

# NIDA

National Institute  
of Dramatic Art

THEATRE  
FILM  
TELEVISION



# BFA ACTING APPLICATION GUIDE

CRICOS Code: 083696J

**FOR ALL ENQUIRIES  
PLEASE CONTACT**  
[applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au)  
**(02) 9697 7686**

**Learn more at [apply.nida.edu.au](https://apply.nida.edu.au)**

**NIDA acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of  
the sacred lands, from the mountains to the sea, on which we  
learn and tell stories.**

**The lands of the Bidjigal, Gadigal, Dharawal and Dharug peoples.  
We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Elders past and present.**

**Image details:**

**Phil Erbacher**

**2022**

***Machinal***

**by Sophie Treadwell**

**Directed by Carissa Licciardello**

**©NIDA2022**

# BEFORE YOU APPLY...

## APPLICATION PERIOD

Open June 13th 2023- Close 18th September 2023, 5:00pm (AEST)

Late applications may be considered depending on interview schedule availability.

## APPLICATION PROCESS SUMMARY

The application process for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) consists of two rounds:

- **Round One** - Online Application and Audition Video (due 18th September 2023, 5:00pm AEST)
- **Round Two** - Recall Audition

**Only applicants who are successful in Round One will be invited to attend an interview.**

## BEFORE APPLYING

Before completing your application please read the following information:

- Course information, dates, fees and frequently asked questions:  
<https://www.nida.edu.au/courses/undergraduate>
- NIDA Student Handbook, Policies and Procedures, and Course Regulations for BFA (Acting) course <https://www.nida.edu.au/courses/policies>

**If you have any further questions at this stage, please contact us at**  
[applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au)

# ROUND ONE:

## Online Application and Audition Video

### ONLINE APPLICATION

#### STEP 1

Create your application account in the Application Portal: [apply.nida.edu.au](https://apply.nida.edu.au)

You will receive an email with your login details.

For applicants who have applied to NIDA from 2019 onwards, your login details will be the same. Do not create a duplicate profile.

If you are unsure of your applicant number, please email [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au) with the following details:

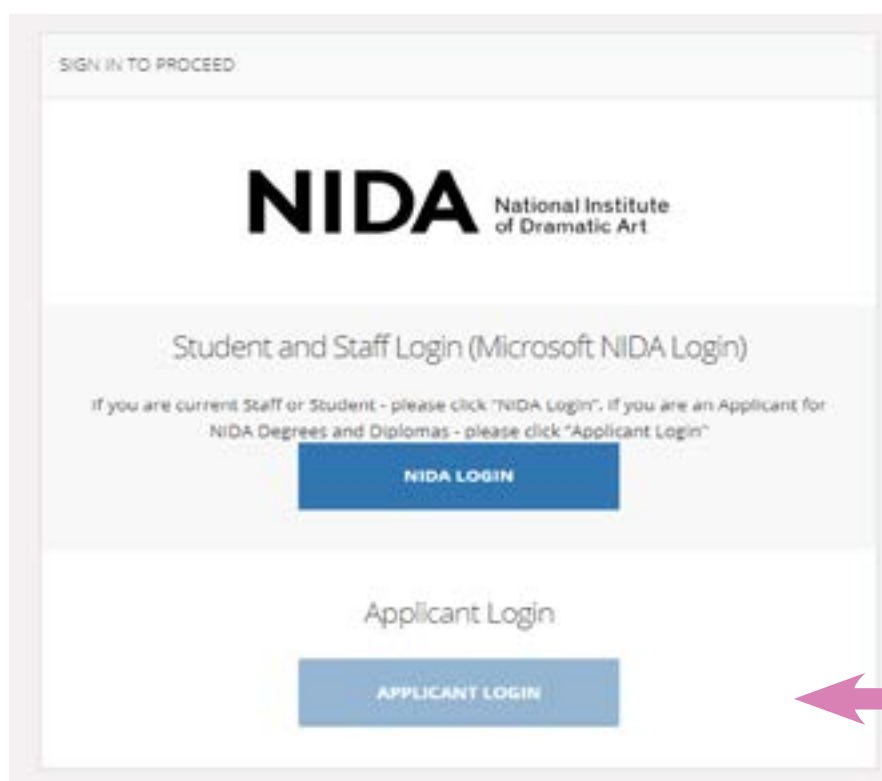
Full Legal name:

Date of Birth:

Email address linked to previous application:

Phone Number linked to previous application:

Log in to the Application Portal and click the **'Applicant Login'** button.



