LIPA
THE LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

2012 entry

Overseas audition guidelines

BA (Honours) Dance
Foundation Certificate in Performing Arts (Dancing)

Congratulations on getting through to the audition stage at LIPA. We understand how nerve-wracking the prospect of attending an audition can be, so please read through these guidelines carefully. Remember we're interested in finding out about you as an individual, so please try to relax, be yourself and enjoy yourself on the day.

We want to achieve equality and diversity. We want to be accessible to everyone and we will make reasonable adjustments if you are disabled. If you have any questions about this, please contact Rob Hughes, our Student Support Manager, on r.hughes@lipa.ac.uk or +44151 330 3013.

This information can be made available in other formats – please let us know about any specific needs you have.

The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts,
Mount Street, Liverpool, L1 9HF
www.lipa.ac.uk

What the audition entails

This audition provides you with the opportunity to reveal your dancing potential, your personality and your craving to learn and perform. We endeavour to ensure that the whole process is as positive and relaxed as possible. If at any time during the audition you would like clarification on a point or other information please ask.

You are usually auditioned alongside other candidates throughout the day. The elements involved are:

Dance elements

During the day you usually take part in a variety of dance classes covering the following areas:

- Dance technique(s) – Ballet, Contemporary and Jazz/Street
- Improvisation/Freestyle
- Expression and Performance

During these group classes you are presented with a variety of dance techniques, dance combinations and improvisation. This gives us an opportunity to assess your individual performance and technical skills. There is no need to prepare for this. Please aim to engage with these classes as fully as possible.

Song element

You are asked to sing a **musical theatre** solo as part of the audition and are accompanied by a pianist. You must bring piano sheet music with you, fully written out for piano accompaniment in the key you wish to sing (the accompanist will not transpose the music to a different key). No backing tracks are permitted. Many musical scores can usually be found at local libraries or at www.sheetmusicdirect.com

It is in your best interest to find a song in your appropriate range and key. It is important for us to hear your ability to pitch with accompaniment and to see your true potential. We'd recommend that you find someone to play the song through for you once on piano and then record it so that you can keep working on it on your own.

If you just buy the music of a sound track you've been singing along to without hearing it played, you are likely to find this part of the audition really difficult. This is because most sheet music is not written in the same key as the sound track. Seeking the advice of a singing teacher may help you to choose an appropriate song and perform to the best of your ability on the day.

This is the part of the audition that some candidates worry about most because they are insecure about their singing ability. We don't expect all candidates to have strong singing voices. We are looking for people who are brave enough to step out of their comfort zone and who are eager to learn new skills. This is important as singing is an assessed subject throughout this course.

Interview

Some candidates may be kept at the end of the day for a brief, informal interview. Please ensure you have made yourself fully aware of the course by reading through our prospectus and website so you have an understanding of all the elements involved in this course and of what will be expected of you.

What to wear to the audition

Please ensure that you are dressed appropriately for dance. Leotard and tights or unitards are required, as the panel need to be able to see your body.

Ballet

Women - Pink ballet tights, soft ballet shoes, leotard. No pointe work will be required in the audition.
Men - Unitard or ballet tights with a tight fitting vest or t-shirt, socks, ballet shoes.

Jazz/Contemporary

Leotard and tights or unitard in any colour. Soft jazz shoes for jazz and bare feet for contemporary.

Singing

Dancewear or street clothes are acceptable. Please bring warm up clothes to wear over your dance gear so that you don't get cold while waiting for your turn to sing.

If you have any queries about what is appropriate for you to wear, please contact the International Team, tel +44151 330 3118, email: international@lipa.ac.uk, textphone: +44151 330 3055.

What to bring to the audition

In addition to bringing appropriate clothing and footwear as described above, please bring water with you and any energy snacks that you require to keep yourself able to dance for a sustained period. We would also recommend bringing a packed lunch. There are periods when you will be waiting and there isn't a set time for a lunch break.

When you will hear from us after the audition

We need time to reflect on the candidates we've seen, so we do not normally tell you the outcome of your audition on the day. Typically, we will communicate the decision within three working weeks.

Any questions

We wish you the best of luck and hope you enjoy your day with us. In the meantime, if you have any concerns about any aspect of the audition please contact the International Team, tel: +44151 330 3118, email: international@lipa.ac.uk, textphone:+44151 330 3055.

LIPA aims for continual improvement in the applicant experience and would welcome any comments or suggestions you have about our audition process. After the audition, we'll therefore email you to ask you to complete an anonymous online survey about your experience with us.