

## **The Giver Audition Instructions and Materials**

Auditions for this production are open to teens 12-18 with daytime availability. Performers do not have to memorize their monologue of choice, although they are encouraged to do so. We ask that performers be familiar with the material so they are able to make strong character choices, and receive direction. In addition to preparation of one of the three monologues below, performers will be expected to do improvisational exercises, so comfortable clothing and shoes that allow for movement are advised.

(Please select your monologue based on content and not the age range listed. Any performer of any age and any gender may select any of three monologues. The age ranges listed are simply indicative of the possible age of the character.)

### **AUDITION SELECTIONS**

#### **YOUNGER (10-20):**

**Audition Monologue #1:** This monologue presents a young person reading an apology letter which they have been mandated by a judge to write after their actions caused a fatal accident. The audience is the family whose father died in the accident.

“I’m very sorry. I know what I did was wrong. I think every day that I hurt someone and will always remember the negative effect my actions had on others. Insulting the Dunmore mascot was something I was dared to do by my team but was ultimately my decision to do it and so I’m deeply sorry and will think about my actions for a long time to come and won’t repeat them. Letting people -- I hope that by saying this and letting people know it was wrong, my actions will be seen as not intentional to hurt someone, but ignorant and never intended to hurt anyone. Hurting someone though is what I did and so I will feel that inside every day when I wake and have to live with that.” That’s obviously, like, 200 words, I need to have 500. Can’t believe how nervous I am.

#### **NEUTRAL (20-40):**

**Audition Monologue #2:** This monologue presents a person pondering life, perhaps narrating somebody else’s story. The audience is beyond the fourth wall, i.e. a real audience.

In the middle of life, we find ourselves alive. Disoriented; lost; but alive. Time, like an immense pavilion, stretches above us, behind us, and ahead of us -- sand beneath our feet -- how did we get here? We can remember one moment ago with what seems at first to be an intense accuracy: we were standing right there; we were saying *thus* and *thus*; a decision was made, irreversible effects were somehow caused by the causes of other effects, we swear we were standing right there... but already it blurs and decays, and the wind in our faces, all the oncoming moments wash over us with a deafening roar, we’re pulled forward, and then back, by memory’s undertow, forward and back... it’s dizzying.

#### **OLDER (40-80):**

**Audition Monologue #3:** This monologue presents a parent confronting their child after suspecting them of delinquent behavior for some time now. The audience is the child in question.

I think you’ve been doing things that you’re ashamed of. That’s why you act like this. I don’t believe that you go every night to the movies. Nobody goes to the movies night after night. Nobody in their right minds goes to the movies as often as you pretend to. People don’t go to the movies at nearly midnight, and movies don’t let out at two A.M. Come in stumbling. Muttering to yourself like a maniac! You get three hours’ sleep and then go to work. Oh, I can picture the way you’re doing down there. Moping, doping, because you’re in no condition.