

Auditioning for a **LIMELIGHT** production

First time auditioning for us?

An audition is a chance to showcase your unique abilities and be a part of something extraordinary! Our auditions are a platform for you to shine, express yourself, and let your talent take center stage.

We understand that stepping into the audition room can be daunting, so we want to assure you that Limelight's mission is to create a friendly and supportive audition environment. Our team is dedicated to creating a welcoming atmosphere where you can share your passion and creativity without fear or hesitation.

Whether you're an experienced performer or trying out for the first time, remember that auditions are a gateway to growth and new experiences. Embrace the excitement, and let your enthusiasm drive you forward.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to explore your potential and connect with a community that values your talent.

Ready to embark on this adventure? Learn more about the auditions and the amazing opportunities that await you. Let's make this a memorable step towards your dreams!



Emma England
Artistic Director

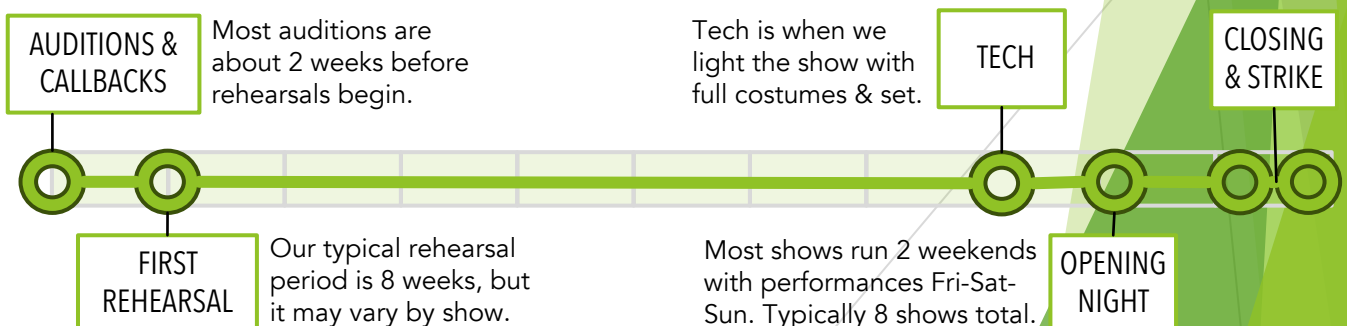
Getting Started

Check our our website for the most current auditions and be sure to follow us on social media!

For each show, we publish an individual information page with the important details, like:

- Ages we are casting
- Important dates like auditions, callbacks, first rehearsals, tech, and shows
- A show synopsis
- Any additional information or guidelines for participation
- Participation fee & scholarship information.

Typical Production Timeline



STEP ONE: SIGN-UP TO AUDITION

- Follow the sign-up link on the audition page of the website
- Both in-person and video auditions are typically available
- If choosing a video audition, you still need to sign up. This will ensure you always have the most up-to-date information on the show.

STEP TWO: PREPARE FOR YOUR AUDITION

- Each show may require slightly different audition material. Check the website for details.
- Typically, we ask you to prepare 30 seconds of a memorized musical theater or pop song.
- When choosing a song, sing something you know well (not something you learned at the last minute), because you will be more successful.
- Please plan to sing to a karaoke track on a phone or other music device.
- We don't recommend auditioning without music, as we need to hear how you sing along to the accompaniment.
- Some shows will ask you to prepare any 30 second monologue. A monologue is a short script with one character that shows off your acting ability.
- You can often find monologues online. Memorization is always preferred, and will make you feel more confident in your audition.
- Once you're signed up to audition, you may also have access to our callback material. We suggest learning the material for the roles you are most interested in, so you are prepared should you receive a callback.

