CUPERTINO ACTORS THEATRE/
ADVANCED DRAMA HONORS

AUDITION
INFORMATION

2018-2019

SCHOOL YEAR
# CAT AUDITION TIMELINE

## ACTORS

1. **AUDITION** Monday, May 7, Tuesday, May 8 (Signups online in Drama Resources Google Group or signup in blackbox)
2. Bring parent signature sheet, signed code of conduct (enclosed), resume, (sample enclosed)
3. If asked to attend callbacks, plan to stay an hour

## PRODUCTION STAFF/TECH/HYBRIDS

1. **GROUP INTERVIEW** Thursday May 10 at lunch.
2. Bring parent signature sheet, signed code of conduct, and resume

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 7, Tuesday, May 8 (2-5 pm)</td>
<td>CAT AUDITIONS (5 minute slot)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday May 10 lunch</td>
<td>CAT TECH GROUP INTERVIEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday May 11 (2-4 pm)</td>
<td>CALLBACKS p. 7- after school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday May 11</td>
<td>CAT List posted/ emailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>DRAMA AWARDS (new CAT members please attend to be introduced as next CAT company members)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Prospective or Current Cupertino Actors Theatre Performer or Technician:

Thank you for your interest in CAT. We are looking forward to a great year!

**What is Cupertino Actors Theatre (Advanced Drama Honors)?** Cupertino Actors Theatre is a class devoted entirely towards theatrical production and theatrical competition preparation at Cupertino High School. It is a production based class which teaches the 21st century skills of interpersonal communication, entrepreneurial skills, global awareness, teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving by focusing on a real-world experience: the production of high quality entertainment for Cupertino High School and the surrounding community. **Students receive HONORS credit for participation in CAT due to the EXTENSIVE after school time commitment required. THE TIME COMMITMENT REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE IS SIMILAR TO PLAYING A SPORT EACH SEASON and is heaviest SEPTEMBER—NOVEMBER AND JANUARY-MARCH.**

**How can Cupertino Actors Theatre (Advanced Drama Honors) help me prepare for college or the world of work?** We have several former students who are pursuing careers as professional actors, but most program legends are employed in a wide variety of fields. There are those who choose careers in the arts, but we have former students who choose journalism, politics, venture capitalism, tech careers, law, medicine, international business, engineering, architecture, education, arts administration, entertainment marketing, video game music design, chemical engineering and law enforcement, cosmetology and photography to name only a few. Because this is considered a work-learn environment, I am happy to provide references to students as a mentor.

**Why Choose Advanced Drama Honors?** You are passionate about theatre and want to learn everything you can about it- from individual solo performance to ensemble work, musical theatre to tech. You are particularly interested in refining your talents as a performer or technician. You know that colleges and employers are interested in students who pursue and excel at an art form such as theatre, which develops self-confidence, teamwork, and creativity. *But ultimately, you can’t imagine being anywhere else.*

Please read the enclosed information carefully before your audition/interview so you understand the commitment you are making.
THE COMMITMENT

CAT meets period 7 in the Blackbox Theatre. Cupertino’s new schedule next year will change CAT’s rehearsal schedule. Generally, students should expect the following, and NOT schedule permanent commitments during these time frames, as if is were a sport:

ACTORS

M, 2:40-5 pm (Sept-Nov, January-April)

T/Th 1:55-5pm (Sept-Nov, January-April)

W- No rehearsal except TECH WEEK 3-9PM

Fr Tech/Coaching/Special Projects 325-5pm TBD

TECHNICIANS AND PRODUCTION STAFF

If you are a STAGE MANAGER OR DESIGNER, or if you are managing HOUSE or PUBLICITY, tech meetings are now on Wednesdays either at TUTORIAL or lunch, alternating weeks. You must send a member of your department to represent if you have another commitment or meeting.

