



CONNECT2COLLEGE

# PERFORMING ARTS MUSICAL THEATRE PRE-ENROLMENT RESOURCE PACK



# **BTEC L3 Musical Theatre**

Activity Pack for schools

#InThisTogether

## **Yr 11**

The tasks in this activity pack are designed to support your transition from school to college if you are planning on following a career within Performing Arts Musical Theatre. You should attempt to have a go at each of the activities in this pack, building a portfolio which demonstrates your skills and knowledge. You can bring this portfolio along with you during your first weeks here with us at The Manchester College.

## **Yr 10**

If you would like to have a go at any of the activities in this pack, it's a great opportunity to start building your portfolio of skills and knowledge for college. This would be useful for you to bring along with you to any of your interviews or applicant evenings next year

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If you haven't yet applied and are still considering your applications, check out our courses in Performing Arts [here](#)

Hello and welcome to this first exciting step into joining us at The Manchester College!

So, you've submitted your application and maybe even had your audition, you're now ready to begin your journey into the FABULOUS world of theatre!

Here at TMC we strive to provide you with experiences you will remember for a lifetime. From shows to rehearsals, dance classes to drama schools at TMC we aim to give you all the skills you need to achieve the best you possibly can during your time with us.

This activity pack will give you the tools you need to begin your journey with us. It is a difficult time for everybody now so what could be better than focusing on something you love and getting prepared for your next steps towards your career in Musical Theatre!

Best of luck! See you in September!

The Performing Arts Team



## Activity 1 – Singin’ in the House!

On the Musical Theatre course here at The Manchester College, we take pride in our ability to produce fantastic vocal performers. We study a range of singing techniques and methods to ensure you leave us with the best understanding and knowledge of how the voice works.

To develop your knowledge of singing techniques, have a look on YouTube at examples of the 4 vocal warm-ups below. Then record yourself doing your favourite one and tag us on Instagram @tmc\_performingarts with the hashtag - #futuretmcstudent

1. Sirens
2. Lip Trills
3. Tongue Trills
4. NG sound

Once you’ve completed the first activity and you’re fully warmed up, have a think about your favourite Musical Theatre song from any show and answer the following:

What song is the show from?

When was the show first released?

Who is the character that sings this song in the show and what is there story?

Once you’ve answered these questions record yourself performing the song while considering the emotional state of the character at this point in the show. Upload to Instagram and tag us - @tmc\_performingarts, using the hashtag #futuretmcstudent

### COMPETITION TIME!

Take part in our singing competition going live on Instagram on 1/6/2020. Follow us for more details! @tmc\_performingarts

## Activity 2: Actor's Lament

On the Musical Theatre course here at The Manchester College, we aim to create 'The Triple Threat,' with acting being one of those disciplines. We study a range of acting techniques, methods and practitioners to ensure you leave us with the best tools to work professionally or go onto study at a higher level.

We'd like to see you create a performance of a monologue from a published play of your choice.

Firstly, have a think about your cast ability. What types of character would you be best suited to? What is your playing age?

Next research monologues that would be suitable for you. When you find one that you are fond of, get a copy of the play and read it.

Finally learn, stage and perform the monologue using the questions below to help you with the characterisation.

1. What is the characters objective throughout the piece?
2. Who is the character talking to?
3. Describe the location that the character is in? (You may wish to draw this out so that you have a clear understanding of the space you are in which will help when it comes to blocking.)

Once you've done all of the above record yourself performing the monologue and upload to Instagram & tag us - @tmc\_performingarts, using the hashtag #futuretmcstudent

## Activity 3: Dancing through lockdown

In order to continue the 'triple threat' training that we offer at TMC, we have weekly dance classes in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Commercial, Contemporary and offer additional classes in ISTD Modern for those wishing to gain extra qualifications alongside their training. It is really important that you work on your fitness levels including strength, stamina and flexibility before joining us. Below are links to both a stretch and a body conditioning tutorial from some of our tutors. We recommend trying to do both 3-4 times per week to prepare yourself for college. Challenge yourself!

Body conditioning: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x\\_YFkVSp34s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_YFkVSp34s)

Stretching Exercise: <https://youtu.be/25FzOwh4KEU>

On the Musical Theatre course at TMC, although we study multiple genres of dance, we focus mostly on Jazz. There are a wide range of jazz dance styles including technical, lyrical, commercial amongst others. Later in this activity pack, you will find links to some short videos that demonstrate some of the different styles of Jazz dance that you can expect from the course.

We also have a fun TikTok competition running, it is going live 01/06/20, where you can win an amazing prize. All you need to do is film yourself doing the dance combination, ideally using TikTok and upload to instagram tagging us - @tmc\_performingarts and using the hashtag - #futuretmcstudent to be in with a chance of winning!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CLASxYN7uU&feature=youtu.be>

## Activity 4: Les Quizerables

Now it's time to test your knowledge of musical theatre with a short quiz, you can do this by yourself, with your friends or family!

