

Technical Theatre Presentation and Interview Guidelines

UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts September 2024 entry

Thank you for applying to join our **Technical Theatre** course for September 2024. We understand that you may be as nervous as you are excited, and we want to make sure that you feel you are able to present yourself and your work to the best of your ability. These guidelines are intended to help you prepare effectively, give you some information about what to expect on the day, and explain what happens next in the application process. Please read through them carefully, and do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions that aren't answered here.

We want to make sure that our applications process is accessible to everyone and will make reasonable adjustments if you have a disability or particular requirement. If you have any questions about this, please contact Julie Humphreys at admissions@lipasixthformcollege.org or call us on 0151 330 3232. This information can be made available in other formats – please let us know about any specific needs you have.

Any questions?

We wish you the best of luck and hope you enjoy your day with us. In the meantime, if you need any further information about any aspect of the presentation and interview process, please contact Julie Humphreys at admissions@lipasixthformcollege.org or call us on 0151 330 3232.

Overview

Your presentation and interview are intended to enable you to present yourself and your work in the best possible way. We understand how much you care about your work and how nerves inevitably play a part on such occasions, so we encourage you to view the day as a learning opportunity in its own right, both with the panel and with fellow candidates. Regardless of the outcome, there is much you can learn about yourself and your work from a day like this.

The presentation and interview schedule for Technical Theatre is as follows:

Arrival and registration

Session A Presentation and interview

During this time, you will be allocated a slot to present your pre-prepared presentation and to have a short interview. You will talk through your presentation individually before a small panel, followed by an interview to allow for the panel to ask further questions. Each candidate will have 10-15 minutes in total.

Session B Group Task

This task will give you an idea of how it would feel to be in class as part of LIPA Sixth Form College should you be offered a place with us and allows us to assess how you engage with the collaborative learning process. There is no need to prepare for this, but please make sure you engage with the activities fully.

Your Presentation

What to present?

You are asked to present your technical ideas and/or experience to at least one aspect relevant to technical theatre (e.g. lighting, sound, stage management or front of house) for either:

a) A production you have already worked on - perhaps as part of your studies, or as part of a group you belong to outside of school.

OR

b) A project that you would like to realise in the future - perhaps using your favourite production or a performance you've seen as a starting point or inspiration.

You could present your ideas either in hard copy (Sketchbook) or digitally (PowerPoint on a USB stick). A laptop will be available for your use, or you may bring your own tablet or laptop.

You will need to talk through the slides/sketchbook during the presentation, explaining what you did or what your ideas are for your future project. We encourage you to use notes throughout the presentation and show any other documents (production programmes, photos etc) that you may have, but this is not essential, and you will not be at a disadvantage if you don't have anything to bring.

Please feel free to wear whatever you feel comfortable and professional in. Remember preparation is everything for your presentation and interview and is the best help against inevitable nervousness. Also remember that we are not ultimately looking for excellence of presentation or technical skill, but your ability to express yourself in your work.

Tips to help you prepare for your presentation

When creating your presentation use the following questions to help structure your presentation:

A Production you have already worked on:

- What is the production? What was your role in it?
- What responsibilities did you have? What tasks did you have to complete?
- What did you find challenging about this production? What would you change if you did it again?

Please feel free to include any photos, images, or paperwork/documents that you might have taken or created for this production. DO NOT worry if you do not have these, just talk through the production and your experience of it.

A project that you would like to realise in the future:

- What is this project/production? Why have you chosen it?
- What role would you like to take on for this project? Why this role?
- What are your technical/creative ideas for this project? How would you go about creating them?

Please feel free to include any photos, images, or sound bites that you might want to use or have taken inspiration from to create this project. As this is a hypothetical project, show us all your ideas – aim big!

Your interview

Your interview will have three questions as follows:

Question 1 refers to your presentation piece:

- Using your experience and knowledge how would you explain what technical theatre is?
- How do you think the skills you have demonstrated in your presentation are relevant to technical theatre?

Question 2 refers to Technical Theatre as a career:

- What got you interested in technical theatre and is there a specific aspect of this that you lean towards?
- Why is teamwork important in technical theatre?

Question 3 refers to your future ambitions:

- How will coming to LIPA Sixth Form College help you and your skills to progress?
- What do you see as your next step beyond LSFC?

We have provided these questions so that you have time to think about what you want to say in advance. We want you to have the opportunity to speak honestly about yourself and your work.

Tips to help you prepare for your interview

Your interview will take place after your presentation.

- Practice answering the questions in front of a mirror, or with a friend or teacher who you can trust to give you honest, useful feedback. The more you practice what you want to say, the easier it will be to speak naturally and with confidence on the day itself.

- Look again at the information you put on your application form, and make sure you can talk about it if asked to - being able to talk confidently about things you've done or seen will help you to be more natural and 'yourself' in an interview.
- Feel free to use any prepared notes and the panel welcome any questions that you may have
- Above all, relax and enjoy the experience – we want to know about you, and only you can tell us that.

What to wear

Please ensure you are dressed comfortably. Do not wear any restricting clothes.

What happens next?

The panel will consider all four elements of your application together - your audition, your interview, your contribution to the group workshop, and the information on your application form (including your predicted GCSE grades). They will reach a decision regarding your application collectively.

You will receive a decision email from us at the end of March/beginning of April 2024 which will state the outcome of your audition and interview.