

G. W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology

938 York Road
Towson, MD 21204

Acting

2024-2025 Assessment Guidelines

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Eligibility

Applications must be submitted on or before 1 p.m. on Friday, November 3, 2023. Applications can be accessed from the [BCPS Magnet Programs' Web site \(www.tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet\)](http://www.tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet) beginning at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. Late applications are not processed.

Applicants must attend and complete the assessment for the program to which they applied. Failure to do so will disqualify the applicant; and admission into the magnet program will be denied.

Applicants may only assess for the program(s) to which they applied. Assessments completed for a program not selected on the application will not be scored.

Documented testing accommodations, as appropriate to the assessment, will be provided. Education plans for students not currently attending a BCPS school must be submitted with the magnet application.

Assessment Scheduling

Assessments must be scheduled through the online application system when the application is submitted.

Failure to attend an assessment WILL result in disqualification.

If there are scheduling conflicts with other magnet assessments, parents must contact the Magnet Programs' office by no later than November 8, 2023.

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) to:

- ensure the applicant attends the assessment on the scheduled date and time.
- ensure the applicant brings the required materials to the assessment.
- contact the schools immediately if an unforeseen illness or emergency occurs.

Unforeseen Illness or Emergency: If the applicant cannot attend or complete the scheduled assessment due to an unforeseen illness or emergency, **please immediately contact G. W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology at (443) 809-2793.** Please be aware that assessments will not be rescheduled without documentation verifying the illness or emergency. Documentation must be provided to the school within 72 hours of the illness or emergency.

Inclement Weather: If school activities are cancelled due to inclement weather, magnet assessments will be postponed. Postponed assessments will occur on the designated inclement weather date. All emergency closing and cancellation information will be posted on the BCPS automated information line, (443) 809-5555. Closings and cancellation announcements may also be made through local media.

Academic Integrity

By taking the BCPS magnet assessments, applicants agree NOT to participate in any of the following activities. Violation of this agreement may result in disqualification:

- Submitting, copying, or attempting to copy another's work, including plagiarizing another's words or ideas
- Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials and/or technology
- Falsifying information in an academic exercise
- Assisting another in academic dishonesty

G. W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology Acting

Assessment Overview

Magnet Coordinator(s): Lori Turner lturner2@bcps.org
Maria Tazelaar-Ngo mtazelaar@bcps.org

Assessment Date(s): **Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024 @ 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.**
Applicants must arrive 15 minutes prior to assessment start time
Inclement Weather Date: Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024

Assessments are by appointment only. Assessments must be scheduled by Nov. 8, 2023.

Assessment Duration: 1.5 hours

Assessment Description: Applicants will perform three monologues, one with redirection; participate in a personal interview; and answer questions about the plays from which the monologues originated.

On-Site Registration

- **Arrival:** Report to the Dining Hall 15 minutes prior to appointment time. Late applicants will not be admitted into the assessment.
- **Accompaniment Information:** Parents are asked to drop off applicants and return at the conclusion of the assessment. There is no seating available in the school for parents and parking is limited
- **What to Bring (see Preparing for the Assessment below for details):**
 - Acting Binder (Headshot, Monologue copies)
 - Suggested attire

Assessment Components & Self Evaluation

Evaluation Component	Point Values
Binder	Up to 10 pts
Interview	Up to 5 pts
Knowledge of Plays	Up to 15 pts
3 Monologue Performances	Up to 60 pts (20 pts each)
Redirection	Up to 10 pts
TOTAL	Up to 100 pts

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Preparing for the Assessment

Applicants will perform three monologues, one with redirection; participate in a personal interview; and answer questions about the plays from which the monologues originated.

Acting Binder: Applicants must compile an **Acting Binder** to bring with them to the audition. To receive all points, the Acting Binder must contain (in order):

- 8 x 10 Color Headshot (described below)
- Monologues: 1 copy of each monologue (described below)

Headshot: A headshot is a photograph used by actors to get work. Headshots are 8 x 10 prints of the performer where the face is clearly shown. You may have your headshot taken by a professional, but it is not required. An amateur headshot is also acceptable. Please note that we will keep the photo.

Monologues: Select three monologues (prior to coming to the audition) that are each no more than 60 seconds in length.

- One monologue **must** be from one of the following contemporary playwrights (1910-present): Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, Paula Vogel, Terrence McNally, Arthur Miller, Lorraine Hansberry, Suzan Lori-Parks, Harold Pinter, Neil Simon, Wendy Wasserstein, Beth Henley, Eugene O’Neil, Christopher Durang, Arthur Kopit, Tom Stoppard, William Inge, Clifford Odets, Sam Sheppard, Noel Coward, Anna Deavere Smith, Jackie Sibblies Drury, Brandon Jacob Jenkins, Annie Baker, Colman Domingo, Marcus Gardley, Dominique Morisseau, Lynn Nottage, or August Wilson.
- One monologue **must** be from one of the following classic playwrights (prior to 1909): William Shakespeare, Henrik Ibsen, Anton Chekhov, Molière, Oscar Wilde, George Bernard Shaw, August Strindberg, or Christopher Marlowe.
- The third monologue can be from any playwright on either of the above lists.
- **Monologues must be from PLAYS ONLY – not monologue books.** Each monologue must be from a different play and playwright.
- One photocopy of each monologue must be provided in your Acting Binder. Ideally this should be copied from the script itself (or printed from a digital copy). If you cannot provide a copy of the page of the script itself, you may bring a typed copy of the monologue, but the play’s title, the playwright, the character, and the act/scene number in which the monologue occurs must be clearly typed on the page.