## STEP 2 - Collect the following documents for your application

- Copy of your most recent qualification (e.g. school report, Higher School Certificate, diploma, university transcript or testamur)
- Proof of identification showing your date of birth (e.g. passport, driver's licence, birth certificate)

### **International applicants (and non-Australian citizens with permanent visas) must also submit**

- A copy of your passport (must be valid for at least the first 12 months of your course)
- Proof of 8.0 Academic IELTS or equivalent for BFA (Acting)
- If you have a Permanent Visa (e.g. Permanent Resident, Partner visa Subclass 801), we require a copy of your visa.

**Please ensure all documents are either PDF, PNG or JPEG file types.**

**The max file upload size is 80Mb**

## VIDEO AUDITION

### STEP 3

All Round One auditions are to be submitted as video links in the appropriate field of the online application.

### PREPARE FOR YOUR AUDITION

Your audition video should include two monologues. One should be filmed as a **medium shot** (i.e., from your waist up). The other should be filmed as a **long shot** (i.e., your full body).

#### **1. One Modern/Contemporary Piece**

This is a short monologue from a published play. 'Contemporary' means a play spanning the period of Anton Chekov (early 1900s) to the present day. You are welcome to present your modern/contemporary piece in the language of your cultural background, but you must be prepared to present it in English as well.

We suggest choosing a piece from the list of *Contemporary Monologues* in the Appendix of this guide.

#### **2. One Heightened Text and Language Piece**

This is a short monologue in verse.

We suggest choosing a piece from the list of *Heightened Text and Language Monologues* in the Appendix of this guide.

**3. If you have indicated that you are applying for the Singing Actor stream,** you will also be required to upload a separate 60 second video performing a song from a musical theatre piece of your choice. This could even be an opera or operetta! This must be sung without any accompaniment (acapella).

## FILMING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. Recording Format

You don't have to record with a professional camera; your audition can be recorded on your mobile phone. The important thing is that you are seen and heard clearly.

If you use your phone, please make sure the camera is not in 'High Efficiency Mode'. You should be able to check this in your phone's camera settings.

### 2. Set Up

You can use a stand or a surface or have someone hold your phone/camera for you.

Do not look directly into the camera, but just to one side; pick a focal point to your left or right.

If someone is holding your phone/camera for you, you can speak your monologue to them as another character or a member of your audience.

**If you are using your phone, shoot in landscape NOT portrait.**

### 3. Background

You must be seen clearly. Try to record against a plain, light background, without harsh shadows. Avoid busy, distracting images, or 'hard' colours like green and red. Grey can work well for a wide range of skin tones on screen.

### 4. Lighting

Do not sit directly in front of a window. A window in front of your face and behind the camera will work better. You can also use additional lighting, like the torch light from your phone, stand lamps, or bedside lamps. Avoid hard or awkward shadows

### 5. Sound

You must be heard clearly. Check the space for sound disturbances. This could involve closing windows, turning off devices that beep or play music, air-conditioning, or noise/talking/cooking sounds from a nearby room.

### 6. Audition Pieces

You may record both pieces in one continuous shot or film these separately and edit them together.

In **mid shot** (waist up – leave a little head room) start by saying your name, Applicant number (e.g., A12345), and tell us which pieces you will be performing (character, title, and author).

Then present your first piece in mid shot frame.

Adjust your position so you are now in **long shot** (entire body in frame) and perform your second piece. This is an opportunity to embody the expressive range of the character.