STEP THREE: FILL OUT YOUR AUDITION INFO & SUBMIT YOUR CONFLICTS (AND VIDEO LINK IF APPLICABLE)

- Once you're signed up to audition, you will be asked to fill out your audition application.
- The application gives us important information about you, including what roles you are willing to accept.
- It is widely frowned upon in the theater community to decline a role (and will affect your casting in future shows), unless you are up front about what you are willing to accept.
- Make sure if there are roles you won't accept (including ensemble) you indicate it on your form.

A NOTE ABOUT ENSEMBLE ROLES:

- Directors value students willing to accept any roles and will sometimes favor those performers over ones who only accept "lead roles" or "any role with a name." Students who continually audition with these stipulations and think the ensemble are not for them will build a reputation that may hinder them in future auditions.
- The Limelight Ensemble is NOT your average youth theater ensemble. We use the ensemble to its fullest potential, featuring them throughout the show, with often more stage time than the supporting roles.
- The ensemble is a place to build new skills, hone your dance ability, improve your ability to sing harmonies, explore diverse characters, learn versatility and so much more!
- And honestly... its part of what makes a Limelight show so amazing!

WHAT TO EXPECT In Person Auditions

Navigating an audition can be an exhilarating yet nerve-wracking experience. The directors eyes, the rows of other people auditioning... it's enough to make anyone feel a surge of anxiety. However, there's a powerful tool at your disposal that can transform those jitters into a sense of control and confidence: preparation and knowing what to expect.

At Limelight, we will check you in at our front desk, verify your conflicts, and assign you an audition number. Don't forget this numbers, as that's how we will post callbacks!

You will often be assigned to a group of 4-6 students and will wait in the lobby until your group is called. You will go into the audition room as a group. Our directors will welcome you in with open arms and make you feel at home, reminding you that they are there to cheer you on and support, not judge you. We will seat the group off to one side while each individual auditions. One person will be "on deck," seated next to the person running sound, so we can quickly get your music prepped when it is your turn.

When it is your turn, you will slate first. This means say your name and what you will be performing. Then, you will typically sing your song, followed by your monologue. After performing, we may ask you some questions, like what roles you are interested and willing to accept. Please be open and honest with us.

When you are done auditioning, the whole group will be released together. Typically, we email out a callback list by number, so you will know if and what roles you were called back for.

Once you know you received a callback, begin learning the callback material provided. We strongly suggest you memorize the song cuttings, but you do not need to memorize the scenes. Sometimes we ask you to try to perform a scene another way, and having it memorized may hinder your ability to change.

WHAT TO EXPECT Video Auditions

IF YOU CHOOSE A VIDEO AUDITION:

***Please try to RECORD one CONTINUOUS Video of yourself doing your material.**

- Slate - this means say your name, age, and anything else you'd like us to know about you. You can tell us what scenes you chose, what song you will sing, and what characters you are most interested in, etc. This is our time to hear YOU for your own personality, outside of the characters you are planning to perform.
- Sing your song (if applicable)
- Perform your monologue (if applicable)

HOW TO TURN IT IN:

- UPLOAD your audition video to your PERSONAL youtube or google drive folder
- DO NOT SHARE your file directly with Limelight. You will need to create an unlisted youtube link or google drive link. IMPORTANT: Make sure your video or file is set as public.
- Please fill out the VIDEO SUBMISSION FORM where you will upload your video. (found on the individual show page on the website.
 - At the end of the form, you will be prompted to share the link to your audition video.
 - You will not be able to submit the form without the video link, so please make sure you have everything ready to go when you fill out the form.
- If you have any problems, email us at limelightartsaz@gmail.com

WHAT TO EXPECT **Callbacks**

Now, you aced the audition and are ready for callbacks! This is the audition where we see you sing and/or read material from the show to see which character is a best fit for you.

At Limelight, we believe there is a great deal of value and learning experience with having a callback. For this reason, we do tend to call back a larger number of people for each role than you might see elsewhere. There are many students who may not do well at a first audition, but given the right material, the callback is their place to shine!