ONLY MONOLOGUES FROM THE ABOVE PLAYWRIGHTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Monologues from speeches, original works, musicals, television or film, or from playwrights not on the above list WILL NOT be accepted. These monologues must be age appropriate.

Applicants must perform the three monologues at the assessment. Monologues **MUST** be memorized. The selected monologues are to be presented in the applicant’s natural voice. No props will be allowed.

*Be sure to time your monologues prior to the assessment– you will be asked to stop performing if you run over 60 seconds. **You will lose points for going over time.**

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Redirection: Applicants will be asked to repeat sections from one monologue, focusing on specific directions or ideas given by the adjudicator in an expectation that an applicant will be able to redirect the piece and approach it from a different viewpoint.

Knowledge of Plays: Applicants **MUST READ** all three plays from which their monologues are chosen. Students are expected to justify their interpretation and performance of their monologues in response to the adjudicators with a character analysis based on an understanding of the play, character, and playwright's message.

Interview: Applicants will participate in a personal interview with the adjudicators where they will discuss their work habits, overall understanding of theatre, personal goals and interests, their understanding of Carver Center's GT-level Acting Prime (see Acting Course Study below), as well as the overall climate of the Carver Center community.

Suggested Attire

Applicants should dress in neutral-black movement attire that appropriately covers the applicant's entire body, such as a comfortable black shirt and black pants (jazz pants, sweats, or other loose black pants). Clothing should be free from logos or writing. Shoes must be soft jazz shoes, soft ballet slippers, character shoes, or sneakers/tennis shoes – no boots, clogs, or flip-flops. Applicants should avoid any large jewelry that may be distracting or unsafe. Long hair should be pulled away from face with all large jewelry at ears/neck/wrist/fingers and facial piercings removed.

Script Resources for the Monologues

Any Library – *Free to check out!*
Drama Book Shop (212) 944-0595
Dramatic Publishing (212) 683-8960
Amazon (www.amazon.com)
eBay (www.ebay.com)

The Book Thing - *Free books!* (410) 662-5631
Samuel French (212) 206-8990
Barnes & Noble
www.half.com

Acting Course Study

All classes offered in the Acting Prime are GT credit courses. The acting program is focused on creating actors who produce honest and relatable performances of published and student written plays. Actors are able to write about their experiences in the theatre, are comfortable memorizing large portions of scripts on a daily basis, and are supportive of constructive criticism of their work as a performing artist. All acting students are expected to participate in Carver Center Theatre Productions. This includes performing, technical assistance, and attending performances which are in the evenings and on weekends. Additionally, actors must attend community and professional productions as assigned. Students must find their own transportation to these performances and are responsible for purchasing tickets. To ensure safety and promote appropriate theatre behavior/discipline, actors are expected to follow a mandatory dress code of actor neutral blacks by wearing all black movement clothes and dance/movement footwear when in the theatre classes.

Goals of the George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology Acting program are:

- To develop strong work habits both individually and as a member of an ensemble
- To build upon knowledge of acting theory, script analysis, theatre history and criticism
- To enhance fundamental comprehension of theatrical design, production, and management
- To educate on performance and production values that define a theatrical aesthetic based on historical and cultural contexts
- To assist in developing a portfolio of theatrical experiences
- To instill courage, knowledge, and advanced skill within the art of acting

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Grade 9 - (Year 1: Artist-Actor in Ensemble) Students take two ensemble-based classes in the foundation of theatre. These include Intro to Theatre and Movement/Voice.

Grade 10 – (Year 2: Artist-Actor in Experimentation) Students take two ensemble-based classes. The classes are Design & Production for the Actor and Acting Techniques.

Grade 11 – (Year 3: Artist-Actor in Society) Students will take one ensemble-based class, Styles and Performance. Students are given the opportunity to take up to three prime elective classes. Electives include the following options: Directing, Company (invitation only), or Movement.

Grade 12 – (Year 4: Artist-Actor as Soloist) Students do not participate in an ensemble-based class this year. They are given the opportunity to take up to four prime electives. The classes offered are: Acting 4: Senior Capstone – preparation for college and entering the theatre profession, as well as any class on the list mentioned for Grade 11.

For additional information on programs at George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, please see [the Web site](http://carverhs.bcps.org/) (<http://carverhs.bcps.org/>).