## SUBMITTING

### STEP 4

- Review your recordings. This will help you pinpoint areas to improve on, including sound/vision quality. Have a break and then repeat the process. Don't overthink it! As a rule, try not to film more than three takes
- You will not be timed, but the length of each monologue should aim to be close to 2 minutes. Your entire audition video should aim to be close to 4 minutes long. 5 minutes if you are auditioning for the singing actor stream.
- When you are happy, upload your video to YouTube, making sure it is 'Unlisted'. This means only people with the link can view your audition. You are responsible for ensuring that your video link works before submitting your application.
- Your video description should include your name and NIDA Applicant number (e.g., A12345).
- Only upload one submission.
- If you have any problems with the upload, contact [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au)

**Click [HERE](#) for tips on how to record your audition and [HERE](#) for instructions on how to upload your video audition to YouTube.**

Because you are submitting your audition with your online application, your video must be completed and submitted by the deadline of 5:00pm, 18th September 2023.

### ONLINE APPLICATION CONFIRMATION AND OUTCOME

You will receive a confirmation email when your application has been successfully submitted.

**You will be advised by email if you are successful in Round One.**

If you are successful, you will receive an invitation for Round Two. This will include instructions on how to select your recall audition date and location.

# ROUND TWO:

## Recall Audition

### STEP 5 - Select your recall date and location

If the panel would like to see more from you, they will invite you to a recall audition, which will take place on a separate date.

Recall auditions November/December 2023, and take place in most Australian capital cities. There will be no recall auditions held via zoom. This means that international students must attend recall auditions in-person in Australia.

To book your recall location and time please log into the application portal using your login credentials and select the city and date from the lists of available recall sessions.

### STEP 6- Prepare for your recall audition.

#### Some tips:

If you applied for the **Actor stream**, you will be asked to present **a third piece of your choice – but can be something not on our list.**

If you applied for the **Singing Actor stream**, you will be asked to present a song chosen from the *Song List* in the Appendix of this guide. This must be sung in the specified key, you will have accompaniment on the day of your recall.

If you selected **'Both'** in your application, you must choose whether to present **EITHER** a third piece **OR** a song, as above.

If you perform a third monologue for your recall audition, you will only be considered for the Actor stream.

If you perform a song for your recall audition, you will be considered primarily for the Singing Actor stream but may also be considered for the Actor stream.

You will be asked to perform your Round One monologues again for the panel. You might also be asked to work with a partner (e.g., another applicant) on a duologue.)

**After your recall audition, you will be informed by the panel if you are selected for the Shortlist.** After Shortlisting, you will be informed by telephone if you are being invited to study at NIDA. Unsuccessful applicants will be informed via email.



## SOME TIPS AND ADVICE

We know that auditions can be stressful, but we will do our best to make your experience as relaxing and enjoyable as possible.

Remember, the more time and effort you put into your monologues, the better prepared you will be and the more you will enjoy the audition

### DO:

- Only select monologues from published texts. Excerpts from unpublished TV shows or films are not appropriate.
- Read the whole play your monologue comes from – research is important!
- Choose characters close to your current age range.
- Choose characters that are in circumstances you can identify with and that you will enjoy exploring.
- Select pieces that are new and fresh to you.
- Pick monologues that will showcase you and your choices.
- Feel free to use contrasting material when choosing your monologues (e.g., serious and comedic; internal and external).
- Think about who you are talking to in the monologue and what you want from them – know what you mean, and what you want to say.
- Relax and enjoy yourself!

### DON'T:

- Don't use a book of monologues, except as a reference – if you find a piece you like, you must still read the whole play.
- Don't choose material for shock value. There are no real rules around this, but we suggest you avoid material with strong sexual references or excessive use of explicit language.

## CONDITIONS OF APPLYING

- Selection is based on merit; not all applicants who meet the published minimum entry requirements will receive a study offer.
- All applicants are responsible for reviewing the course requirements and tuition fees as stated on the NIDA website.
- It is not possible to provide applicants with individual written or oral feedback on their audition/ interview.
- Applicants who receive a study offer for 2024 must accept the offer within the time frame indicated.
- It is not possible to defer a study offer at NIDA.

# FAQs:

## **CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE COURSE?**

Yes, however a separate online application form is required for each course you would like to apply for.

