BFA ACTING

SELECTION PROCESS

It is a 2-step process. You must meet both the Academic Requirements and the Artistic Requirements.

- Request an Audition (download form) and submit form with supporting materials by January 31
- Apply to uab.ca/apply

Academic requirements are assessed by the Faculty of Arts. Artistic requirements are based on auditions, callbacks (if applicable) and a review of additional materials.

2020 AUDITION DATES

Vancouver, BC: TBD
Edmonton, AB: Sat. Feb. 15 and Sun. Feb. 16
Winnipeg, MB: TBD
Toronto, ON: TBD
St. John’s, NL: TBD – scheduled as required
Video auditions: postmarked by January 10, 2020 (along with additional materials)

Edmonton callbacks: Feb. 22 and 23

Callbacks take place in Edmonton only. If you audition in Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto and St. John’s your audition will be taped and reviewed by the Audition team – you will not have an in-person callback.

HOW TO APPLY & DEADLINES

Video auditions: For individuals with extenuating circumstances, or who live too far from an audition city, we will accept video auditions. Applicants must apply online and have their tape/digital submission and additional materials postmarked by January 13, 2020.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Submit the following Additional Materials (postmarked by January 30, 2020):

- Two (2) letters of recommendation
- Letter of intent
- Unofficial post-secondary transcript(s)
- Theatre resume
- One (1) 8” x 10” Head Shot/Photograph, colour or black and white

Submit all additional materials directly to DRAMA (dropped off in person, mailed or couriered, or uploaded with your application)

Connie Golden, Undergraduate Advisor
Department of Drama
3-146 Fine Arts Bldg
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2C9
Canada
AUDITION FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS

Auditions are individual and approximately 30 minutes in duration. Callbacks (Edmonton only) start with a group session (approximately 1 hr, nothing to prepare in advance), followed by individual sessions. For callbacks you may present the same materials or prepare other selections.

For your audition/callback prepare:

- **Two Monologues:** Present two prepared and memorized selections which together are no more than six minutes long. One selection is to be from Shakespeare, and the other from Contemporary (1960’s or later) repertoire. Choose selections that are within your playing and age range, and using your regular voice (no accents or dialects). We want to see what you can do, not what you cannot do.

- **One Song Excerpt:** Sing an excerpt from a work of musical theatre. Choose a concise piece from a song (ex. two verses and a chorus, approx. 1 min.) in which you can show character and movement. You must provide your own background music (no other vocals) and we will provide a CD/cassette player (ipod dock guaranteed in Edmonton only). Singing a cappella is acceptable.

- **One Movement Piece:** Present a short choreographed movement sequence. Thirty-two bars of up-tempo music or sixteen bars of slow music (approx. 1 min.). You must provide your own music and we will provide a CD/cassette player (ipod dock guaranteed in Edmonton only). Music may be from any repertoire (classical, musical theatre, rock, or pop). We are looking for musicality, creativity, stage presence, flexibility, use of space and imagination. Wear clothing that allows you to move freely.

- **Adjustments/Improvisation:** You may be asked to incorporate adjustments to your work and/or do a movement and/or an acting improvisation.

- **Script Reading:** You may be asked to do a sight-reading of a provided short piece of material.

- **Interview:** Your audition will include a personal interview with the audition team. We are interested in getting to know you a bit, your experience and background, and your interests and professional goals. We are also happy to answer any of your questions about our BFA Acting program at that time.

If submitting a video, you must perform and record onto a CD or DVD, or upload your file to YouTube/a personal website/etc.:

- **An introduction:** Recorded close-up from the shoulders up: state your name, where you are from, and why you are auditioning. Recorded full length – from head to toe: face forward, turn left profile, turn full back, turn right profile, turn full forward.

- **Two Monologues:** See above.

- **One Song Excerpt:** See above.

- **One Movement Piece:** See above.

Note: Record each piece as one shot (i.e. do not edit together different takes of the same monologue)

FAQ’s

I have questions or concerns about the auditions. Who can I contact?
Contact Connie Golden, Undergraduate Advisor at 780.492.8710 or at connie.golden@ualberta.ca.

What if I can’t make it on the scheduled dates? What if I can’t come for a callback?
If you have extenuating circumstances contact Connie Golden, Undergraduate Advisor at connie.golden@ualberta.ca or at 780.492.8710 as soon as possible, and we will try our best to make different arrangements. However, special requests are not guaranteed.
I've chosen Edmonton as my audition city, but I need to fly or drive 5 hrs+ to get to Edmonton. When do I audition and come for callbacks?
Applicants who select Edmonton as their audition city and who live more than a 5 hour drive from Edmonton, will audition their first and only time, during the Edmonton callback time slots. Contact Connie Golden, Undergraduate Advisor at connie.golden@ualberta.ca or 780.492.8710 when you apply online.

Will all cities have callbacks?
In-person callbacks take place in Edmonton only. Auditions in other cities will be recorded and reviewed by the audition committee. (i.e. if you audition in Vancouver you will audition only once – no callback).

How do I know if I am selected for a callback?
Once all the in-person auditions are completed the committee meets and makes their selections on who they want to see again. You will be notified by email and/or phone.

Is there a group audition? Group callback?
Auditions are individual. Callbacks have a group session in the morning, followed by individual sessions.

What should I bring to the audition?
Bring a water bottle and your music for your singing and movement pieces (CD player will be provided – ipod dock guaranteed in Edmonton only). Dress so that you can move comfortably – do not wear clothes that are very baggy or very revealing.

Do you have a list of monologues to choose from?
No. We encourage you to select monologues that you feel best demonstrate your abilities. Not sure what to pick? Start with an internet search or speak to one of your drama teachers or professors.

What is a letter of intent?
It is a way for the selection committee to better understand why you are pursuing professional acting training – what you want to get out of the program, what you will bring to the program, etc. Recommended length is approximately 1 page, single spaced (or 2 pages double-spaced).

Is there a reference letter form or template?
No. Your referees can write whatever/however they choose.

Who should the letters of reference and letter of intent be addressed to?
Please have these letters addressed to The BFA Acting Selection Committee.

How many students are admitted?
A maximum of 12 students are admitted each year. Normally we take 6 men and 6 women.

When are the final selections made?
Offers are made by the end of March. Waitlist spots for 4-6 students are also offered at this time.

I'm on the waitlist, what are my chances of getting into the program? When will I know?
This depends if all 12 students accept their offer, if anyone declines, or if anyone is refused (due to academics). If you are on the waitlist you could be offered a spot right away, throughout the summer, or not at all. It is very important that waitlisted students apply to the UofA by May 1. If you are offered a spot after this deadline, but have not applied to the UofA, you will not be eligible to accept the offer.