

# Overture's Rising Stars 2018

## The Auditions

Date & Time	Location	Address
Sat, July 14 (10 AM – 4 PM)	Rotunda Studio, Overture Center for the Arts	<a href="#">201 State St., Madison, WI 53703</a>
Sat, July 28 (10 AM – 4 PM)	Parker High School	<a href="#">3125 Mineral Point Ave., Janesville, WI 53548</a>

## The Callback

Date & Time	Location	Address
Sat, August 18 (10 AM – 4 PM)	Capitol Theater, Overture Center for the Arts	<a href="#">201 State Street, Madison</a>

## The Workshop

Date & Time	Location	Address
Sat, Sep 1 (1 – 3 PM)	Promenade Hall, Overture Center for the Arts	<a href="#">201 State Street, Madison</a>

## The Finals

Date & Time	Location	Address
Sat, Sep 15 (7:30 PM)	Capitol Theater, Overture Center for the Arts	<a href="#">201 State Street, Madison</a>

## RULES

Overture's Rising Stars is sponsored by Overture Center for the Arts and is meant to be a family-friendly program that celebrates the talent in our community. In order to perform at an Audition or The Finals, your entire group must adhere to the following rules:

- All performers ages 6 and up are welcome. Anyone under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian sign a participation release during online registration.
- All talents are welcome, but must be family-friendly, may not endanger the performer(s) or anyone else, and may not allow liquids to be spilled on or in the performance area, use confetti, glitter or any other messy materials, involve members of the audience as volunteers (unless cleared with Overture staff in advance), use open flames, or use animals in their act.
- Judging will be done by age group (Youth 6-12, Teen 13-18, Adult 19+). Your act will be age-grouped according to the age of the oldest person in the group.
- Each act will have (60) seconds immediately before their audition in which to set up any equipment, props, or other necessities, and will have (60) seconds immediately after their audition to strike any equipment, props or other necessities. If you bring electronic equipment, you will be able to plug into (1) standard 110 outlet and must also adhere to the set up and tear down limit.
  - Microphones will be available at the auditions and if you are singing or speaking during your act, you must use a mic. The judges need to see/hear your technique because if you move on to the Finals, you will be using a microphone.
  - Pre-recorded music, edited for the group to use in the act, must be given to the Overture staff on an mp3 player, phone, or CD-R (not an mp3 CD or CD-RW) with the appropriate track number indicated. You will be responsible for cueing, fading, and cutting your own music. If you bring a phone it must have the screen lock disabled and airplane mode on before your audition.
  - A tuned piano or an electric keyboard will be available at the auditions.

- Each performance may last no longer than **3 minutes** (NOT including the set up and strike times). If an act goes longer than 3 minutes, it will be stopped by an official timekeeper.
- Participants may only audition at one of the two audition locations unless performing in different acts.
- You must arrive at least 30 minutes before your audition time to check-in. Late entrants will not be permitted to reschedule their audition.
- Arrive already warmed up as we cannot guarantee a warm-up space.
- Costumes are encouraged if appropriate and relevant to the act; however, dressing rooms will not be provided at the audition sites, so arrive in the clothes you will perform in.
- Acts that are advancing to The Callback (to be held at Overture on Saturday, August 18, 2018) will be posted on [overture.org/risingstars](http://overture.org/risingstars) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/overtureorg) the week of July 30<sup>th</sup>. Acts will be asked to confirm availability for The Finals should they move forward.
- Cash prizes of \$750 will be awarded to Rising Stars in the following 3 age categories who are named Overture's Rising Stars: Youth (6-12), Teen (13-18), and Adult (19+). The grand prize winner will receive \$1,000 and the opportunity to perform at Overture next season.
- All participants must sign the photo/video release as part of their registration to participate. Anyone under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian sign the release.
- Overture Center for the Arts reserves the right to disqualify or refuse an audition to any individual or group that has, in its sole discretion, violated the official rules or for any other reason deemed deserving of refusal or disqualification.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

So, you're wondering what the audition experience for Overture's Rising Stars will be like. Undoubtedly, you will experience a mix of excitement and nerves, but, at the end of the day, you'll know that you've put it all on the line to prove that you are one of Overture's Rising Stars! Read on to find out everything you need to know about auditioning for the Overture's Rising Stars talent search.

### 1. Register

To start, you'll need to register for the date and location of your audition at [overture.org/risingstars](http://overture.org/risingstars). During registration, you will provide information about your act and will also need to accept Overture's Liability Waiver and Media Release. **Online registration and acceptance of these waivers is mandatory.** After we receive your registration, we will email you confirmation of your audition date, time, and location. You may only audition once unless you are part of different acts.

Either a tuned piano or an electric keyboard will be available for you during the auditions. We will also provide microphones, a CD player, auxiliary input, and speakers for pre-recorded music. We do not provide accompanists, so if necessary, please remember to bring someone with you.

Please Note: If you progress to The Finals, **you will perform the same act/song/choreography** that you performed during your audition, so choose a routine that really showcases your talent and that you can maintain.

