



# **Become A successful Actor/Actress**

Edited By

**ScobaXL for GISTMII.COM**

Giving you a quick tip to start a career!

Acting Out

Make Money As An Actor / Actress

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## **Your Child's Acting Career Requires an Entertainment Work Permit**

When a child decides to pursue an acting career, the law requires that they must have an entertainment work permit. All the parents have to do now is get the form and fill it up.

You can get the entertainment work permit by downloading the form from the Internet. Keep in mind that each state has different criteria. Part of it will require getting approval from your doctor should your child still be an infant as well as the child's birth certificate.

If your child is in school, the form must also be assigned by the school principal as some states require you to do so. If the principal is not aware of the entertainment work permit, explain to them what it is because they will only sign it and when they understand what this is all about.

Part of the condition for the principal to sign it will mean making sure that your child's grades are not failing to as a parent, you have to do your share in making sure there is a balance between their work and studies.

So you will be able to get the entertainment work permit at the earliest possible time, make sure that you follow the instructions to the letter. If for instance you are told to mail it in, do so because these are the rules and you just have to accept it. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Before you mail it, make sure that you have a duplicate copy. You should also include a self-address stamped envelope so once it is approved, it can be directly mailed back to you.

The approval of the entertainment work permit could be from 3 days to 3 weeks and this depends on your state.

The entertainment work permit must be kept with your child at all times.

You should keep the original at home while you carry around the photocopy. This must then be submitted to whoever is casting your child and signed at the back to certify that your child is part of the production.

Getting an entertainment work permit is easy and the best part is that it won't cost you a thing. This has to be renewed every six months and since you don't know when your child will have another part, you shouldn't wait before you get one.

Apart from the entertainment work permit, your child will also be required to get a social security card. This is state regulated and designed to ensure that all payments for the project are given to your child. Just like the work permit, this is easy to obtain by simply contacting the Department of Social Security or by mail. For you to get one, you need to show your child's birth certificate and any other form of identification.

If your child is below 18 years of age, he or she is considered a minor. For  
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them to work in the entertainment industry, you are required to get a work permit and social security card which will enable them to pursue an acting career. Once the forms are filled up and those who are supposed to sign it have done so, there won't be any problems when your agent has booked a job.

Just make sure that this is renewed before it expires to avoid any problems in the future. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **A Look Back at how Vanessa Hudgens Started in her Acting Career**

How did Vanessa Hudgens get started in her acting career? This girl was born Vanessa Anne Hudgens on December 14, 1988 in Salinas, California. Her looks can be attributed to her parents' descents. Her dad, Greg Hudgens is an American with the Native American and Irish background. Her mother, Gina, is a Filipino who grew up in Manila with traces of Filipino, Chinese and Spanish blood.

### **Career Path**

Vanessa was inclined on the performing arts since she was a child. After she finished seventh-grade at the Orange County High School of the Arts, Vanessa opted for a home school setup.

When she was eight years old, she began joining musical plays. She was included on the main and supporting casts of plays such as "The Wizard of Oz," "The Music Man," "Damn Yankees," "Evita," "Carousel," "The King and I," and "The Music Man." Everything happened by chance for little Vanessa. Her first gig was a commercial. But it was purely accidental why she landed the part. She went on the audition just because her friend, who was supposed to go there, got sick and asked her to come instead.

In 2003, she debuted in the feature film "Thirteen." This stars Evan Rachel Wood and Holly Hunter. Vanessa also starred in "Thunderbirds," an

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action-adventure film. But Hudgens hit it big after playing the part of Gabriella in High School Musical, a TV movie made by the Disney Channel that was first released in 2006. That same year, she was able to release her debut album entitled "V." In July of 2008, her second album entitled "Identified" was released.

After she started on movies, she also played bit roles for television. She guest starred for TV shows such as "The Bothers Garcia," "Still Standing," "Quintuplets," "Drake and Josh" and "The Suite Life of Zack and Cody. For the two equally successful "High School Musical" TV movie, Hudgens played the role of Gabriella Montez. She played the love interest of real-life boyfriend, Zac Efron. Their roles had given them the "Best Chemistry" award given by Teen Choice Awards. The first movie also had a hit soundtrack and it brought the group on a concert tour worldwide. A book series was also made out of it.

With all the success she has garnered, Hudgens became the number seven on Forbes magazine's top earning list of stars who are under 21. She was 18 years old at the time. She has an estimated \$2 million of earnings. "High School Musical 3: Senior Year" is set to be released on October 24, 2008.

This talented gal was ranked 62nd of the Most Sexiest Woman on FHM just this year. She was also at number 12 at Maxim's 100 Hot List. And she was also part of People magazine's 100 Most Beautiful People. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## Life on the Spotlight

Her career was marked with controversy when provocative pictures of Hudgens proliferated the Internet on September 6, 2007. The photos were passed on through emails, mobile phones and other devices. There were rumors then that she would be pulled out from the High School Musical franchise because she was no longer fit to be called a model for the youth. But everything was settled. And Hudgens apologized to the fans and her family. After that, all is well again for this young superstar. Just looking back on how did Vanessa Hudgens get started in her acting career will inspire young minds about this craft if they are planning on joining the bandwagon. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **An Acting Career Should Have a Resume and a Headshot**

Preparing for an audition also includes having a resume and a few headshot pictures. This is because aside from performing your monologue or reading from a script, cast directors want to know how you look on camera or on stage as well as your previous work experiences. To help you, here a few do's and don'ts in doing both.

When you submit a resume, make sure that this is stapled to the back of your headshot. If the resume is much larger than the picture, trim it a bit so they appear to be the same size.

For those who don't know what a head shot is, it is picture of your entire face. It must be very artistic and is intended to put you in the best possible light. This is usually printed on an 8 by 10 inch format. Your name should be placed on the print or just below it.

