

**TRAVELING PLAYERS ENSEMBLE  
THESPIAN ENSEMBLE**

**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, 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 to prepare. (Note: Any actor of any gender may choose to perform any of the monologues.)
- 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 of the auditionees plus Morgan Shotwell, the Thespian Ensemble 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 words and 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 [outreach@travelingplayers.org](mailto:outreach@travelingplayers.org).

**ON AUDITION DAY:**

Before arriving: Please be sure to eat. Dress in clothes that will allow you to move comfortably. Bring a water bottle. Then relax and have fun -- you're going to do great! You could very likely learn new skills and make new friends!

**TRAVELING PLAYERS ENSEMBLE**  
**THESPIAN ENSEMBLE**

**Monologue Option #1**

*Truffaldino, the servant of Beatrice, debates the merits of taking on a second job.*

**TRUFFALDINO** There's luck! There are many that look in vain for a master, and I have found two. What the devil am I to do? I cannot wait upon them both. No? Why not? Wouldn't it be a fine thing to wait upon both of them, earn two men's wages and eat and drink for two? 'Twould be a fine thing indeed, if neither of them found it out. And if they did? What then? No matter! If one sends me away, I stay with the other. I swear I'll try it. If it last but a day, I'll try it. Here goes.

**Monologue Option #2**

*Smeraldina, a servant to Clarice, stops a lovers' spat from turning deadly.*

**SMERALDINA** *(To Clarice who is holding a sword.)* Stop, stop! What on earth are you doing? *(To Silvio.)* And you, you dog, you would have let her die? Have you the heart of a tiger, of a hyena, of a devil? Look at you, you're a pretty little fellow, that expects ladies to disembowel themselves for you! You are much too kind to him, madam. He doesn't want you anymore, I suppose? The man that doesn't want you doesn't deserve you. Let this murderer go to the devil; and you come along with me. There's no shortage of men; I'll promise to find you a dozen before evening.

**Monologue Option #3**

*Truffaldino makes up a story to get out of trouble.*

*Unfortunately, this lie leads Beatrice to believe that her lost love, Florindo, has died.*

**BEATRICE** Oh wretched that I am! Florindo is dead, my beloved is dead; my one and only hope is dead. All is lost. Love's stratagems are fruitless! I leave my home, I leave my relatives, I dress as a man, I confront danger, I hazard my very life, all for Florindo—and Florindo is dead. Unhappy Beatrice! Was the loss of my brother so little to me, that Fate must make me lose my lover as well? Oh! Grief overwhelms me, I can no longer bear the light of day. My adored one, my beloved, I will follow you to the tomb.