

AUDITION GUIDELINES:

You need to:

- prepare 2 audition monologues* each lasting ***no longer than 2 minutes***:

one from a contemporary play (*after 1990, but not any play by Stephen Berkoff, Sarah Kane or John Godber*)

one from Shakespeare (*but not non-human characters like 'Puck' from A Midsummer Night's Dream or 'Ariel' from The Tempest, or any 'Chorus'*)

* Monologues – please make sure you have read the plays your monologues come from. Be sure your monologue works as a stand alone speech and does not require input from another character. Your speech must be taken from an existing play, and not a book of solo speeches. (Speeches found in monologue anthologies are acceptable provided you have read the play from which they are taken.)

We want you to:

- choose pieces that match your age & gender and do not require a change of accent.
- choose pieces that demonstrate communication with another character(s).
- choose pieces that have an emotional journey.
- choose pieces that have a significant moment of change.
- work without props or special costume.
- avoid using chairs. Although it is acceptable to sit down, to remain seated throughout the speech gives us less opportunity to assess your physical characterisation.
- learn your pieces.
- wear suitable clothes which enable you to move freely and to allow tutors to assess posture and movement. Female applicants should avoid skirts. All applicants should avoid low cut/hipster trousers cropped and low cut tops. For the movement session we advise you to bring movement clothes (leotard and tights). The movement session requires you to be bare footed and to work without any jewellery.

We are looking for these qualities:

- thorough preparation
- ability to create and sustain a character within an imagined world
- evidence of thought and feeling behind the actions and words
- ability to take direction (to hear an instruction and adapt own performance accordingly)
- ability to communicate text
- ability to express thought and feeling through movement and voice
- self-confidence
- focus and concentration
- spontaneity and immediacy
- openness and responsiveness to others
- imagination and creativity
- evidence of stamina, rhythm and co-ordination
- an interest in the craft of acting and in the professional world of acting

We aim to ensure that you will enjoy all aspects of the auditioning process and feel stretched by it. You will be auditioned in depth and will have every opportunity to show your skills.

We advise you to arrive at 9:00am to register as the audition process begins at 9:15am.

AUDITION FORMAT

9:15am	Welcome	You will be welcomed by a senior member of staff and introduced to student helpers. The day's events are explained.
9:30am STAGE 1	Warm-up Games Modern speech	After a group warm-up which is designed to put you at your ease whilst warming up your voice and body, you will be put into a group of between 10-15 applicants to work with a senior member of staff and current ALRA students. You will present your modern speech to with the rest of your group present.
11:00am	Break	
11:15am	Shakespeare speech	You will present your Shakespeare speech solo to a second member of staff.
12:15pm	Break Panel review applicants' work. Successful candidates will go to Stage 2	You will have a break and can view the college with the student helpers. You will be told whether you have progressed to Stage 2.
12:45pm STAGE 2	Movement & Improvisation	If you reach Stage 2 you will take part in a movement workshop and an improvisation workshop.
2:15pm	Break Panel review applicants work. Successful candidates will go to Stage 3	After a break, you will be told whether you have progressed to Stage 3.
2:30pm STAGE 3	Vocal Assessment & Interview	If you reach stage 3 you will have a vocal assessment (see below) and be interviewed by the audition panel. The interview lasts between 5–10 minutes.
3:45pm	Funding and Admin Talk	You will receive a 15 minute talk from the Registrar on funding, and the offer process.
4:00pm	Finish	You will be notified of the outcome in writing within 7-10 days.

Vocal Assessment

Candidates will be given a short passage (around 10 lines) to read to the panel.

N.B. You are not required to have RP to join the course; this exercise is for ALRA to assess your clarity of speech (i.e. *can you be understood by someone from a different region?*) and vocal ability; advice may be given to the candidate. You will be given sufficient time to study the passage and be offered relevant help where required, e.g. in case of disability. If you require a large-print copy, or the text to be printed on coloured paper, please let us know if and when you reach Stage 3.

ALRA operates an Equal Opportunities Policy: all candidates will be assessed on their potential to meet the demands of the course and considered entirely on the basis of merit. Those showing the most aptitude at audition will be considered for Dance and Drama Awards, taking into account their financial circumstances.

The audition panel makes the final decision regarding entry to ALRA and we aim to notify you in writing within one week. Successful applicants will have demonstrated a significant degree of talent, ability, preparation, aptitude and commitment as well as the ability to make a positive contribution to, and benefit from, the Acting Course.

N.B. *Due to the volume of applicants, we are not able to provide feedback on unsuccessful auditions*

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO ALRA SOUTH

Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, John Archer Way, London SW18 3SX.

Tel: 020 8870 6475 E-mail: info@alra.co.uk

GETTING HERE

We strongly advise you to travel to ALRA South by train. Clapham Junction is our nearest station. It is within easy walking distance, and has a regular bus service that stops outside the college.

Bus

If you decide to get the bus from Clapham Junction to ALRA, please allow 15 minutes. Please see the accompanying "Bus Directions to ALRA from Clapham Junction"

Walking

If you decide to walk from Clapham Junction station, allow 20 minutes. Please see the accompanying "Walking Directions to ALRA from Clapham Junction"

Although we recommend the above route, it is possible to reach us by tube. **Please be warned though, that this will definitely take you much longer.**

Tooting Bec is our nearest underground station, but it is a mile and a half from the college. **The 219 bus is not reliable and you should allow 40 minutes from the station in case you need to walk.** The route is straight along Trinity Road, but it is a long walk.

Bus

If you decide to get the bus from Tooting Bec to ALRA, please allow 40 minutes. Please see the accompanying "Bus Directions to ALRA from Tooting Bec"

At the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building: (See image below)

Press the button marked 'TR' at the big black entrance doors (at the foot of the central tower) facing the common land and this will release the door catch. You will be greeted in the lobby by current ALRA students. If you need to park for longer than two hours ask in the office for a compliments slip to put on your dashboard.

Accommodation:

The nearest B&B is at 34 Westover Road, SW18 2RQ, Tel 020 8874 0722. It's in a quiet and fashionable area five minutes from the college. 1 person in a room with en-suite £65 – 2 people £70. 1 person in either of the rooms sharing a bathroom £60, 2 people £65. These prices all include a full breakfast and are special to ALRA as they are all about £5 less per night than the usual rate. Please mention that you have been recommended by ALRA.

The nearest hotel is Leigham Court Hotel, 18 Leigham Court Road, SW16 2PJ, Tel 020 8677 7171 which is in a much more mixed area close to Streatham Hill Station. Trains run approx every 15 minutes from Streatham Hill to Clapham Junction (journey time 10 minutes). Rooms from £50 per night (Single occupancy) £60 (Double occupancy) both rates are inclusive of Breakfast.

Food, drink, and general comfort:

- There is a hot and cold drinks machine in the student common room.
- The County Arms pub along Trinity Road serves bar meals, and a Londis supermarket opposite the pub has a good range of sandwiches, soups and hot lunch dishes.
- Please bring lots of water to stop you dehydrating.
- **We strongly advise you to bring a packed lunch.**
- The corridors in the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building can get very cold – bring extra layers of clothing and a warm coat in the winter months.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA PATRIOTIC BUILDING

