**How to Slate at an Acting Competition**

*Be prepared and walk into your next competition knowing how to slate!*

**What does it mean to slate in theatre?**

Slating is an introduction to you and the material you will be performing. If you are performing with someone other than yourself, that person or persons should introduce themselves, too.

**When do you use a slate?**

Slating is usually the first step when you are called up to perform at a competition. Some judges can be annoyed if you aren't aware of how to do this simple technique.

**What does a slate look like?**

Slating for a competition is similar to slating for an audition, except at competition, you use a pre-assigned letter and number combination, rather than using your name. You never mention your school name. This helps keep the judges from bias when scoring against another competitor and/or the school.

How to Slate for Regional Acting Competition:

1. Slating means to state your name and the part for which you are performing. Once the judge calls your entry, set up the stage, and then stand center to slate. Look directly at the judge(s) when you do your introduction.
2. Speak clearly, enunciate, and speak with confidence. Do not sound like you're asking a question. For example, say "A15." NOT "A15?" You know your introduction. Just take a deep breath and introduce yourself.
3. Do not walk up to the judge ever. It may seem cold, but judges are not to be approached. Slate, perform your best, be polite, sit down...that's it.
4. BEFORE you slate, set up. Wait for the judge to prompt you to begin. Then, slate and go right into your performance. There's no need to say anything else, just get to business. Make sure to thank the judge when you are finished.
5. If you make a mistake or fumble the words, just try it again and move on. You don't need to explain a problem or give excuses. It's better to just keep things moving and be professional.

**Acting Example**

“Hi, I am (We are) LETTER# and I (we) will be performing TITLE(s) HERE by PLAYWRIGHT’S NAME(s). I will be portraying the character of NAME(s) HERE (and NAME HERE). (Duo: …and I will be portraying the character of NAME HERE.) Thank you.

**Music Example**

“Hi, I am (We are) LETTER# and I (we) will be performing SONG TILE HERE from the musical TITLE(s) HERE; Book by PLAYWRIGHT’S NAME with Lyrics by COMPOSER NAME. I will be portraying the character of NAME HERE. (And I will be portraying the character of NAME HERE.) Thank you.