



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
THESPIANS<sup>SM</sup>

AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE

## Thespy Filming Tips and Best Practices

- Shoot your video *horizontally* , not vertically .
- Film/Perform your selection in **one single and stable shot**. Your video should focus on the *acting and not on camera effects or video editing*.
- Your location should be quiet so we can hear both you and your track (if applicable).
- Before filming or before live presenting, conduct a full-volume test to make sure you can be heard (and that your track can be heard). The live adjudicators will allow you to do this and should even prompt you to test your sound before starting your slate.
- If you don't know what a slate is the adjudicator should demonstrate this to you at the start of your session. If you are pre-filming and submitting – please email any questions to Mr. Rossiter at [Rossiter\\_m@surreyschools.ca](mailto:Rossiter_m@surreyschools.ca)
- Film/Perform in front of a non-distracting background.
  - If possible, choose a solid-color wall or consider hanging a sheet behind you.
  - The background color should contrast with your clothing
  - Do NOT use any virtual backgrounds or effects.
- Dress neatly, in all black clothing as written in the guidelines. No costumes.
- Make sure you are lit enough to be clearly visible. Front facing natural light is the most flattering.
- Place your camera at eye level and frame your shot a few inches above your head to your knees.
- Ensure your blocking is effective and visible when filmed. Consider whether to decrease your movement or to adjust your camera angle.
- Place your "scene partner" slightly to the right/left of the camera so that you have an implied "other" to reference. You do not need to look straight into the camera unless you are direct addressing the audience or adjudicators.
- For the pre-filmed events, try multiple takes and submit your strongest.

**Contrasting Monologues, Duo Scenes and Solo Musicals will be performed live over zoom at the BC Provincial Thespian Festival**

**Group Scenes, Duet Musicals and Group Musicals will be filmed and submitted by: February 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 (one take – unedited) and emailed to [Rossiter\\_m@surreyschools.ca](mailto:Rossiter_m@surreyschools.ca)**

Please refer to the **Thespys™ Program Guide** for a comprehensive list of rules for each performance category.