As for your resume, just tell the truth of your previous accomplishments. Make sure that your contact details are up to date so it will be easy for the casting director or a representative to easily get in touch with you for a call back.

Creating a resume is easy. If you are going to an audition, make sure that it will focus on the part you are trying to get. For instance, if you want a part in a Broadway event, make sure you list down your previous experiences in

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the theater. If this is for a movie, tell them what you did even if you played a supporting role or as an extra. Should this be for a commercial, mention what your roles was as well.

You should bring at least 5 copies of your resume and head shots every time you go to the audition because you may never know who else will want one.

Now it is time for the things you must never do.

The most important is never lie about your experience. Just like applying for a job, the casting directors will get someone to do a background check about your credentials so it is only a matter of time before they find out the truth.

The same goes for special skills which you claim that you have but actually don't. People won't be able to do a background check here but they will find out when you are told to do something and suck at it.

When you submit a resume, make sure that this is printed on a sheet of paper that measures more than 8 ½ x 11. Again, this is because of the size of the head shot. If you insist doing that, chances are your resume will be thrown away.

Since you are not the only actor applying for a part, don't waste the time of the casting director by giving them a resume that is more than one page. If

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you have a lot to say, put the most relevant using a 10 point font. If they want more information and this won't fit in your resume, mention it later on during the interview.

A resume is a piece of paper with a list of your accomplishments. You must never staple reviews or clipping from newspapers.

An acting career should always have a resume and a headshot. Write a few drafts and take some photos then just use the best. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Auditioning Tips for Those Who Want to Pursue an Acting Career**

Ever heard the line practice makes perfect? Well the same goes when you go for an audition in the hopes that you will find work on television, the movies or the theater. Here are a few helpful hints you should know.

An audition normally lasts between 2 to 3 hours. You have to sign up and since it is on first come first serve basis, make sure you are there 15 minutes before the audition starts. This will give you some time to relax and practice your monologue one more time before they call you on stage.

While waiting for your turn, pay attention to the person who signed up before you because after him or her, you are the one who is going up next. If you have to wait for quite awhile, bring along a book and a bottle of water to keep yourself hydrated.

Since you are a guest here, be nice to everyone because you may never know who you run into. This goes even to the individuals who are vying for the same spot.

The nice thing about an audition is that unlike a job interview, you don't have to go in there in business attire. You can wear something neat and comfortable. Never make the mistake of wearing a costume or something too formal. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

You should also be careful when using a perfume or cologne since it could be too strong.

If you have never done an audition for this company before, do some research so you know what kind of work they specialize in. This will help you pick the right monologue for the audition. But if no information is given, just have your best ready and keep it under a minute. Should you be able to impress the director and they want to see more, have a few others prepared as well.

Sometimes, your audition will require you to sing rather than act to get the part. If this happens, bring along with you a clean and clearly marked sheet of music. Tell the musician what part of the song to play and make sure this is cut down to at least 16 bars.

Apart from your act, you should also prepare your resume and a headshot. You should bring at least 5 copies each because aside from giving a copy to the casting director, talents and scouts will probably want to get in touch with you in the future.

It should have your updated contact details so it will be easy for them to get hold of you for a call back. Both of these should be able to fit into a folder because those that don't usually get thrown out. Don't forget to write your name on the headshot even if a copy of your resume is already stapled on the back. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

When it's your turn to perform, take a deep breath and smile. Look at the audition space and if there are a few objects there that you don't need, request if these can be temporarily moved away. Afterwards, just walk out the door and hope that what you did is good enough for a call back.

An audition is not a walk in the park and it is the first step that everyone has to take if they want to pursue an acting career. So go to a few and learn from experience so if you don't make it, you know you can do better next time. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)



## **Four Fine Tips in Pursuing an Acting Career**

For you to realize a goal, you have to work real hard to attain it. You must do everything right from the preparation to the execution of every step that you have to take. This is very much true if you plan to pursue an acting career. If you really want it, nothing should stop you, not even your age, gender or even your nationality. What matters here is the hard work that you will put in attaining your aim and how you will overcome the hindrances that will block you along the way.

If it is motivation that you want to keep you going, here are some tips to help you move along.

1. Prepare for everything. Prepare yourself physically. You have to look your best at your every audition. To achieve this, you have to take care of yourself. Improve both on your physical and mental capacity. It will also help if you will practice rehearsing dialogues or plainly, speaking in front of

many people. Your physical appearance is an investment. So if you have to spend money in order to enhance what needs to be done, do it for the purpose of looking fit and confident.

You must also be ready emotionally. You cannot get everything you want in an instant. You might experience a lot of rejections first even before you get your first callback. It will be best if while on the process of going through auditions, you have a part time job that can suffice your every day needs.

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You can also treat this phase as something fun and enjoyable. This way, you will not take the rejections too hard or too personal.

It will also help to be spiritually conditioned. This will help you accept the bad news that may come your way through the process. This will be your strength when you feel like giving up.

2. Learn the ropes. If you want to be taken seriously as an actor, present yourself as one. It will help if you will meet the right people, especially an agent who will represent you and find you audition schedules. You have to know where that action is taking place. You don't necessarily have to live there. But it will be less expensive if you do. If you can find small gigs on the locations where the auditions are usually going on, then that will be much better.

Establish friendships with the people that you will meet along your audition rounds. You never know who will bring you luck and fortune in the future.

3. Be the master of the craft. Watch a lot of movies and learn how the actors attack their roles. Read aloud dialogues from scripts. Read books and references that can help you improve and where you can learn a lot from.

