AUDITION NOTES FOR *HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION*

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

View Mr. Hamen's director's notes here: **centervillehstheatre. com/cast**
Here you'll find information about the show as well as character lists and descriptions.

AUDTION INFO

Be sure to fill out your audition form and sign up for an audition time slot (on the CHS Theatre website).
There are two available audition dates: September 2 and 3.

REQUIREMENTS: BELOW

Prepare to perform one of the selections provided or a musical theatre selection of your own (about a minute). You are free to choose whichever best suits your abilities. ***ALL MALE-IDENTIFYING ACTORS must also sing the cutting of "Epic III" (This is the "la la la" section).***

Be sure to also fill out your audition form and sign up for an audition time slot (on the CHS Theatre website).

AUDITION SONG SELECTIONS

CHARACTER	ORPHEUS
SONG	Epic III
WHO IS THE CHARACTER?	Orpheus is a poet, but he also gets lost in his work and forgets about reality at times. In this poem, he sings about Hades got lost in his work and forgot who he was and what he cared about.
WHAT DO THEY WANT?	Orpheus is singing for his life. If Hades accepts this song, Orpheus might earn mercy, and Hades could turn out to be a better person.
CHARACTER	HADES
SONG	Hey, Little Songbird
WHO IS THE CHARACTER?	Hades is a controlling, charming boss who always gets what he wants, even if that means destroying other people along the way.
WHAT DO THEY WANT?	In this song, Hades presents Eurydice with a view of her future where she is destroyed. Hades wants her to stay and work for him.
CHARACTER	HERMES
SONG	Road to Hell
WHO IS THE CHARACTER?	Hermes is the show's narrator and a guide to the characters. He/She/They are confident and timeless.
WHAT DO THEY WANT?	This is the opening number of the show where Hermes introduces the characters. He/She/They want to create an atmosphere of familiarity that welcomes the audience in.
CHARACTER	PERSEPHONE
SONG	Our Lady of the Underground
WHO IS THE CHARACTER?	Persephone is passionate and adventurous, but her life with Hades has crushed her spirit. In this verse, she sings to "Brother," which represents all of us, but really she is singing to herself about what she has lost. "There's a crack in the wall" refers to Hades and his potential to lose everything while she watches from the side with regret and anger. *Note: The script indicates that Persephone is a "lush," because she uses alcohol to cover up her unhappiness. One route to this character is to present a woman whose addiction defines her. A more honest route is to show someone who is still alive and wants to connect to others on the inside even if the outside is broken.*
WHAT DO THEY WANT?	Persephone wants escape throughout most of the show, though later she will be seeking a return to her original happy life.
CHARACTER	EURYDICE
SONG	Flowers
WHO IS THE CHARACTER?	Eurydice is a young run-away who finally found stability in Orpheus but gave it up in the face of uncertainty.
WHAT DO THEY WANT?	The literal meaning of this song is about what Hades told Eurydice about going down into Hadestown so that she would go more willingly. In between the lines, however, is Eurydice realizing that by choosing to escape her difficult world, she gave up her life. She uses this song to remember and grieve the loss of herself.

AUDITIONING FOR A SHOW AT CHS THEATRE

EVERY SHOW IS DIFFERENT: YOUR FIRST AUDITION IS NOT YOUR LAST

The needs of each show change. Some have small casts. Some have large casts. Some characters are a better fit for certain actors than others. Just because you are cast in a show doesn't mean you'll be the right fit for the next one, and just because you aren't cast doesn't mean you shouldn't return. Keep growing, keep trying!

WHO IS IN THE AUDITION ROOM?

PLAY: If the audition format has you performing a bit of text or scene, it might just be you and/or your scene partner in the room with the director. A stage manager may also be there to organize paperwork.
MUSICAL: The director and music director will be there, and sometimes an accompanist will be at the piano if one is available. A stage manager may also be there to play music or organize paperwork. If the musical requires a dance audition, you'll be with the choreographer and a group of actors.
CALLBACKS: After auditions finish, directors hold callbacks to see more from certain people or to try out combinations of actors. Depending on what the directors need to see, you could be alone, with a scene partner, or with a group.

WHAT DO I NEED TO PREPARE?

Sometimes a show requires actors to come to auditions with a sample to perform, and sometimes actors just show up. Review the information in the audition contract as well as the details provided in advance. Take time to also review the tentative rehearsal calendar before you fill out the form and sign the contract. Sign up for an audition time slot and bring your form/contract to your audition.

THIS SOUNDS TERRIFYING!

Everybody gets nervous at auditions—even people who have done it before, and even the directors! The good news is that everyone wants you to be successful! Go in with a smile (even if you have to fake it!) to start off on a positive step.

TIPS FOR AUDITIONING FOR THEATRE

- Understand the character and what the character wants. Why does the character need to speak?
- Act from head to toe. Be aware of what you are doing with your movement, voice, and facial expressions so they fit the character.
- Memorize. It's not a big deal if you mess up or forget a word, but memorizing helps directors to fully see your potential without a paper in the way.
- Breathe! Smile! Not only will these simple actions help you to make a good first impression, they'll support your success from the inside out.