

OPTIONAL PRE-SCREENING FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

David Geffen School of Drama at Yale University trains actors who are already fluent in English. English speaking is a vital technical foundation for the training we offer. The nature of our voice, speech, dialect, and text work requires Acting students to be fluent and articulate in spoken English when they enter the program. A high degree of English proficiency is required for anyone seeking training in the Acting program of David Geffen School of Drama at Yale.

Because we understand that travel to the United States for an audition can be a significant burden, we offer non-native speakers of English the option to submit a video recording of themselves speaking a piece of text from any published 20th- or 21st-century play written in English for advance review by the admissions committee.

The speech should be no more than two minutes in length.

THE RECORDED READING DOES NOT REPLACE THE IN-PERSON AUDITION.

The optional pre-screening will allow the admissions committee to offer non-native English speakers an honest assessment, in advance of scheduling an audition trip, as to whether their language skills appear to be adequate for the demands of the acting program. If the spoken English is not strong enough to warrant an audition, the applicant will be informed.

The recorded reading may be submitted in any of the following ways:

1. Upload media to the portfolio / media section of the online application. Video files are accepted in QuickTime, AVI, FLV, MP4, or WMV format.
2. Post the video to YouTube and provide the link in the portfolio / upload media section of the online application. This link will embed the video in the application. If the video is removed from YouTube or marked as “private,” it will not be viewable by the admissions committee.

Videos must be submitted by December 1st for the Admissions Committee to review your optional pre-screening before you submit your application by the January 2nd application deadline for the Acting program.

Applicants who submit a pre-screening video will be notified by mid-December as to whether they should proceed to schedule an audition.