4. Be careful in hiring an agent. Do not believe those who will make you pay even if they still haven't found you a job. That's when they are supposed to get money from you. They get certain percentage as commission for the

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work that they helped you find. They are your allies. They must know your strong points so that they will instantly think of you for roles that fit you right.

All these tips must be taken at heart if you are serious in pursuing an acting career. The road may be tough. But it will be worth it when you reach the point of your destination. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How to develop an Acting Career**

We all want to be movie stars and develop an acting career. If the glamorous parties and the invites are not enough enticements, just look at how much each of the Hollywood hotties are earning every time they have a movie. Some star's annual income can actually feed a state and maybe even a nation.

But becoming one is not as easy as it looks. Some people feel that you only have to have the looks in order to break into the movie scene but sometimes, this is not true. In fact, there are a lot of really classic beauties out there who have not made a name for themselves and have only remained as supporting actresses. The same goes with pretty boy actors who have to contend with two-bit roles.

There are however actresses who do not have the classically-accepted features but have become for themselves instant stars like Reese Witherspoon and Angelina Jolie. Comedy actors Jim Carrey and Ben Stillers are not actually classically handsome but their bankability in the box office make them handsome. SO what's the secret to having a great acting career? How do you develop one and how do you break into the scene?

### **1. Exposure**

Nobody will know you if you are constantly hiding behind the scenes. If you want to be an actor or an actress, you have to go out there and make sure

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that you get people's attention. As much as you can, star in as many quality projects as you can. Even if the role is not so long and the dialogue is not that much, at least you are there in the film. Some movie stars have started with doing films that are low budgeted. If you are lucky, the movie will become critically-acclaimed and will become your ticket to stardom. This is also why you should choose your roles and movies well. Becoming part of an art film with a great script beats being constantly on camera in lackluster movies.

## 2. Try and Try

A lot of the Hollywood greats right now have themselves suffered from rejection. Before they were stars, they also had to go through casting calls, which necessitated them to endure all the nitpicking of directors and casting manager. The secret is to try and try until you find the role that will fit your personality, the role that will launch you to stardom. After all, nobody became famous in an instant. All had to go through the same route.

## 3. take care of your appearance

Vain or not, appearance is pretty important to a movie star. This is one area where you will need to work on especially if you want to stand out in the crowd. This does not however refer only to the beauty of your features. When you say appearance, it represents your overall look especially when attending functions and events where photographers are everywhere. If you have the budget, hire a good stylist who can tell you what you can and cannot wear. This is a good way to catch people's attention. Lindsay Lohan became a fashion trendsetter first before she really rose to stardom.

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Developing an acting career is actually pretty easy. All you need to do is persevere, try and work on what you've got. After all, each one of us is already a star on our own rights. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How to establish a good acting career**

How can one establish a good acting career?

It is more than just knowing how to act and portray a character- it is a challenge at how to please other and make people appreciate about how good an art acting can be.

This is one of the most challenging concept about acting that, once mastered, can effectively catapult one to stardom and fame.

But before one begins to take on this challenge, take note of the following considerations which are common obstacles or pitfalls to an acting career that can discourage many to pursue it.

Here is a common checklist for actors;

- if you are new to show business and do not know where to go to for professional help, try to look around for reputable casting firms who could provide you with expert advice on how to evaluate your acting skill and what good roles may be suited for you.

- Make the most out of audition calls, since this is where you may be able to test yourself for roles that are available in the market.

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- Sometimes it helps to work freelance, however, having an agent gives you more opportunities in landing opportunities for audition and casting calls. Take note that agents are the first ones to know of any available roles that are being cast for movies or shows.

- Choosing a good casting or agent can indeed be a good help, especially for amateur actors who still do not have much idea about how to scout for good acting roles, unlike when working freelance, you often tend to decide on what roles that are readily available, regardless of your personal preferences, whereas if you employ an agent to represent you, producers usually call on agents to help them provide the most suitable talent for the roles they hope to be portrayed.

- There is always the risk of devoting too much time to balance between work and the demands of an acting career, especially when juggling a professional career and an acting venture.

- Always be sure to keep your word and always maintain a decent and professional demeanor. It does not matter whether you are an artist or not, you are still expected to maintain a professional air.

- Always make sure to prepare materials that you may need to promote yourself like audition tapes, resumes, headshots, portfolios, etc. Keep it handy all the time, you'll never know when a good opportunity comes up.

- Always keep yourself updated and headstrong by joining acting  
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workshops and advanced acting programs or projects that will help you continue to polish your acting skills, preparing you for better chances of landing good roles in the future.

- Make it a point to always put your best foot forward and always make sure that you are always ready to take on a variety of roles and characters, which is a good sign of your acting versatility and dynamic personality.

- Not everybody can make it successfully in an acting career, regardless of how hard one should try. Be ready to take on criticism and even skepticism, but taking it more of a constructive feedback rather than a disappointing twist.

- Always focus on things that you think that will always let you propel your acting career.

These are but may not be all available tips to establish a good acting career, but one that will surely help you get on your way to stardom and celebrity status. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How to jumpstart your acting career**

Almost everybody dreams of becoming an actor, but one the best way to becoming one is knowing how to jumpstart your acting career.

Knowing how to jumpstart you acting career is as equally important as sustaining it, not just limited to the fact that an acumen or impressive acting talent is enough to bring one to celebrity status or even to simply just promoting an art and build a name in the acting scene.

If you are just starting your acting career, it is but normal to invest time, effort and a lot of determination in order for you to establish a name, as well as creating a bankable reputation that can catapult one to achieve success in an acting career, better yet, fame and stardom.

But for starters, it is important to know the ins and outs of the acting industry, since it a major consideration to know the basics of the acting scene, in order for one to master the trade.

Acting is more than just a skill, it is an art. It is the art of character portrayal, be it in theater, television, film or through any other storytelling medium, be it in a dialogue or a singing or musical presentation.