A CALENDAR WILL BE SENT HOME WITH EVERY STUDENT ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Both major shows will have rehearsal calendars. Advanced Drama Honors or “CAT” is an honors class and a co-curricular activity which provides intensive training in theatre through practical production. CAT students produce and perform in:

MANDATORY EVENTS

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER

FALL SHOW REHEARSALS (Actors 6-8 weeks rehearsal AFTER SCHOOL 4 days a week, Tech and Actors last 10 rehearsals MANDATORY, two weekends of performances)

JANUARY- MARCH

SPRING SHOW REHEARSALS (8 weeks after school 5 days a week, last 10 rehearsals MANDATORY, two weekends of performances)

REHEARSALS FOR FESTIVAL ONE ACT AND INDIVIDUAL PIECES, Lenaea Theatre Festival (by audition only)

MARCH

SPRING SHOW AND Ohlone College Theatre Festival (In class, one Friday/Saturday, MANDATORY for cast of Spring Show)

APRIL-MAY

ONE ACTS In class, one evening performance) and Drama Awards Planning Committee OR Shakes

ADDITIONAL (EITHER/OR PROJECTS and opportunities)
Tino Shakes (Shakespeare and other acting teaching projects for the English Department, in class), periodically throughout year. *Optional trip to Ashland, Oregon, to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Spring Break.*

**EVERYBODY, EVERY SHOW POLICY**

Advanced Drama Honors is a class with a co-curricular component. The strength of CAT is in the commitment level of everyone in the organization. Therefore, Everyone in CAT is either cast in or works crew for mainstage shows (Fall Play, Spring Musical, One Acts.) *It is important to understand that there is no “opting out” of a show or competition- the only way to opt out is to drop the class.* You can request a smaller role, or less responsibility, but *you cannot abstain from class participation and expect to maintain an acceptable grade in the class.*
AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

ACTORS/HYBRIDS—Answer the application question and have your parent/guardian sign the signature page. Bring with you, with the signed code of conduct and a current RESUME to your audition. If you don’t know how to do a resume, see the attached example.

*Prepare one of the following combinations....*

1. A one minute memorized monologue AND 16 bars of a song of your choice with an accompanying track.
2. Two contrasting monologues
3. A monologue AND a tech response
4. 16 bars of a song AND a tech response

b. Introduce your audition by saying “Hi, I’m so and so and I will be performing a monologue from ______________, and playing the role of ______________. and then doing a ______________ from ______________ and playing the role of ______________. Your two pieces should flow into each other. Do not stop in the middle to introduce. If singing, it’s probably best to sing first, then go directly into monologue.

DESIGN/TECHNICIANS—Prepare the following in response to the sample show (link posted on all fb and schoolloop pages) Answer the application questions and have your parent/guardian sign the signature page. Bring with you to the group interview.

c. Prepare a resume detailing your experience in tech theatre at CHS or somewhere else, including all positions held.

d. Create ONE of the following:

- Two color makeup sketch with written justification for design and list of materials
- Two full color costume sketches (with faces and feet and ethnicity and gender and body type) with fabric swatches
- Three original sound effects or an original music composition
- A full color set rendering, ground plan or scale model in ¼ scale
- A full color advertising poster
- A lighting plot with 3 sketches of effects
- A prop list with 3 sketches
SAMPLE RESUME

Iam N. Actor

Cell: (408) 867-5309
icandothat@gmail.com

Stage  (most recent first)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Theatre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tommy</td>
<td>Tommy</td>
<td>Cupertino Actors Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julius Caesar</td>
<td>Brutus</td>
<td>Cupertino Actors Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damn Yankees</td>
<td>Del</td>
<td>Foothill College Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henny Penny</td>
<td>Henny Penny/Dir.</td>
<td>Cupertino Actors Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Side Story</td>
<td>Snowboy</td>
<td>Cupertino Actors Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed Date</td>
<td>Sean</td>
<td>Cupertino Actors Theatre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Experience

Teacher’s Assistant-Beginning Drama  Cupertino Actors Theatre
Bubba The Cowboy Prince (Dir.)  Cupertino Actors Theatre

Education and Training

- Stage Combat
- Improvisation
- Scene Study with Arcadia Conrad, Tyler Pardini
- Vocal Music with Amy Baker
- Dance with Phill Jaco

Special Skills

CUPERTINO ACTORS THEATRE CODE OF CONDUCT (PLEASE SIGN AND BRING)

1. PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE — BE IN CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH DAY AND EARLY TO REHEARSAL. If lateness is truly unavoidable, you must text or call the Stage Manager, and let them know your expected arrival time. IF THERE IS A SUB, AND YOU WISH TO LEAVE, YOU MUST HAVE YOUR ABSENCE EXCUSED. Attendance and grade problems can get you replaced in a show or benched for the next one. Be careful.