1. "If I Were a Rich Man" is a show tune from which 1964 musical?
2. Who played Evan Hansen in the original Broadway production of Dear Evan Hansen?
3. Who wrote both the music and lyrics for *Blood Brothers*?
4. Which musical includes the songs "If I Loved You" and "You'll Never Walk Alone"?
5. Name the musical with lyrics by Tim Rice, and music by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus of the pop group ABBA?
6. Which British theatrical producer, knighted in 1996, is the producer of shows such as *Les Misérables*, *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Cats*?
7. "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair" and "There Is Nothing Like a Dame" are two songs from which musical?
8. Which musical is based on a 1995 Gregory Maguire novel which is an alternative telling of *The Wizard of Oz*?
9. The plot of the 1966 musical *Cabaret* is set in which city?
10. Which song from the musical *Les Misérables* is also the title of the jukebox musical based on Susan Boyle's life?

## Answers

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

# **Social Media, Watch List & Reading List**

## **Social Media**

### **Twitter**

@TheMcrCollege

### **Instagram**

@themcrcollege

@schoolsliaisonmcr

@mcr\_performingarts

If you haven't yet applied and are still considering your application, please check out the Musical Theatre section of our website - <https://www.tmc.ac.uk/courses/performing-arts-musical-theatre-0>

## **Watch List**

### **YouTube**

- Into the Woods (Full Performance) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJir5uPRXcM>
- Legally Blonde (Full Performance) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKMslsH0zI>
- Oklahoma! (Full Performance) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NpknzTa3ck>
- Dear Evan Hansen (Full Performance) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wfc86JMbpls>
- Company (Full Performance) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4F5YJBER7I>

### **Netflix**

- West Side Story
- Funny Girl
- Annie

### **Jazz Dance Styles for Musical Theatre**

- Josh Assor – Cop Chase [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xF\\_-AZ367t8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xF_-AZ367t8)
- Bob Fosse – The Frug <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcrZIK3gqbU>
- Kiss Me Kate – Too Darn Hot <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=czH2tAlwMDs>
- Newsies – Sieze The Day [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y\\_Sz7\\_7T50Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y_Sz7_7T50Q)
- West Side Story – Prologue [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxoC5Oyf\\_ss](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxoC5Oyf_ss)
- Brian Friedman – Lady Powers <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thBuaPsxHhc&t=53s>

## **Reading List**

- The Stanislavski System by Sonia Moore
  - This Is a Voice by Gillian Kayes and Jeremy Fisher
  - Theatre and Dance by Kate Elswit
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- Beginning Musical Theatre Dance by Diana Dart Harris
- The Estill Voice Model: Theory and Translation by Jo Estill, Kimberly Steinhauer and Mary McDonald Kilmek
- The Stage Magazine

### Inspirational practitioners

Here is a list of some inspirational Performers, Choreographers, Directors and Musical Theatre practitioners that you might want to start following or looking into to see what techniques and styles they use.

Andy Blankenbuehler	Lin-Manuel Miranda	Bertolt Brecht
Stephen Sondheim	Matthew Bourne	William Shakespeare
Rogers and Hammerstein	Ruthie Henshall	Andrew Lloyd Webber
Jason Robert Brown	Ben Pasek & Justin Paul	Anna Pavlova
Bob Fosse	Cole Porter	Agnes De Mille
Bernadette Peters	Konstantin Stanislavski	Jerome Robbins
Gillian Lynne	Lee Strasberg	Commedia Dell'Arte

### Useful emails

Jake Simpson - Singing and Musical Theatre Tutor – [Simpsonj@tmc.ac.uk](mailto:Simpsonj@tmc.ac.uk)

Natalie Coverley - Acting and Musical Theatre Tutor – [Ncoverly@tmc.ac.uk](mailto:Ncoverly@tmc.ac.uk)

Bethany-Jayne Dalton – Dance and Musical Theatre Tutor – [BDalton@tmc.ac.uk](mailto:BDalton@tmc.ac.uk)

Lucy Oldham – Head of Department (Performing Arts) – [Loldham@tmc.ac.uk](mailto:Loldham@tmc.ac.uk)

Charlotte Swindells – Department Team Leader (Performing Arts) – [SwindellsC@tmc.ac.uk](mailto:SwindellsC@tmc.ac.uk)

Louise Ince – Student Support and Personal Tutor for Wellbeing (Performing Arts) – [LInce@tmc.ac.uk](mailto:LInce@tmc.ac.uk)

### Quiz Answers

1. Fiddler on The Roof
  2. Ben Platt
  3. Willy Russel
  4. Carousel
  5. Mamma Mia
  6. Sir Cameron Macintosh
  7. South Pacific
  8. Wicked
  9. Berlin
  10. I Dreamed a Dream
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