It is the actor who usually manipulates his acting posture, voice and expression to communicate or portray the character he plays. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

The actor 'assumes the role' of another, presents it before an audience in an artistic fashion.

Historically, the first person to assume the role of an actor was believed to be a man named Thespis, from Icaria of ancient Greece.

Plays during his time, which were then called choric dithyrambs, is a chorus made up of 50 singers or portrayers who narrates the story through song.

Thespis was one of those composing the chorus and sang together with the group until one fateful event, as was told through time, when he stepped

out of the chorus during one narrative song and spoke to the audience as a separate character in the story.

This led to the beginning of how acting is associated with character portrayal.

From his name was derived the term thespian, which has come to mean any sort of performer, mainly an actor.

Actors ideally should possess a number of skills like good vocal projection, clarity of speech, physical expressiveness, good sense of perspective, emotional versatility, creative imagination, situational analysis and ability to immerse and portray a number of emotional and physical conditions.

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Well-rounded actors, moreover, are also skilled in singing, dancing, imitate dialects and accents, improvisation, observation and stage combat.

There are also special programs that are also being offered to help boost one's acting skill and talent, which is always geared toward better enhancing an individual's acting ability.

Now that you have an idea about the basic information you need to know about acting, there are a few things to consider which could help you a lot in jumpstarting your acting career.

But with the thousands of would-be actors out there, one has to be mindful that the acting industry is a demanding sector, considering the fact that there are only a limited number of casts – from the lead down to all the supporting roles – for every movie, play or television show.

One has to be innovative and creative enough to allow one's self to be seen or heard, since not everybody is suited to a role that the character demands or requires for a particular play.

All the same, just make sure to be conscious about how to effectively jumpstart your acting career. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How Much Can You Make In Your Acting Career**

How much can you make in your acting career depends on a lot of factors. This is because not every film made is a box office hit which is why the earnings of some are erratic and these individuals have to supplement their income through other means.

In 2006, the median hourly salary of most actors was close to \$12. Majority earned around \$8 to \$22 while those in the higher levels earned a little over \$51. Because most of these projects are short term, it is difficult to determine how much you actually learn on a given year.

If you are in demand right now, producers and directors will call you up while you are working on a current project.

The one who sets the standards in terms of how much a stage actor earns depends on the Actor's Equity Association while the Screen Actor's Guild will cover those working in movies, television and commercials. If you happen to be a radio studio performer, the one handling that will be the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

In short, you have to join a union in order to have an acting career. But this does not mean that you can't negotiate for a higher salary if you feel you deserve it. Some are members of two or three of them at the same time

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because they work in several media.

Actors who are members of either SAG or AFTRA earn a minimum daily rate of \$759 or \$2,634 for a week. They will also receive contributions to their health and pension plans as well as compensation for reruns and foreign telecasts of the productions in which they appear. There will also be paid vacations and sick leave which is something you contributed to.

If you happen to have a job in Broadway, as of June 2007, you can earn about \$1,509 a week. Actors in Off-Broadway theaters will earn from \$516 to \$976 a week and this depends on the seating capacity of the theater. For those working in regional theaters, you could earn \$544 to \$840 per week. Should you go on tour, there is an additional allowance of \$113 per day for living expenses which could go up to \$119 depending on the cost of living of the city you are visiting.

Not every actor working in Hollywood earns above the minimum and if you are just starting out, the same thing is going to happen to you. In fact, many of SAG members only earn an annual salary of \$5,000 per year so they have to find other ways to supplement their low incomes.

It takes a while before your acting career really gets off the ground when all you have done in the past is play as an extra or have a supporting role. If you think about it that is where everyone started because you have to prove your worth to the producers and directors who makes shows and movies. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Remember that every time they have a project, they expect it to do well with the public. This may not always mean an Academy award or a Grammy. With that, the sky is the limit when it comes to how much you can really make during your acting career. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How to Keep Your Acting Career**

Your first job as an actor or actress was great but it shouldn't stop there. Some of the greatest celebrities have been in it for decades and you too can also have a successful acting career.

One of the things you have to do is continue to take up acting classes.

There are many around and this will give you the chance to explore more of what you can do as an actor. This will prevent people from giving you the same role every time which shows that you are very versatile.

Although your manager is the one helping you look for more projects, you can do your share also by sending out your resume and photos to producers and directors. You have to remember that the entertainment industry is a tough business and there are upcoming actors and actresses like yourself fighting for the same spot. Ever wondered what happened to those who had a good movie a few years back and where they are now? Most of the films and television shows have actors and actresses that are physically fit so if you want to be considered for a part, do your share by working out regularly. You may not afford a physical trainer but you can surely sign up for a gym membership.

You should also accept invitations to scene nights where you get the [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)



chance to put a 2 minute monologue. This event is usually attended by people in the industry who are looking for talents for a new show or as a guest in an ongoing show.

Don't forget to bring a press kit so you can distribute a few to the people there. This will make it easy for them to get in touch with you or your agent. It wouldn't hurt to also take part in a small movie made by film student or an independent film. You won't get that much money from them but at least you can add this project to your resume so people will know you are doing something to better improve who you are as an actor.

The sad truth about being an actor is that you won't know when you will have another acting gig. This is why you have to take steps to improve your craft and believe it or not find other ways to supplement your income by perhaps getting a regular job because after all, we need to pay bills and other expenses.

Keeping your acting career is tough and you won't hear celebrities saying that in front of a live camera when all they will say is how good things are and smile.

