

## Sample Casting Survey: Empowering Students in Theater Performance

Krista Apple

---

If you're casting your students in roles for performance, and if you'd like to give them some agency in that process, try this pre-casting survey, or a version that's right for your classroom.

[Read here](#) about how casting surveys can improve theater experiences for students.

The most important part of this tool is the real-world conversation it can inspire with your students. Use your version of the survey below to get to know them better, and help them arrive at their most joyful selves in performance!

Questions you might ask your students in a pre-casting survey include:

- *What interests you about this play? What subject matters or themes are you most interested in exploring?*
- *What gender(s) of roles would you prefer to be cast in? (any/ male/ female/ both)*
- *Are there specific roles you're interested in?*
- *Are there any roles in this play that you'd ask me NOT to cast you in?  
(You will never need to explain why.)*
- *Are there specific scenes in the play you'd prefer NOT to participate in, for content/subject matter reasons?  
(You will never need to explain why.)*
- *Are there any casting considerations not discussed above that I should keep in mind for you?  
Possible answers to this question might be "please only cast me in a female-identifying role" or "I always get cast as the clown/ funny role and I want to try something more serious this time".*
- *Is there anything else you'd like me to know about your work on this project?*