

## **Bring Down the House: Live Performing Arts Classes**

### **Communication Arts Coaching**

**Coach: Susan Gay Wemette**

To optimize the preparation for a Bak audition, it is recommended that a student register for three separate coaching sessions. However, that is not required.

#### **Coaching Session #1 – Public Speaking**

Student will:

- Workshop his/her written speech to ensure writing is clear, concise, focused and engaging
- Work on presentation skills, including clarity, delivery, body language

\*Student must be prepared with a one-minute original speech (as per audition guidelines). The speech need not be completely memorized but student must be familiar. A written copy of the speech must be emailed in Word format to [gumbinner@kravis.org](mailto:gumbinner@kravis.org) upon signing up for coaching session #1.

#### **Session 2: Polishing Speech for Performance/Creative writing**

- Student will build on session #1, presenting a *memorized speech* (1 minute in length) for an audience. Confidence in body language and vocal delivery is the focus for this session (30 minutes)
- Creative writing – student will be given a photo prompt to inspire a front page newspaper article (paper and pencil will be necessary for this session – no typing). 30 minutes

#### **Session 3: Media Analysis**

- Student will critically analyze a short video provided via email link. (Paper and pencil required.) We will work on observational skills as well as analyzing for themes/content and be able to discuss with confidence.

\*Additional sessions can be scheduled based on student's individual needs/areas for improvement.

## Bak Guidelines for 2020

At the audition, students will complete the following tasks:

1. Writing- Students will have fifteen minutes to compose a front-page article, in the style of a newspaper, based on the content of a photo that will be provided. Paper and pencils will be provided in the classroom.

Note: Adjudicators will assess the Writing Prompt based on creativity, fiction writing techniques, narrative content, focus, organization, vivid vocabulary, and supporting details.

2. Public Speaking- Students will verbally present a memorized one-minute, original speech, using the topic, “Describe a time when you relied on your creativity to solve a problem”. The speech should be prepared prior to the audition. The applicant must bring a handwritten copy of the speech to the audition. (No name on the speech)

Note: Adjudicators will assess the prepared speech/public speaking based on organization; vocal expression including speech clarity, volume and well-defined delivery style; gestures; facial expressions; body language; enthusiasm; and recovery. The original handwritten copy of the speech will be scored.

3. Media Analysis and Critical Review – During the audition, students will talk about a short video excerpt that was viewed TWICE. After the two viewings, students will be given three minutes to record observations. Students will then individually share their observations with adjudicators. Paper and pencils will be provided in the classroom.