But just think about it, when was the last time did you see Mr. or Mrs. X on a television show or on the big screen? It may have been awhile and in order for them to continue living in a big house, they must have done something to stay afloat. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

To find out how, it is best that you talk with your fellow actors and actresses so you will know exactly what to do when it hits you in the face. Remember that the success of your acting career greatly depends on your patience and persistence because without it, you don't have a chance of staying long in this industry. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How to Start Your Acting Career**

Most celebrities started playing small roles on television and in the movies before they got their big break. So if you plan to start your acting career, chances are you will have to endure the same thing until a director or executive producer sees that you are ready for a major role.

The first thing you have to ask yourself is whether or not you want to be a professional actor. This simply means that you have to be committed to it. This may mean sacrificing a bit and doing some things along the way just to move a step ahead. You might feel bad about doing it but it is a reality that happens.

Once you have psyched yourself up, it is time to pack up your bags and move to a major city. You can either travel to New York or Los Angeles since most of the shows and box office hits are planned there.

Before a show or movie is made, hundreds of people come out for an audition. You might get lucky the moment you arrive but given that you don't have any credentials yet, don't count your eggs till they hatch. The best way to harness your acting skills will be to enrol in an acting class.

There are many places that host acting classes both in New York and Los Angeles. So you don't waste your time, don't be afraid to ask around or ask

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questions when you go around looking for one by talking to the speakers and most especially the students.

When you are ready, it is time to tell the world who you are by sending out resumes and pictures of yourself.

Since there are so many producers and directors, it pays to read trade papers regularly like Variety or Backstage so you will know what movies are being made and where the casting is taking place. Since you are already there, try to request for an audition even if it is just a small part.

Again, this is part of building your resume.

If there are special events in the industry or parties, make it a point to accept the invitation. This will also give you the opportunity to meet directors, producers and even the actors themselves.

It is not easy to jumpstart your acting career especially when you are just starting out in the business. One thing you should be cautious about are scam artists that will tell you they can make you famous when all they will really do is steal your money or exploit you.

Some of these individuals may pretend to be talent agents and if they tell you to pay a certain amount upfront, run because they only get paid when they land you a job and not before.

Being cast part of a show is like applying for a job. Sometimes you get it

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and sometimes you don't. If someone else is chosen, don't feel bad because there will be other opportunities in the future.

While waiting, try to improve your skills some more by enrolling again in another class or looking for better opportunities elsewhere. You have to remember that people do not watch actors or actresses only on television or the big screen when there is also Broadway.

Proper training, persistence and patience are some of the virtues that you need in order for you to have a successful acting career. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **How to Start Your Child's Acting Career**

Starting your child's acting career is not that different compared to an adult. The only difference is that as a parent, you are the one encouraging your child to attend auditions, classes and other events so an agent or someone from the entertainment industry will take notice and give them a chance to be on television or the movies.

The best way to get your foot in the door is to hire an agent. This individual must be licensed so you are sure that if your child is accepted, they can legally negotiate deals for you. A licensed talent agent will never ask money up front since they only get paid whenever you land a part.

If you want, you can also have a manager to look after your child's interest although this is not required. Those who want to have one are usually represented by the parents themselves perhaps to balance school and other things that happen as they go through life.

Should the parents be unable to act as the child's manager, then they can hire one. All they have to do is take some photos and then send this through the mail. If you do not receive anything within a 3 month period, take some new photos and send it out again which is the same thing you have to do when you are looking for an agent. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

While waiting for the phone to ring, your child's acting career can be further developed by getting projects in student films. You can visit the nearby college or university's film department to see if there are any ads. It won't pay much but at least your child will get the experience and add another project to their existing resume.

It will also be a good idea to find an acting coach as this will help your child build his ability and confidence.

In time, someone will contact your child for an appointment. Before you go to the interview, do some research about the company so you know that this is not a scam. If everything looks legitimate, prepare your child by asking him or her some questions that the agent will likely ask as this will help a lot when they are speaking face to face with that individual. One thing that parents will have to do during the interview is just sit there, keep quiet and listen.

There is no guarantee that when you are called in for an interview that your child will already be accepted. If things go well, then you have taken your first steps towards an acting career. This means attending auditions right after school and getting ready to attend bookings if a deal has been made. If the agent says otherwise, don't feel bad and keep looking. Maybe your child is not ready yet to shine in the limelight but as long as you are both patient and persistent, it will happen.

An agent normally gets 10% to 30% for every project that your child will

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make during their acting career. If you and your child are happy with the efforts being done by the agent, then you can stick with them for the long haul. Should things go sour, perhaps it is time to talk to them one last time and then decide to get rid of them and hire someone else. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)



## **Important Notes in Starting an Acting Career**

Have you ever dreamt about starting an acting career? You cannot be blamed. Many people see the show business as easy money making craft. It looks easy. All you need is a pretty face and an acting talent to match that. But not all actors are good on that department either. Others are plainly lucky.

So what do you have to know about this profession? These tips aim to shine light at hopefuls and wannabes and also for those who didn't know that an actor lies within them.

1. If you really want to venture into this business, you've got to start somewhere. The best way to attack this is by looking at your current location. There may be local productions in your hometown that will be willing to give you a part. You can also try doing VTRs for advertising agencies. Commercials can be a good way to experience what's it like to be in front of the lights and cameras.

2. There are certain workshops and schools that will give you an overview of the different methods of acting. They will teach you scientific techniques of how to approach the craft. They can also ask you to pattern your acting bits to known formulas associated with different personalities.

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3. The academe can certainly help. But do not limit yourself with that. You have to expose yourself to experience the real thing. You can try doing theaters and plays. Or if luck won't still allow it, you can apply as staff to these productions at first. This way, you can observe how the system works and you can meet a variety of people who can help you in the future.