### 2. Check-in

When you arrive at your audition site on the day of your audition, look for the check-in area (there will be volunteers and signs posted to help). You must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your audition. Late entrants will not be permitted to audition.

After you've checked in, you'll go to a waiting area until it's time for your audition. We cannot guarantee that there will be warm-up space or dressing rooms available; therefore, it's highly recommended that you come prepared and dressed for your audition.

### 3. The Audition

You will be called to the audition room with the rest of the acts auditioning in your hour time slot. You will have three (3) minutes to perform your act and will be cut off if you go over this time limit. You are allowed no more than (60) seconds to set up your act immediately prior to performing and (60) seconds to tear down your act immediately following your audition. Your score may be reduced if you do not adhere to the time limits.

NOTE: Auditions are open to the public, so please invite your friends and family to watch! This way, everyone will have a small audience in the room to cheer them on. Please make sure your guests arrive early, because we will close the room once auditions begin so as not to distract anyone who is performing.

Results from the preliminary auditions will be posted to our website ([overture.org/risingstars](http://overture.org/risingstars)) the week of July 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4. The Callback

During the Callback on SAT, AUG 18, you'll get to perform your act on the Capitol Theater stage in front of all five judges. This time, they'll give you feedback and tips on performing on the big stage in front of a larger audience.

Results from The Callback will be posted to our website ([overture.org/risingstars](http://overture.org/risingstars)) the week of August 20<sup>th</sup>. If you're chosen to move on to The Finals, we will also email you to confirm you can attend.

#### 5. The Workshop

If you're invited to perform in The Finals, you'll also have the opportunity to attend a workshop at Overture on SAT, SEP 1. This workshop is not mandatory, but will offer valuable time with the judges as they coach you and give guidance for The Final show.

#### 6. The Finals

The Finals are an amazing showcase of the talent in our community, complete with professional lights and sound, and an audience who wants to see you have fun and put on a great show. This time, the judges will give live feedback, and our host Tim Sauers will ask you questions about your act and why you're the next Rising Star.

At the end of the night, three \$750 prizes will be awarded to the winners in each age category (youth, teen, and adult), and one grand prize winner will receive \$1,000 and the opportunity to perform at Overture next season.

Tickets to The Finals will be available for purchase at [overture.org](http://overture.org), so all your friends and family can come see you shine.

#### JUDGING CRITERIA

Category	Criteria
Personality & Presentation	Did the act project confidence and stage presence?
Originality	Have we seen or heard this type of act before? Is there anything new or interesting?
Technical Ability	Did the act execute the talent with proper and quality technique?
Entertainment Value	Will others be interested in seeing this act? Will this act play well on a large stage/venue?
Overall Impression	Does the act have the "it" factor that connects with an audience?

## WHO ARE THE JUDGES?



### **Rachelle Butler**

A Madison native, Ms. Butler's professional training began with Wisconsin Dance Ensemble (now Madison Ballet) in 1999. After dancing with the studio company for a year she was accepted on full scholarship to the Rock School of the Pennsylvania Ballet where she trained for two years. Ms. Butler continued her training with some of the best schools in the country including Ballet Chicago and Miami City Ballet School. While at Ballet Chicago she was given the opportunity to perform a large repertoire of Balanchine ballets as a soloist and principle dancer. Her favorite roles include principle couple in *Allegro Brillante*, Second Violin in *Concerto Barocco*, and *Who Cares? Pas de deux*. Her professional career began with Sacramento Ballet and continued with Madison Ballet until her recent retirement from the stage. Before her retirement, she was blessed to perform the role of Mina in W. Earle Smith's *Dracula: A Rock Ballet* as well as many other soloist and principle roles created on her by the Artistic Director of Madison Ballet. Ms. Butler was fortunate to begin her teaching career as a student with Ballet Chicago and honed her teaching style while performing with Sacramento Ballet and Madison Ballet. She also worked in the Philadelphia, Chicago, Sacramento, and Madison communities in outreach and education throughout her career. Currently, Ms. Butler works with Madison's HeadStart schools teaching movement and ballet, provides lecture demonstrations in senior living facilities, and *Overture's Kids* in the Rotunda. In addition, she runs Madison Ballet's Master Class series bringing different styles of dance and cultures to the School of Madison Ballet. This year she will be joining the Overture Center's judging panel for *Rising Stars*, which she previously participated in as a mentor.



### **Pacal "DJ Pain 1" Bayley**

Known for his production on Young Jeezy's platinum-selling album *The Recession*, producer Pacal "DJ Pain 1" Bayley stays busy. His journey started in the late 90's while cultivating hip-hop sensibilities through visual art, DJing, and beat-making. He balanced a career in youth service/teaching with creating music, oftentimes marrying the two – he co-founded the first hip-hop performing arts program housed in an institute of higher education in Madison. Once he decided to focus on his production career, his resume quickly grew to include both legendary hip-hop acts (Public Enemy, MC Lyte) as well as contemporary hit-makers (Juicy J, 2 Chainz, 50 Cent). He has also garnered attention for his online video series on production and music business know-how. You can find DJ Pain 1 on Twitter and Facebook.