2. SMALL PARTS — As anyone who has done one show here has learned, being cast in ANY role is a valuable experience and many times, a small part can lead to more. Don’t count lines.

3. REHEARSALS: You do what you practice. Rehearse effectively by bringing your script, working with a pencil in your hand, getting off book by the deadline, and focusing on exploring your character. Stay around even when you are not onstage- your bathroom break can hold everyone up from getting their work done. Don’t assume you’re not on or that we’re not repeating your scene unless explicitly told this by the director.

4. CELL PHONES — Turn them off when entering a rehearsal or performance space.

5. NOTES: Getting them: Always be gracious, even if you disagree. Say “Thank you” after the director gives you the note, or “May we speak about this later?” if you don’t understand or disagree. The note session is not therapy for your character, but rather a session of quick fixes for MANY elements of the show. Find time for you and the director to solve issues that affect you or your character only. NEVER GIVE NOTES TO ANOTHER ACTOR UNLESS YOU ARE DIRECTING.

6. COSTUME FITTINGS are tricky. Let the designer know your concerns but avoid negativity. They have a hard job.

7. GOSSIP — You know it’s wrong. We heard you say it. Loose lips sink ships. Spread good rumors, not mean ones.

8. QUIET! Whisper when backstage. Keep the noise down voice and laughter down even when in the dressing room. Failing that, prepare to do pushups.

9. TECH WEEK: Plan ahead for this exhausting time. Let your parents and teachers know that you will be unavailable during this week, and schedule extra currics, appointments, and work around it.

10. BACKSTAGE DRAMA — Just because we play dramatic characters on- stage does NOT mean we must portray them offstage. When you are in a show, the theatre becomes a tiny universe. Be courteous to others. Don’t be the stereotypical diva or demanding actor.

11. PROPS: Two major rules here -- never play with a prop and always check your props before each show. The first night you discover the climactic letter in your pocket is missing before your entrance, you’ll understand.

12. AD LIBS and changes to the script: As the performances wear on, you may feel that you understand the character better than the playwright or the show better than the director. You don’t, so quit making up lines unless you’re told to “keep it” by the director.

13. RESPECT —For Artistic Staff—They can hire you again. For Crew—They are responsible for safety. For Designers—They can make you look stupid. For other Actors—They can upstage you. For Yourself...That means, value your contribution to the show by following the above guidelines and taking care of yourself when rehearsing or performing. Keep healthy throughout the run.

You were chosen over many other qualified students for this opportunity, so respect yourself and live up to everyone’s belief in you.

I HAVE READ THE CAT CODE OF CONDUCT AND WILL ABIDE BY IT TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

________________________________
STUDENT SIGNATURE
Time Commitment

• I have read the contents of the Advanced Drama Honors/Cupertino Actors Theatre Application packet and understand the commitment required to participate. I understand the “Everybody, Every Show Policy” and that there is no OPTING OUT of a required production, but that a student may elect a responsibility that requires fewer hours on the show. If a student is struggling with attendance or grades, they can and will be removed for consideration from performing in or a major tech role in the next show in the season.

• Please direct questions and concerns to arcadia_conrad@fuhsd.org

Financial Considerations

• CAT costs approximately $20,000-30,000 to run each year.
• Between show royalties, costumes, equipment rental, materials acquisition, competition expense and compensating the guest artists and designers who work with our students throughout the year, it costs approximately $400 to $500 per student for them to participate in a full year of CAT.
• Some of this money, indeed most of it, is made through ticket sales and fundraisers. We welcome all ideas! We depend on the voluntary support from families who generously give their time as drivers, donate food, props, costumes and labor, and of course participate as financial angels.

Your donation of between $50 and $500 is tax deductible and helps us provide a wonderful theatre education experience for all!

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO “CHS”

YES! I understand that if my child is accepted into CAT for the 2017-2018 school year that the program will request a voluntary donation of $50.00 or more and that other requests may be made for trips and incidental items. Once the final CAT list is published, a request for donations will accompany the first parent communication. Donations are not mandatory, but we rely on them to keep afloat! I understand that this is a co-curricular course with a heavy after school time commitment! I will contact Arcadia Conrad via schoolloop or arcadia_conrad@fuhsd.org with questions or concerns.

___________________  __________________
PARENT SIGNATURE  STUDENT SIGNATURE