Our biggest tips for you are BE PREPARED and BE FLEXIBLE. Oftentimes, the callback material is accompanied by the music tracks – rehearse with these in advance. Practice your sides (scenes) with another person standing up so you can figure out how you might move about as that character. Look at the callback material for other roles you may not have been called back for but might be interested. Every once in awhile, we may ask someone on the spot to join the callback for a character they did not prepare for – this usually happens when someone doesn't have a strong audition but wows us in some way at the callback that makes us see them in an additional role.

You may receive a callback for more than one role. Usually if there are a large number of people auditioning, we will begin by having everyone sing ONE of their assigned callback songs. Then, we will make sure everyone has a chance to read at least ONE side. At that time, we may make some initial decisions and only ask certain individuals to read and sing or read more. Sometimes, we know we want to cast you from that first song, so if we release you early, it does not mean you are not cast.

The cast list is typically sent via email. If you are not cast, you will also receive an email indicating that there was not a role for you in this show. If you don't get cast, you are welcome to ask for some feedback to help you in future auditions.

Our biggest advice for students auditioning? TRAIN. Those who train weekly in singing, dancing, and acting often have an advantage at auditions. Studio 3 offers some amazing classes that will help you level up your skills and learn which roles are the best for you to go toward.

WHAT TO EXPECT **Casting**

CAST LIST

- The cast list will be sent via email
- Limelight is big on casting understudies (given the chance to perform) or may choose to double cast.

A NOTE ABOUT DOUBLE CASTING

Double casting can be a daunting thought if you've never experienced it before. Limelight has a LOT of experience with this type of casting and has worked hard to make the process fun for all.

- Most double cast shows have 2 equal talented casts. (no "main" cast) Every once in awhile, we choose to cast a senior cast and junior cast (by age). Each cast has the same number of performances.
- Most double cast lead roles will perform as ensemble in the opposite cast. We have worked hard to create a system where you don't need to learn 2 completely different versions of the same song. Oftentimes, you have the same formations and movement for both casts when possible.
- Limelight is adjudicated by the AriZoni Awards and the National Youth Arts. Typically, one cast will be adjudicated by AriZonis and the other by NYA. These adjudication decisions are left to the discretion of the directors.

WHAT TO EXPECT **Once you're cast**

PARTICIPATION FEE

- Limelight shows require a participation fee. This helps us to cover necessary costs like staffing, licensing, venue rental, sets, costumes, props, and so much more!
- Your participation fee includes a cast photo and cast t-shirt.
- We offer discounts for siblings
- Scholarships are available, so please ask for an application
- We do NOT require you to buy and sell a certain number of tickets.

COMMUNICATION

- Limelight requires each family to download the BAND APP and regularly check the show's BAND channel for updates.
- The BAND channel has the rehearsal and show calendar, announcements and updates, important links to things like the volunteer hour log, and houses all the rehearsal videos and formations/blocking for the show.
- We do not send emails during the run of the show. All communication is done through our app.

COSTUMING & SHOES

- Limelight will typically provide all major costuming for the production.
- Sometimes students may be asked to bring specific costume pieces from home.
- Students are required to purchase their own undergarments, shoes, socks, tights, and makeup as needed. Sometimes, we have shoes available on loan from our costume inventory.
- We require all female performers to have a tan leotard or tank/shorts to wear under all costume changes for modesty.

PARENT VOLUNTEER TIME

- At Limelight, we are known for our attention to detail on our costumes, props and sets. To make this happen, we require families to volunteer a minimum of 10 hours of pre-production help. These hours can be done between the first rehearsal and one week before tech begins. Hours can be done by a parent or performer age 14 or older. (If 2 people come for 3 hours together, that counts as 6 hours of pre-production help.)
- Each family will also be asked to work 2-3 show shifts, doing jobs like backstage assistant, chaperone, dressing room attendant, etc.
- Families can pay an opt out fee for volunteer hours.