4. Networking is extremely important in this career. It matters who you know, especially when you are only starting. Only a few will be lucky

enough to be tapped as actors. Most of the well-known actors of today have to tap a lot of doors and windows before fate lets them in. As much as possible, attend gatherings and parties wherein there are a lot of possibilities that you will be introduced to the right people. Don't forget to bring along professional-looking business cards that you will be proud to pass along.

5. Do not get tired at looking for opportunities. With the boom of the Internet age, many job offers for this scene are being posted online. You can also

go through the entertainment or classified ads section of newspapers or on jobs postings on the boards of theaters, film or TV productions.

6. You must be driven by your desire. You cannot give up the first time you get rejected. You have to go through a lot of auditions in your entire career. You have to prepare yourself to be let down in many occasions. Take them by heart and learn from them. They will certainly make you a better actor. They will help you on your future auditions.

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7. Keep on improving yourself to be able to improve your craft. Remember that if you really want it, you have to prove to people that you deserve the chance.

Although, not everybody will be big in the showbiz industry, you can at least aim to play the role that you dream to do. When you're already there, don't forget the steps you had to undertake in starting an acting career. This way, you will appreciate what you have, enough to make it last. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Making The Most Of Available Resources For Your Acting Career**

A lot of people aspire to become actors and actresses, but rarely do they know the intricacies of a good acting career.

Here are some acting skills to consider which will help you get on your way to a successful acting career.

**Timing-** it is the ability to 'move and speak in a precise manner' at the right moment for maximum impact and the pacing of action.

**Rhythm-** It is the ability to understand and put into good use the rhythmic expression of a play.

**Style-** it is the ability to absorb and produce a particular manner of presentation. This is sometimes characterized by the director's vision, company agreement or any conventional mode of presentation.

**Pace-** it is the ability to regulate the speed of delivery and action, dictated by dramatic potential.

**Atmosphere-** it is the ability to create atmosphere, which can also be considered self belief and confidence in one's self that makes the audience

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believe.

Interaction- it is how one communicates, as well as reacts with other actors and identify themselves with the roles they play.

Characterization- it is the ability to create a believable character within a role - through discussion, improvisation, analysis, understanding, belief, faith, living the part, imagination, faith and a sense of truth and emotion memory

Emotional impact- it is the ability to feel the right emotions within the role, and communicate them to the audience.

Focus – it is the ability to hold the attention of actors and audience, as well as the direct attention of the audience to specific persons or areas on the stage

Sustain – it is also the ability to sustain a role through an entire play, as well as sustain momentum, mood, atmosphere and pace as required.

Generosity – it is the ability to offer something to play off to others and the ability to allow focus to be with other actors.

Stillness- it is, on the other hand, the ability to show thoughts and emotions without movement [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Spatial awareness- is the ability to create space around self and other actors; positioning - in relation to each other/to audience; physical movement on stage; utilisation of props or set designs.

Breath control- this is also the ability to control breath for vocal projection; for physical control of energy and use of voice

Stamina- is the ability "to maintain energy, sustain role or momentum"

Strength – is the ability to maintain stamina, fitness for physical and vocal control; for emotional control - carrying it through (emotional tension/sensation is physically

Relaxation- this is the ability to use voice and body without damage ability to use voice and body without damage and allows emotions to come through within character at points of high tension.

Control – meanwhile, is the ability to have power over one's voice and manipulate it at will.

Good actors must possess a number of skills, among them good vocal projection, clarity of speech, physical expressiveness, a good sense of perspective, emotional availability, a well developed imagination, the ability to analyze and understand dramatic text, and the ability to emulate or generate emotional and physical conditions. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Take good note of all that were mentioned here regarding your TACR!FT, since acting is an artistic approach to character portrayal, and a good means for entertainment and for you to make the most out of it, making the most of available resources for your acting career will surely get you a long, long way. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Parents Play a Part in a Childs Acting Career**

Some parents push their children into acting. But did you know that training the child how to sing or dance is just one of the things you have to work on?

This is because most casting directors look at other factors before accepting them. They look at the life of the child outside of acting and what extra curricular activities do they engage in. The ideal child actor they are looking for is someone relaxed and confident in his or her abilities.

But the casting director will also look at you, the parent because they know that when the child has a project, you will be the one to bring them to work. They will also need your help making the child memorize the lines in the script and encourage them to do their best in front of the camera.

Before you get the part, one major hurdle that every child has to face is the audition.

Some parents hear about the opening from an ad in the newspaper or in television. If you have an agent working for you, he or she will give you a call and tell you when and where it is going to take place.

Make sure that your child is wearing the right clothes. Ideally, this should be [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)



a shirt or blouse without any logo. Never let your child wear the part even if the ad states that they are looking for someone to play a certain character. Just like applying for a job interview, leave the house early and make sure that you get there 30 minutes before the start of the audition. Once you get there, find the office so you can sign up your child. If it asks you to write down your child's Social Security Number, don't because this could easily be stolen and used by someone else.

Your child should be ready to perform the skit the moment their name is called so make him or her relax by letting them do something else like play with their PSP or Gameboy. When it's their turn, hand over to the casting director your child's resume and headshot.

If it is a closed audition, you won't be able to watch it so you will have to wait in the holding area until it is all over. If you are allowed to stay, just watch and keep quiet. There will be time to ask questions later when the child is done and you can talk about it once you walk out the door.

The support you give to your child must never cease regardless of the outcome of the audition. If the casting director says no, cheer them up and tell them that there will be other auditions in the future. Give them positive feedback of how they did up there then later on tell them where they can improve on.

If the casting director has accepted your child, be happy and be prepared to [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

help them excel in their craft because this could be the start of their acting career which could continue well into adulthood. Should they become famous, one of the people they will never forget and have a debt of gratitude to is you, the parent because you encouraged and pushed them to become a star. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Quick Tidbits about Johnny Cash Acting Career and Music Legacy**

To know about Johnny Cash acting career, first you have to ask well, who is Johnny Cash? He was first and foremost known as a singer. He was a Grammy Award-winning musician and songwriter who was hailed as one of the most influential in his field of the 20th century.