## **WHAT ATAR DO I NEED TO GET INTO NIDA?**

Entry into NIDA is by audition or interview only. We do not ask for exam scores or ATARs. However, all applicants applying for any higher education course at NIDA must have completed their Higher School Certificate or equivalent.

## **WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVEN'T RECEIVED LOGIN DETAILS OF MY APPLICATION ACCOUNT?**

If you do not receive any automated emails from NIDA regarding your application account, please check your junk/spam/promotions filter. If you are still experiencing difficulties, please contact us at [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au)

## **WHERE WILL MY INTERVIEW TAKE PLACE?**

BFA (Acting) Round One auditions will take place via pre-recorded video submission. Recall auditions will take place in-person (dates and locations TBC).

## **DOES NIDA GIVE INTERVIEW FEEDBACK?**

Due to the large number of people being interviewed, it is not possible for NIDA to provide individual feedback.

## **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY AUDITION/INTERVIEW?**

Final selections are made for each course in December, and study offers will be distributed to successful applicants via email.

## **WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NIDA?**

As part of the application process, once applicants have submitted a course application, they can then submit a scholarship application. See [nida.edu.au/scholarships](https://nida.edu.au/scholarships)

You can apply for a scholarship once you have submitted your course application form. If you are shortlisted and offered a place at NIDA, we will then schedule an interview to review your scholarship application.

# **APPENDIX -**

## **Contemporary Monologues**

# **APPENDIX -**

## **Heightened Text and Language**

# APPENDIX -

## Song List

Song	Musical	Character	Composer/ Lyricist	Key	Sheet Music
Anywhere but here	<i>Honeymoon in Vegas</i>	Betsy	Jason Robert Brown	C Major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO149643">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO149643</a>
Come Back	<i>Dogfight</i>	Birdlace	Pasek and Paul	D major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO124117">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO124117</a>
Flowers	<i>Hadestown</i>	Eurydice	Anais Mitchell	B Major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO234418">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO234418</a>
Foolish to think	<i>Gentlemen's Guide to Murder</i>	Monty	Freedman & Lutvak	Eb major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO135803">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO135803</a>
Me and the Sky	<i>Come From Away</i>	Captain Beverly Bass	Irene Sankoff & David Hein	C Major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO183682">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO183682</a>
Moments in the woods	<i>Into the woods</i>	Baker's Wife	Stephen Sondheim	Eb Major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO101777">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MNO101777</a>

<b>Song</b>	<b>Musical</b>	<b>Character</b>	<b>Composer/ Lyricist</b>	<b>Key</b>	<b>Sheet Music</b>
Talent	<i>Road Show</i>	Hollis	Stephen Sond-heim	F major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0112262">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0112262</a>
Temporarily Lost	<i>Bridges of Mad-ison County</i>	Robert	Jason Robert Brown	E major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0139025">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0139025</a>
They Don't Make Glass Slippers	SOHO Cinders	Robbie	George Stiles & Anthony Drewe	A minor	<a href="https://www.score-exchange.com/scores/100227.html">https://www.score-exchange.com/scores/100227.html</a>
Through Her Eyes	Nathaniel's Storm	Nathaniel	Ant Crowley	Eb minor	<a href="https://antcrowleycreates.com/store/through-my-eyes">https://antcrowleycreates.com/store/through-my-eyes</a>
Tomorrow Be-comes Today	Ladies in Black	Lisa	Tim Finn	B Major	<a href="https://www.davidspicer.com.au/node/19164">https://www.davidspicer.com.au/node/19164</a>
Wait and See	Fan Girls	Edna	Yve Blake	D Major	<a href="https://www.home-grownaus.com/store/wait-and-see-from-fan-girls">https://www.home-grownaus.com/store/wait-and-see-from-fan-girls</a>
What is it about her	Wild Party	Burrs	Andrew Lippa	Bb major	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0116688">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0116688</a>
Where?	The Rabbits	Marsupial	Kate Mill-er-Heidke & Lally Katz (with Iain Graindage)	Db Major	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set">https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set</a>
Your Daddy's son	Ragtime	Sarah	Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Fla-herty	G minor	<a href="https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0055437">https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0055437</a>