**Audition Expectations**

Please note that as the audition pieces will be available in advance, we expect you to have decided which role you would like to audition for or whether you would like to be in the ensemble and to have prepared accordingly. As someone who regularly has to audition myself, I can speak with authority when I say that the more prepared you are, the better you are able to manage the inevitable nerves and will most certainly give a far better account of yourself. It is so much harder to make any real acting choices regarding character or physicality if you are sight reading words/music. We want to be blown away by each and every one of you but you need to put the work in first to ensure that can happen! Most importantly, be brave, make some definite and bold choices and do them confidently. We want to see your take on these characters.

You will notice that some of the audition pieces do not start/finish with your character speaking, a couple of them even open/close with a stage direction. This is deliberate! We want to see your interpretation of the stage directions as well as how you listen to the other characters. Please do not only focus on the bits you say!

Please be aware that you may not get to sing/act your prepared piece in its entirety. We may well need to stop you at any point. This is not necessarily because we are no longer considering you for the role, we can often tell within a few bars if someone has the qualities we are looking for and once we have heard what we need to there is little purpose in continuing. We may also stop you and redirect you. Again, please do not take this as a sign that your choices were somehow ‘wrong’ but as a chance for us to see how you manage direction and if you are able to be adaptable in your approach.

We will recall people for some of the named roles and may ask you to prepare different or additional material for the recall. We will not be recalling the ensemble and will aim to let everyone know after the first audition if they have been accepted into the ensemble. If you have been recalled and are unsuccessful in your audition for a named part you will be offered a place in the ensemble.

We recommend you bring the accompaniment mp3 file with you on a phone on the day. This will mean you can practise with the accompaniment before you start the audition. In the true spirit of YESPA, please do help each other and share.

Finally, we would like to be able to consider you for other parts so please do tell us when you register if you are happy for this to happen. I appreciate it can be difficult if you have your heart set on a certain role but I may see something in a character that I believe will suit you to perfection that you may not be able to see in yourself.

Stating that you do not wish to be considered for another part will not affect your opportunity to be in the ensemble.

I look forward to an exceptionally high standard of auditions and some very difficult casting decisions!