Hurtwood House Performing Arts Scholarships

Hurtwood House is offering a limited number of two-year A-level Performing Arts scholarships to boarding students for September 2027, one at 50% off the fees, two at 25% off the fees and three at 10% off the fees. The major scholarships are usually awarded to students auditioning in all three of the disciplines - acting, singing and dance.

Clearly, we are not expecting students of this age to have received a great deal of formal vocational training, but we are looking for evidence of outstanding talent and natural skills. We are looking for young people with enthusiasm and commitment who would make a positive contribution to the Hurtwood Theatre during their time here.

Scholarships are awarded for the full two-year period of the student's A-levels but will be subject to review at the end of the first year. Although successful candidates will not be expected to take A-level Theatre as part of their A-level programme, they will nevertheless be expected to take a full and active part in the extra-curricular Performing Arts programme, and to contribute to all major school productions.

Before auditioning for one of these scholarships, it is necessary for students to come for an interview, so if you decide you would like to apply for a scholarship and have not already visited us you should contact the school to arrange an appointment. Once you have had your interview, you may complete the scholarship application form and return it to us so that we can enter your name onto the list of candidates for the next audition. Please note that a reference from your present school will also be required, and this will be written for on receipt of your completed application form.

Cosmo Jackson
Headmaster

HURTWOOD THEATRE
Performing Arts Scholarships 2027

There are two possible ways to audition.

1 **In person** at Hurtwood House on **Sunday 7th March 2027**. Closer to the audition you will be sent a schedule letting you know what time you should arrive at the school.

2 **A self-tape application** that can be emailed to scholarships@hurtwood.net.

If you would prefer to submit a digital audition, please read the advice/guidelines sheet at the end of this information. The material will then be reviewed shortly after the in-person auditions have taken place, so that all auditionees are considered together.

The scholarship panel will consist of:

- Rob Holt (Head of Performing Arts)
- Nick Larkin (Musical Director in Residence)
- Lottie Davis (Head of Curriculum Dance)
- Andy Johnson (Director in Residence)
- Cosmo Jackson (Headmaster)
- Richard Jackson (Headmaster)
- Tina Jackson (Head of Admissions)

What we would like you to show us:

ACTING
You will present your work to us on your own in our Theatre Studio space. We would like you to perform EITHER a classical piece by Shakespeare OR a modern speech that lasts no longer than two minutes in length.

After you have performed the piece, we will direct you to see whether you can explore other ways of doing it.

SINGING
You should learn and prepare **two contrasting songs.** Either, two contrasting musical theatre songs or one musical theatre song and one pop song. One song must be up-tempo and one must be a ballad.

An accompanist will be provided but **you must provide the sheet music for both songs**, fully written out for piano accompaniment and in the key in which you wish to sing. (The pianist will not transpose at sight.) **Sheet music must be provided either in a display folder or taped together.**

DANCE
There is no need to choreograph a special piece as you will take part in a short class that explores a variety of dance styles and techniques. Be prepared to work barefoot! You may bring along soft ballet shoes/jazz shoes if you wish. Please ensure that you wear sensible/dance clothes.

APPLICATION FOR HURTWOOD PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP 2027

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE:

ATTENDING IN PERSON (Sunday 7th March 2027) *please tick* _____

SUBMITTING A SELF TAPE AUDITION (by Friday 12th February 2027) *please tick* _____

Name: ……

Age: …… Sex: ……

Name and address of parents: ……

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Telephone number (home): ……

Mobile number: ……

Parent e-mail: ……

Student e-mail: ……

Date of interview: ……

Name of present Headmaster/Headmistress: ……

Present school: ……

E-mail of present school: ……

Discipline/s to be auditioned (please ***delete*** as appropriate): **Acting/Singing/Dance**

Stage experience *(list on reverse if necessary):*

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Musical training:

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Singing ability:

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Dance training:

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PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS: SELF-TAPE GUIDANCE

Guidance For Self-Tape Submission

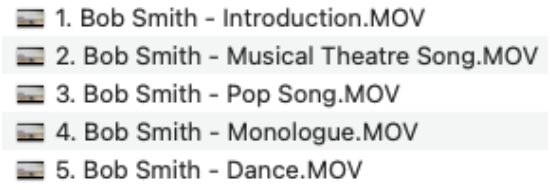
1. Use your phone to film yourself. Set it up on a tripod or prop it up against something. Use the main phone camera, not the selfie camera. Have the camera set to the highest quality setting. Film with the camera in the landscape position.

2. Try to film against a plain wall or backdrop. Dress in a colour that is different to the backdrop. Ensure that you are captured from at least the waist upwards. Your waist to you your head should be visible in the shot (not just head and shoulders). Please stand during the performances.

3. No lights from behind – light from the front, where possible.

4. Speak/sing in the direction of the camera for all performances.

5. Your application should include 4 or 5 separate files, labelled exactly as follows (but using your own name, obviously):



Introduction
Please introduce yourself to the camera with your name, your age, where you live, your current school, why you love the Performing Arts and why you would like to come to Hurtwood. This should be a brief introduction for us to get a sense of your personality and hear your natural speaking voice. If you are a dancer, please talk us through some of your dance experience, preferred style(s) and ability. Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced etc. Keep the introduction under 3 minutes.

Singing Audition
Chose **both** a Pop song and a Musical Theatre song. Two minutes maximum per song. One song must be up-tempo and one must be a ballad. Backing tracks should be played through a speaker. Position the speaker appropriately and adjust the volume so that music can be heard, but ensuring your singing is clear and audible. It is important that you demonstrate acting through song and that you use physicality in your performance.

Acting Audition
Choose **either** a Modern or a Classical speech. Two minutes maximum for the speech.

Dance Audition
If you want to showcase your dance ability, find a large space (outside if required) and ensure your full body is captured on film. Create a routine of your preferred style to demonstrate your technical and expressive ability. Maximum one minute. Enjoy yourself! You may also want to film a class you have attended. Please ensure you can be clearly identified.

Experience tells us that people that follow the above advice, do significantly better in the audition process.

SELECTING MATERIAL
Select material that shows off your personality and ability. If you would like some advice on how to select material for your audition, please watch the following link. We often share this advice with our own students.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tw-GomFJsdc

SUBMITTING YOUR SELF TAPE
Once you have completed the self-tape audition – please send it to us using WETRANSFER. To do this go to https://wetransfer.com and add your files, labelled as indicated above.

Email to scholarships@hurtwood.net and enter your email address in the box below so that you are notified when we receive your video.

All self-tapes must be submitted by **Friday 12th February 2027** at the latest.