

What kind of acting students are you looking for?

We are interested in curious, passionate students who have the desire and ability to connect with the characters they play and an interest in telling stories that will affect an audience. We look for students who have the potential to benefit from training and will apply themselves to the work in their classes and rehearsals in a serious and committed way.

What's the difference between BFA and MFA training?

BFA students take a series of Liberal Arts courses; MFA students take graduate seminars in a variety of topics related to theater. However, MFA and BFA students study and work together in studio classes (voice, movement, scene study, Alexander Technique, etc.) and projects. Our acting program is unique in this, and our students express that this diversity of perspective and experience is one of its great strengths.

Whether you apply for a BFA or MFA is completely dependent on whether or not you have a Bachelor's degree already:

The **Bachelor of Fine Arts degree** is for students who have not previously completed a four-year degree.

The **Master of Fine Arts degree** is for students who will have earned a four-year degree prior to enrolling at Juilliard.

Each entering class of 18 is comprised of 8-10 BFA and 8-10 MFA students. Some BFA students are right out of high school. However, in any given year, we might have BFA students in their 30's and MFA students who are 22 and right out of college.

What level of experience do you expect from applicants? What can I do to prepare?

Students enter Juilliard from a variety of backgrounds. Some have gone to performing arts schools or majored in acting or theater; others come from a more general secondary or liberal arts education. Some are relatively new to the craft of acting. Many have been working in the profession and decide to return to school for further training.

We recognize that not all communities offer the same opportunities for an actor. However, we encourage you to engage with the arts in whatever ways you can. Auditioning for and acting in

productions at school or in local theaters, whether community or professional, is, of course, great experience. But you might also read plays for pleasure, visit art galleries or go to concerts, seek out opportunities in movement or singing.

I am interested in musical theater. Does Juilliard offer a major for this?

While the acting program is not specifically focused on musical theater, it provides three years of singing training beginning in the second year and also numerous courses in dance and movement. Many of our productions provide opportunities for singing and movement; in addition, in the third year, all actors perform in an evening of songs and musical numbers in our annual Cabaret.

If you are more interested in classical vocal training, we encourage you to look at the Vocal Arts program at Juilliard.

Am I able to take classes in more than one division?

The Drama Division's program is extremely rigorous, with classes and rehearsals from early morning to later evening. Due to the structure of the schedule, it is not possible for students to take classes in more than one division. There will, however, be multiple opportunities during your time here to exercise your abilities in dance or music, including playing instruments.

You will also engage in interdisciplinary collaboration with students from the Dance and Music Divisions and interface with their stellar faculty. There will also be multiple points of contact with Juilliard's Creative Associates from various artistic disciplines who bring exciting perspectives to the school.

Do you have any advice about the audition process and choosing pieces? May I do a monologue from a film? Should I work with a coach? How important is the song?

We are interested in discovering who you are as an actor. Choose a piece that you love, a character whose journey you would like to live in for two minutes and whose story you want to share with us. Don't worry about finding a monologue which is rarely done; we want to see what you bring to good writing.

You may choose a contemporary monologue that comes from a screenplay or even that you have written yourself, but you should also prepare something from a published play.

You may choose characters of any gender identification.

It is a generally good idea to rehearse your pieces in front of someone, but it's not necessary to hire a professional coach. In fact, more applicants suffer from over-coaching – presenting a piece as a finished performance with fixed choices rather than as a living engagement with an imaginary partner. We are looking for potential, not polish.

We ask you to prepare a part of a song (16 bars – twice the length of “Happy Birthday”) to sing *a capella* (unaccompanied). A trained singing voice is not a requirement for admission; however, hearing you sing gives us information about your vocal range and instrument. Again, choose something you enjoy singing.

Do you accept transfer students?

We do accept quite a few students who have studied elsewhere for a period of time; however, they enter Juilliard as first-year students and complete the full four-year program, beginning in the fall. We do not admit students in the spring.

Do you allow applicants who were not offered admission on their first attempt to reapply?

Yes. We welcome re-applicants and quite often have students come into the program after a second audition. A further year of training and experience can make a difference.

How many times may I apply?

BFA applicants may apply a second time after an unsuccessful BFA application. MFA applicants may apply a second time after an unsuccessful MFA application. The maximum number of application attempts is four (for example, an actor could apply twice as a BFA applicant and then return after completing an undergraduate degree at another institution to apply twice as an MFA applicant).