1

The Sneeze

Create a *60-second* physical comedy routine, using no words, that follows the following basic structure:

1. You are a security guard at an important negotiation between two warring countries. The debate is very intense and important.
2. You develop a need to sneeze. You try as hard as you can not to sneeze.
3. The sneeze grows bigger and bigger as you try harder and harder to hold it in.
4. Finally, you can't help yourself: you let loose a gigantic sneeze. Suddenly, everyone in the room is staring at you, and you are horribly embarrassed.

This is just a basic structure. Please embellish it to make this as ridiculous and entertaining as possible.

NON-OLOGUE OPTION #2

“I'd even take a nickel.”

Create a *60-second* comic monologue

1. It begins with these words: “I'm so poor, I haven't got a dime. I wish I had a dime. I'd even take a nickel.”
2. After this, the words are your own. You may describe what you would do with a nickel, tell us why you're poor, decide that a nickel wouldn't be enough and you need more, etc. What you say is entirely up to you.