Young Conservatory
CABARET PROGRAM
2020–21 Audition & Program Information

A.C.T.’s Young Conservatory Cabaret Program is an advanced-level musical theater training and performance program that casts young performers each season in three groups of 12–16 performers. These groups will meet weekly for 2.5–3 hours (online for Fall, TBD for Winter and Spring), and hold performances or virtual concerts in the Fall, Winter/Spring, along with the culminating Best of the Best concert on Saturday, June 6, 2021.

Tuition: $1,150 for the entire season, September–June, and may be paid in two parts. Financial aid is available upon request. Please inquire only if you’ve been accepted into the program.

The 2020–21 season groups will be named characters after from Hamilton by Lin-Manuel Miranda:

- High School Cabaret Ensemble (ANGELICA)
- High School Musical Ensemble (ELIZA)
- Middle School Cabaret Ensemble (PEGGY)

How to Submit Your Audition Video:
Deadline to submit: Monday, August 24 by 10 a.m.
Email all submissions to: YCAuditions@act-sf.org

To be considered, email us the following by the deadline:

1. A link to your video (please make sure it is a working link – see details below for video guidelines)
2. A current theater resume
3. A current photo jpg or png (does not have to be a professional headshot)

If you have any additional questions, please email us at YCAuditions@act-sf.org.

Cabaret Program Audition Video Guidelines:
Audition Videos for the Cabaret Program should feature students singing two contrasting 32-bar song cuts (approx 1 min per cut) and a monologue (1 min max) in a YouTube, Vimeo, or other easily accessible format. Videos do not need to be professionally produced—a simple at-home self-tape is fine!

Here are some tips to help show off your very best:

- Introduce your name clearly at the beginning of the tape with the name of the three pieces you'll be sharing (they can be edited and added later).
- Plain backgrounds and natural lighting to show your face work best.
- Frame yourself in the video so the viewer can see from about knees up, and look just off (up or to the side) of the camera.
• Playing accompaniment tracks on a separate device rather than your computer can help with sound quality. You can look on YouTube for free accompaniments or MusicNotes.com for paid accompaniments that come with the purchase of sheet music.
• If you have wireless headphones, those can help you hear the accompaniment better as you're singing (but some prefer to sing without).
• Allow yourself time to do a few takes and watch back to ensure you can be seen and heard well.
• Choose songs that have lyrics you can personally connect to, and that tell a story that the program instructors can realistically imagine a 14–18 year old (HS) or 11–13 year old (MS) experiencing. Choosing songs that are sung by characters close to your age range is ideal, however songs written for older characters can be fine, provided the lyrics feel authentic to you and you've done your homework.
• Choose two songs that when put together give us a clear picture of your strengths as a performer. Choose songs that you excel in.
• Choose two songs that have contrasting energy/tone—one ballad, one uptempo is a strong place to start. They don't necessarily have to contrast comedy/dramatic—but they should show us different colors of your storytelling ability, as well as vocal range or quality.

**Timeline of Rehearsal/Performance:**

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<td>Aug 24</td>
<td>Audition videos due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 27–30</td>
<td>Online callbacks as needed</td>
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<td>Sep 4</td>
<td>Auditionees notified</td>
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<td>Sep 19–Dec 12</td>
<td>Fall program, dates TBD</td>
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<td>Jan 9–May 3</td>
<td>Winter/Spring programs, dates TBD</td>
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<td>Jun 6, 2021</td>
<td>Best of the Best</td>
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