Hello, I'm Johnny Cash

This line was how he used to start his acts whenever he was performing onstage. He was born J. R. Cash to parents Ray and Carrie in Kingsland, Arkansas. It was said that the name was formed because his parents couldn't agree what his name should be. It became a dilemma when he entered the United States Air Force because it wouldn't accept the initials J.R. as his real first name. That was when he used John R. Cash to be his legal name.

Most of his songs were inspired by the life his family led when he was growing up. He has six siblings. Tommy Cash, a younger brother, also made it as a country artist. J.R. started working in the cotton fields by the age of five. This was where he got the inspiration for the song 'Five Feet High and Rising'.

He also had dealt with depression in 1944 when his older brother Jack met a tragic accident at a whirling table on the mill where he was working. Jack

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suffered for a week before he finally succumbed to death. J.R. felt guilt over the incident. He cited that the family had premonitions that something bad was going to happen that fateful day. But his brother ignored it because the family needed money. J.R. said that he had always been looking forward to the day that he'd meet his brother in heaven and that he had seen him a lot of times in his dreams.

#### Record Deals

He adopted the name Johnny Cash when he signed a deal with Sun Records in 1955. Through time, he became known as The Man in Black as he always wore black ensemble, which was a lot different from how most country music stars dress up. Some of the songs that made him a household name include 'I Walk the Line,' 'Cocaine Blues' and humorous pieces like 'A Boy Named Sue' and 'Dirty Old Egg-Sucking Dog'.

Through time, he became involved with drugs that almost ruined his life. His first marriage had gone bad and his star started to lose its shine. In 1968, he married his second wife, June Carter, who influenced him to revert to Christianity and a drug-free life.

#### Different Career

Aside from being good in music, Johnny Cash had his hit TV show during the latter part of the 60s entitled The Johnny Cash Show. He even paved the way to the likes of Bob Dylan to penetrate the scene.

Cash also made guest appearances on Jane Seymour's TV series, 'Dr.

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Quinn, Medicine Woman'. He dubbed a cartoon cameo for an episode of 'The Simpsons'.

### The Legacy

Johnny Cash died at the age of 71 on September 12, 2003. He had almost 90 million copies of his albums sold. He had a collection of awards from the Grammys and Country Music Awards. He was even inducted in the Country Music Hall of Fame, Songwriters' Hall of Fame and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Although his music career surpassed Johnny Cash acting career, he has proven a lot and has left a legacy that industry insiders could learn a lot from even up to this day. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Starting Your Acting Career With Disney**

What does Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Hayden Panettiere and Vanessa Hudgens have in common? The answer, their acting careers or their singing careers started out with a little help from Disney.

Unlike other casting auditions, what makes Disney so different is that there is room for just about anybody who wants to become famous. There is a separate audition for singers, dancers, actors, stunt artists, musicians, bands and Disney character look alike.

Whatever you choose to pursue, it is best to get an agent because you are more likely to be noticed with this person helping out. But this doesn't mean you won't have a shot if you go in alone without an agent by your side because it has happened.

For an actor, what you will need during an audition to prepare is a one minute comedic monologue. You better practice your timing and don't forget to remember the words. There must be emotion behind what you are saying and while you are playing the part because you are not reciting in class but trying to capture the moment. You should also be ready to go up there and use additional material that will be prepared by the judges.

Aside from your skit, you should have with you a few great headshots and

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of course your resume with your contact information. This will make it easy for the casting director to get back to you after everyone was screened during the audition.

The moment you walk in, you should be relaxed and ready to execute your number because the production people are keeping on a tight schedule when there are others waiting their turn.

Similar to American idol, all auditions are closed which means family members and friends are not allowed to watch. They can wait in the holding area so they can meet their child once their number is over.

If you make it, you now have to get an entertainment work permit because this is required by law. This should be signed by your parents and at times your school principal since education is still a priority given your age. This has to be shown every time you report for work and renewed after 6 months.

In time, your acting career will flourish from a television show to maybe even a movie. Take for example High School musical which people did not expect to be so popular and within months, the High School Musical 3 will be shown in the theaters.

Your acting career does not end the moment you leave Disney because you will always take this with you wherever you go. Take for instance Hayden Panettiere who is now part of the hit show Heroes. She started with [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Disney in 1998 with a small role in the movie “The Object Of My Affection” and lent her voice talent in “This Bug’s Life.”

So it starting your acting career good with Disney? The answer is definitely yes. You just have to make it to the audition and hope the judges liked what you did so that from there, the world will be yours for the taking. If things don’t work out, try again elsewhere because there are also auditions in Los Angeles and New York that will need someone as talented like yourself.

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## **Talent and Experience Helps In Your Acting Career**

Hundreds or even thousands of people audition just to play a part in a movie or show. One good example is American Idol that went across the country just to choose 24 finalists that will begin their season's show.

Talent and experience played a part for those who made it and this is the same for those who decide to pursue an acting career.

Everyone knows that your big break in the entertainment industry begins with the audition. There are many held in different parts of the country and if you are a beginner with no training, you won't do that well and chances are, you will just make a big fool of yourself.

Just think, how many times did you laugh when someone who tried to be the next American Idol wore a hideous costume or sang out of tune? It may not be funny if you were the one in front of the camera but then again, that is what happens when you go in unprepared.

This is why people who want to become aspiring actors and actresses must enroll in acting classes. They also get themselves involve in school plays or small productions because the experience they get here will be very useful when they decide to break out and let the world know who they are.

