

TRAVELING PLAYERS
MYTHOLOGY ENSEMBLE [OLYMPIANS]

WELCOME! We're so excited for you to audition! We can't wait to meet you – or see you again!

WHAT HAPPENS AT AUDITIONS?

We know that actors can shine in different ways, so we organize our auditions to allow actors with different strengths to shine. You will perform a memorized monologue, play improvisation games, read from the script, and participate in group discussions as well as talk to the director one on one.

The audition is an opportunity for the director to get to know you and to see how you work and play with other potential members of the ensemble. It is also an opportunity for you to get to know your potential castmates. You will have your best audition if you relax, have fun, and connect with your fellow performers! We have been told that our auditions are significantly more fun than the average audition. We plan to keep it that way.

THE MONOLOGUE:

- Choose **one (1)** of the three (3) monologues below to prepare.
- This monologue **must be memorized**. You won't be able to read it from the paper when you perform it.
- You'll perform your monologue to the rest the auditionees plus Jeanne Harrison, the Artistic Director.

Some helpful guidelines for the monologue:

- Do I understand all the words? Have I looked up any words or phrases I don't understand?
- Do I understand *why* this character says each line? Will it be clear to my audience?
- Am I speaking loudly and clearly enough so my audience can understand me?
- How can I engage my whole body in the performance? (This doesn't necessarily mean *moving* your whole body.) Are my physical gestures connected to my character?

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to ask...you can reach us at 703-987-1712 or you can email us at info@travelingplayers.org.

ON AUDITION DAY:

Eat before you arrive. Please dress in clothes that will allow you to comfortably move, and **bring a water bottle**.

You could very likely learn new skills and make new friends! Relax and have fun -- you're going to do great!

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Because the Olympians perform a brand new play that has yet to be written, you will be auditioning with monologues from the Athenian's play *Ariadne's Thread*.

MONOLOGUE #1:

Theseus from *Ariadne's Thread*

Theseus (Thee'-see-us), a young hero, has spent many years trying to move a boulder; a task set to him by his father Poseidon.

THESEUS

"To my father," I know. Hmmm, what's the best approach here? Mechanical? Scientific? Let me think. Physical strength hasn't worked... Why don't I just dig a little trench around it, like this? I need a little leverage. Then, what I need is a wedge right here. (*he mimes the wedge and log*) What about this log underneath it... (*jumps on the log*) – and 'voila!' It worked! A sword. Wow.

MONOLOGUE #2:

Perphetes from *Ariadne's Thread*

Perphetes (Per-eh-feet'-eze), the guardian of the underworld, shows off his cudgel to Theseus. He will not let Theseus enter the underworld

PERPHETES

I use it to beat up my enemies.
Or anybody who gets in my way.
Sometimes, I beat them up just for the fun of it!
I wack 'em with this here big old stick I stole from a giant,
And then, I grind them into the dirt, like this!
So, if I were you, boy, I'd run along back home to your mama.

MONOLOGUE #3:

Ariadne from *Ariadne's Thread*

Ariadne (Ary-ahd'-knee), a young priestess, wakes up from a strange dream that she cannot interpret.

ARIADNE

The same dream over and over!
I'm holding the end of a spool of thread
And tangled up at the other end,
Is this boy I've never even seen.
What can it mean?
I have no clue.
How can I be an oracle if
I can't even fathom my own dream?
Fine Priestess I am!