

AUDITION INFORMATION - 2009

R. J. Reynolds High School "Arts for Academics" Program

Location: Reynolds Arts Building (behind the auditorium)

Dates: February 19th, 4:00-8:00 pm --- Instrumental Music (Band, Orchestra, Piano, Guitar) and Chorus

February 28th, Dance -- 9:00-12:00

February 28th, Theatre Arts – 10:30-12:00 or 1:00-2:30

All students planning to audition must:

Email the Reynolds Magnet office for an appointment:

Last Names A-I Angell Caudill acaudill@wsfcs.k12.nc.us

Last Names J-R Rita Moore rbmoore@wsfcs.k12.nc.us

Last names S-Z Karen Morris ksmorris@wsfcs.k12.nc.us

Bring a resume with a non- returnable head shot to the audition

General Information by Area:

Dance—Mrs. Evette Clemons and Mrs. Caitie Reece, Instructors

- Students should bring all dance shoes but shoes are not required except for Tap auditions.
- Students will learn a quick warm-up.
- Across the floor
- Center work/short combination
- Audition one at a time and in small groups
- Need to provide a non-returnable headshot picture. Black and white is acceptable.

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Magnet site: <http://www.wsfcsmagnets.net/reynolds-home.asp>

Theatre Arts — Ms. Gretchen Devlin-Hall, Instructor

- All interested students should bring a headshot and a resume of previous theatre experience. Please be sure to use the student's actual name (as it appears on school records) on the resume. (Nicknames or names they are called may also be included, but the REAL name needs to be immediately available.)
- All students interested in Theatre Arts should be prepared to take a written quiz on the basics of theatre.
- Potential acting students should come prepared to tell a story or perform an age-appropriate contemporary monologue of approximately 1 minute that shows his/her personality, projection, and ability to connect with an audience.
- In addition, acting students may be asked to read from a small collection of teacher-selected cold readings with one or more other students.
- Technical students will have approximately 3 minutes to explain why (s)he is interested in pursuing a study of design and production of theatre, radio and/or film.
- Technical theatre students should bring any available pictures or samples of projects they have been involved in creating and be able to discuss how (s)he was involved in the project.
- In addition, technical theatre students should be prepared to read a short selection and present a design idea for a presentation of the selection.

Instrumental Music (all band and orchestra courses, piano and guitar)—

***Ms. Margaret Rehder, Mr. Ian Hargis, Bruce Moss, Bill Kossler
Instructors***

- Students will play a scale and arpeggio of their choice, at least two octaves but preferably three.
- They will play a piece of their choice that represents their level of achievement – about ½ page. They may be asked to do a short sample of sight reading.
- Student will be given a basic music-reading placement test.
- For piano auditions, students may play from a book from which they have recently worked. Piano auditions are for placement and classes will be offered to both beginners and experienced pianists. Advanced piano students are being sought to audition for the advanced chamber orchestra. These students will serve as orchestral pianists, accompanists, and have the opportunity to learn to play the harp.

Chorus—Mr. Terry Hicks, Instructor

Students auditioning in Choral music will have a brief interview with Mr. Hicks then begin the audition by singing a vocal warm-up that will also indicate the range of the voice at this time.

(As students moving from middle to high are maturing from adolescence to young adult, their voice is very likely to change at least some amount between the spring audition and the beginning of school in the fall.)

After the warm-up, the student may sing a song that they believe best represents their musical self. Many students choose to sing "America, The Beautiful" in either low, medium or high range. If the student has not determined a song that musically reflects their musical self,

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that's not problem. Mr. Hicks simply wants the student to have an opportunity to share their talent in a way that is most comfortable for them.

All students should be familiar with "America, The Beautiful." It is not necessary to sing from memory. Only 60 seconds of the song will be heard to accommodate the flow of audition times. Students may then be asked to sing "America, The Beautiful" to reveal the voice in a different way.

Students will then be asked to look at a short selection for sight-reading. Students who have little to no understanding/skill with sight-reading are encouraged to take PIANO 1 either with Choral Music or in place of during the freshman year. The ability to sight-read is the most significant skill to be a lifelong fruitful singer. Pianists are by far, the most accurate and efficient sight readers. That is why we added a piano lab to our magnet. Students may transfer to chorus the sophomore year after one year in Piano

We want to plan each student's program to ensure the most successful musical and educational journey.

The student will receive feedback from Mr. Hicks on their audition before leaving the room. Students will not be assigned to classes until all auditions have been completed for all students (9-12). Students will be notified of their group placement in late spring.

Finally, all students will complete a short written assessment of musical terms and notation

The audition should NOT be a stressful situation. Students should not compare themselves to other students auditioning. There is no "make or break" component. Students should make good-faith effort with all of the audition components. Our artistry reflects our journey -- the experiences, the imagination, and the prowess for growth. Please, participate with ease and peace of mind.

If you have some specific question, please email Mr. Hicks at:

thicks3@wsfcs.k12.nc.us

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