# New York Newbies Seminar Packet

"Once you've made it through the door, turn back around a help another through. Someone once did the same for you." - Lorin Lewis



## Here's the deal...

In between pursuing her own dreams, Shelby Ringdahl has always had a passion for helping aspiring performers. During her year of service as Miss Missouri, she traveled the country speaking on a multitude of topics including pursuing a career in the arts. In pursuing her love for public speaking, helping others, and promoting her life theme of pursuing a bucket list, Shelby started giving a nuts and bolts breakdown to NYC hopefuls of how the craziest city in the world works...from the point of view of someone doing it now!

One day, while sitting in Washington Square Park, Shelby and a friend were discussing all the things they wished they had been made aware of before moving to New York City. Both felt prepared in moving to the city from their beloved universities, but with the ever changing industry, both wished they had known more about the current logistics of surviving in Manhattan, on and off the stage. Thus, the idea for this seminar was born. Shelby knew she could use her experience from over 500 auditions, working professionally from coast to coast, and also her complete failures to create the ultimate info-session...an informative, relatable, and positive conversation that will leave your students (and any nervous parents) at ease and prepared for what comes after the infamous line, "I want to do show biz."

What sets this seminar apart is that the information is coming from someone who is actively living in New York City, chasing goals of her own, and wanting to be a voice of encouragement to your students saying YOU CAN DO THIS AND HERE'S HOW! Shelby often refers to this profession as The Hunger Games, and one just needs the right game plan to survive...starting with this seminar!

# **About the Seminar:**

The seminar is catered to each specific audience, so the outline will differ per event. Below is the general *New York Newbies Seminar* model that has been carefully constructed to fulfill our mission. A high school version of this seminar focused more on college programs/auditions/etc. is also available upon request.

#### New York Newbies Seminar

- 1. This Is Me: Introductions
- 2. "Welcome to New York, it's been waiting for you..."
  - a. Apartment hunting, ridiculous paperwork needed, broker fees, roommates, etc.
  - b. Survival jobs and how to balance auditions.
  - c. Budgeting
  - d. Netflix...you can write it off on your taxes!
- 3. Auditioning: The Game
  - a. How to find auditions?
  - b. EPA's, ECC's, Open Calls
  - c. Equity, EMC, Non-Union (Yes, we're speaking English)
  - d. The Waiting Game (Do I actually need to get up at 5:00am?)
  - e. Casting Directors, Agents, and Managers
  - f. Audition Book
  - g. Follow-ups
  - h. Websites
  - i. Accepting your type, like you'll have to accept your in-laws.
- 4. Social Media, Welcome to the 21st Century!
  - a. Networking and Social Media
  - b. Communicating with your agent
  - c. Demo Reels
  - d. Headshots and Resumes
  - e. Actor Resources
- 5. Question and Answer Segment
  - a. We open the floor to your students for additional thoughts, clarifications needed, and questions. Like *Pitch Perfect*'s Fat Amy, I'm an open book.
- 6. Closing Encouragements and contact information

### **Testimonials:**

"Shelby Ringdahl's workshop fills a critical gape in the education of theatre students bound for New York City. With clear insight and a detailed, comprehensive presentation, Ms. Ringdahl demystifies the challenges of moving to the Big Apple. Her professional perspective and organized approach make her workshop an up-to-date primer on what every student needs to know. From "how to rent an apartment" to "signing up for auditions" (and everything in between), Ringdahl has created a priceless workshop. More than simply her own experience, Shelby has thoroughly researched every aspect she presents. Approachable, considerate, and thoroughly dedicated to student success, Shelby Ringdahl provides a workshop you and your actors won't soon forget. Book her now. You won't regret it." - Alan Shorter, Associate Chair, Department of Theatre, TCU

"It was so great to have you in our class. Your story is so inspiring and it got me so motivated!

You were such a blessing and answered questions I didn't even know I needed to ask [about New York City]. You should teach a class on 'getting your life together' because you are the real deal."

-Collegiate Theatre Student

"There is not enough money in the world to pay Shelby for what she did for my daughter in an hour." -Parent of Student (Oklahoma)

"Shelby Ringdahl spent ninety minutes with the Senior Portfolio class at Stephen's College and packed in jewel after jewel of important information. Strategies about auditioning, looking for work, marketing yourself, and keeping a professional attitude. Students were completely inspired by Shelby's incredibly motivational and positive approach to the business of show business." -Jill Womack, Stephen's College Professor

# More about Shelby...

Shelby Ringdahl is a Missouri girl turned New Yorker. Proud Texas Christian University grad. National Tours: *Disenchanted* (Snow White), West End's *ABBA MANIA* (Agnetha), Cirque Musica Holiday Tour (Lead Vocalist). Off Broadway: *Oh Kay*! (Constance Appleton). Regional: *Jesus Christ Superstar* (MUNY, Ensemble), *Seussical The Musical* (Mayzie), *Beehive The 60's Musical* (Alison), *Honky Tonk Angels* (Sue Ellen), *Heathers: The Musical* (Ensemble/ Heather Chandler U/S), *Polkadots* (Ms. Square), *Catch Me If You Can* (Cheryl Ann/ Ensemble). Concert Soloist with Jason Robert Brown, Susan Egan, Jodi Benson, The Fort Worth Symphony, 54 Below, and Cincinnati Pops. Miss Missouri 2013, Top 12 at Miss America, 3rd in America's Choice making over 300 appearances that year motivationally speaking to Missouri's children. www.ShelbyRingdahl.com.

Cost of Seminar with Q/A session with Shelby: \$500 (negotiation is possible depending on circumstance)

+ Travel Expenses including round trip plane tickets, lodging, transportation fees to and from airport, and transportation to and from seminar, if needed.

# **Contact:**

We thank you in advance for your consideration of having our *New York Newbies* seminar come to your students. If interested in having us on your campus, please email **newyorknewbies@gmail.com** to discuss further details, scheduling, and questions.