**Jessica Lanius**

Jessica is the Artistic Director of Theatre LILA, a company founded in New York City in 2004 and recently transplanted to Madison, WI in 2013. For Theatre LILA she has directed and choreographed: *The Mojo and The Sayso*, *TRASH: a Theatre LILA Invention*, *No Child...*, *The Suitcase Dreams* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Overture Center for the Arts. As a movement director and choreographer she has worked with American Players Theater on *Seascape by Edward Albee*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *An Ideal Husband* and has choreographed *Mary's Wedding* in the Touchstone at APT. Recent Theatre LILA projects include the musical *Big Fish* at Overture Center and an original dreamscape entitled *The BED* at the Union Theater in 2017.



**Scott O'Donnell**

Scott has always searched for colorful moments, and a childhood love of the circus and clowns dictated his life's colorful future. Befriending clowns and circus performers who were travelling through his area, Scott learned the delicate art of making people laugh, a skill that led to him owning his own circus for 8 years, and having the pleasure of appearing with his circus in Tim Burton's movie *Big Fish*. After moving to Baraboo, WI, Scott performed and served as Operations Manager at the Circus World Museum before he was off to Feld Entertainment and a return to performing and booking talent for Ringling Bros. He's also worked with The Big Apple Circus (where he served as Vice President and General Manager), and Live Nation. When the opportunity arose to return to Circus World, Scott seized it and currently serves as the Executive Director. Always honored to be a part of live entertainment, Scott believes that, "To be part of making memories through artistic talents is an amazing and humble honor. My life's motto has always been 'The child in the audience was and still is me.'"



**Barbara Bolan**

Barbara is a senior marketing executive with over 20 years of progressive experience in the entertainment industry and 7 years of experience in non-profit media and community engagement. Her specific competencies include market plan development and implementation, staff supervision and development, profit and loss responsibilities, creative advertising management, public relations, vendor relations, media relations, retail outlet liaison, fundraising and program management. She is also the CEO of her own music marketing company, First Release Music.

## FAQs

Check out the questions asked by others to see if your question has already been answered; if not, feel free to [email us](#) and we'll respond as quickly as possible.

**Q: How do I register to audition?**

A: Starting at 10:00 AM on Friday, June 1, 2018, go to the [Overture's Rising Stars webpage](#) and click on the "Register Now" button to start the registration process. You must register through our website.

**Q: Is the Rising Stars talent search only going to happen this year, or will it happen again next year?**

A: This is the fifth of many seasons!

**Q: I was named one of Overture's Rising Stars last year. May I audition again?**

A: Yes, if you were named a Rising Star and received a cash prize, you may still audition again. However, to make sure we're always seeing new talents, you may not audition again if you were previously a grand prize winner.

**Q: I made it to The Callbacks/The Finals last year. May I audition again?**

A: Yes, please do! (Unless, of course, you were named the grand prize winner last year. If that's the case, please see the Q&A immediately above this question).

**Q: May I audition more than once per season? May I audition at more than one location?**

A: To keep things fair for everyone, you may only audition for Overture's Rising Stars once per season unless you are part of different acts.

**Q: I'm not available for any of the audition dates. May I schedule a special audition time or submit a video or audio audition?**

A: To keep things fair for everyone, we are only accepting auditions at the 2 audition sites/dates listed. If you can't make it this time around, we hope you'll audition next season.

**Q: I don't live in the Madison area. May I still audition?**

A: Absolutely! We're looking to find the best talent in the state, not just from Madison.

**Q: My dog knows how to juggle knives that are on fire while riding a unicycle. May we audition?**

A: That sounds incredible (seriously, put it on YouTube), but, to protect everyone involved in the Overture's Rising Stars talent search, we are not allowing acts that involve animals, weapons, flames, or materials that can make the stage slippery.

**Q: Can I warm up and practice at the audition site?**

A: Because not all of the audition sites will have a separate holding area, we highly recommend that you arrive at your audition site already warmed up. For more information, see "What To Expect" above.

**Q: How/when do we find out if we're moving on to The Finals?**

A: We will email you the week of August 20-24 to let you know whether you've moved on to The Finals. Results will also be posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#).

**Q: Does it benefit me to audition at one audition site over another?**

A: Where and when you audition will have no impact on whether you progress in the Overture's Rising Stars talent search. All we care about is your talent. However, bands must audition at the August 5<sup>th</sup> audition.

**Q: Do I have to audition at the site closest to my house?**

A: No, you may audition at either of the 2 audition sites.

**Q: Is it free to audition? Is there a registration fee?**

A: It's FREE! If you want to audition, all you need is a talent.

**Q: I'm a professional/semi-professional/amateur performer. May I still audition?**

A: Yes, you may. This talent search is open to absolutely anyone (who's at least 6 years old) so long as you follow the rules.