After attending a few classes and workshops, this is the time you need to

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take a few headshots and prepare your portfolio. When you go to an audition, this is what the casting director will be looking at as well as judging your performance.

If you don't get the part, try to find work as an extra as this will give you a better understanding of how shows and movies are made. You may even get the chance to talk to the actors and actresses present so they can give you a few tips and pointers which you can use.

When you are ready, find out when there is an audition or casting call taking place. You can also get this through the web. Some of these charge people a fee just to look at the listings so before you pay a dime, find out if this site is really worth value for your money.

Part of being an actor is joining the union. This depends of course on which media you are specializing in so you could sign up with the Screen Actor's Guild or the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

Being a member will help you land a job whenever there is an opening and make sure you are paid correctly for the skills that you have provided.

Talent alone will not always guarantee that you get the part when you go for an audition. This is because most casting directors also look at your work experience.

If you want to a successful acting career, don't jump in with your head first

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and expect to be a star overnight. You have to be patient just like an infant learning to walk for the first time. Be open minded and be willing to learn because being successful in this craft never ends.

You may not get this from reading books but by playing different roles and talking to those in the business. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **The Perks and Controversies Surrounding Child Acting Career**

Most kids are naturally adorable. But as parents, before you even think about how to start a child acting career, you have to think hard if you really want to subject your tots to the harsh realities that the showbiz industry may bring their way.

Why do you want your children to be stars? Some might say that it is because of the glitz and the glamour. But most people think that it is for the money. If fate would allow your child to be part of a good production, whether it is on film or TV, the financial aspect is going to be truly rewarding. But you must know the facts that surround a child's career in acting.

### **The Regulations**

Child actors should abide the labor union codes. They should also be regulated both by the state as well as federal laws. Before a kid can get to work, their parents must first make sure that they have the proper work permit. This will also be vital for them to obtain their salaries. Different states impose different rules. So one's guardian must understand what they will be faced with before committing into anything solid and final.

Undying Controversies [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Through the years, there have been many issues regarding such career that still resurface from time to time. Most of these revolve around money, the psychological effects of the work on children and how such career affects their childhood in general.

1. There have been many talks about the issues regarding money. Who will handle the child actor's earnings? Their guardians are the rightful ones to keep and save them. But unfortunately, there have been many incidents wherein a child's actor money had gone to waste because of mishandling. This may not be felt by the child on their younger years. But as they grow old and learn to reflect on everything, they will question what happened to the money that they have worked so hard for.

This was the inspiration for the original Coogan Law. Based on the facts that happened to a former child star who earned millions at a young age, Jackie Coogan, this law was enacted in California in 1939. It states that a portion of the child actor's earnings must be preserved in a blocked trust or a savings account especially made for such purpose.

2. Child actors are believed to lose a very big part of their childhood by working and earning at such a young age. Although productions nowadays allow them time to study and play while on the set, this cannot alter the experiences that a kid will get from having a normal life, away from the light, the cameras and the directors yelling, action.

They experience the pressure to perform, to deliver according to what's

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expected from them. And they are being asked to play characters that may be sometimes hard to be understood by young minds.

3. These actors should be guided accordingly as they grow older. In most cases, no matter how successful they are as a child actor, a transition period will come wherein they would not fit right into any roles. As a result, they may lack the jobs that they need to augment income or to sustain their popularity.

Their guardians must prepare them for such occurrence. They must prepare these kids that there are a lot of possibilities that they may not be as popular or may not have the kind of a child acting career that they used to enjoy as they age. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **The Long Term Outlook of an Acting Career**

Whatever you decide to become in life should be thought about very carefully so you don't look back and regret having wasted your time and energy. The same goes if you decide to pursue an acting career when there are probably other things you should have been doing.

But because we are living in an age where we are glued to the television set almost everyday, the employment of actors is expected to grow as fast as the average for all occupations. The challenging part which aspiring actors should know is that competition is going to be fierce.

While you are sending out head shots and resumes to agents, directors and producers, there are numerous auditions held all across the country even if you are already living in either New York or Los Angeles. So, you may go to one knowing that there is another one happening a few blocks from where you are right now.

Some people get lucky when they are seen walking on the street and an agent walks up to them and offers them a chance to stardom. Naturally, these are things beyond your control and you just have to accept it. For a lot of actors and actresses who have been in this business for quite some time, the only advice they will tell you is to be both patient and be persistent because it is only those who don't give up will be able to land a job. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

If Hollywood is not meant for you but you have other talents, perhaps you should start your acting career elsewhere like in Broadway or in a theme park or resort. Just like working in a studio, the prospect of finding work in these venues is variable as it fluctuates due to economic conditions. You could also find work by performing in a commercial or industrial film that is used for training and educational purposes, in an animated feature, audio book or a computer game. With a few shows or films under your belt, you could get a teaching position in a high school or university drama department so you can share your experience with the students. But your acting career can also take you to other positions within the entertainment industry. One good example is Clint Eastwood who first started out as an actor and then produced films later on like "The Unforgiven" and "Million Dollar Baby." Both films were acknowledged and given awards.

Ron Howard is another who was a child actor and then later on directed such films as "Ransom", "Apollo 13", "Backdraft", "Cocoon" and "A Beautiful Mind."

If you don't have money to make a movie, try making a show for a network and if you are able to sell them the idea, you could get a contract for a number of episodes. Should the ratings go well the network will tell you to prepare a new script for the succeeding season. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)



But the truth of the matter is there are so many actors and actresses around that there are not enough spots to give to everyone. This means that you will have to endure long periods of unemployment and frequent rejections during auditions. While formal training can help, many directors choose to get the individual who has more experience and talent. These are the ones who can look forward to a great acting career. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **The Realities of an Acting Career**

Thousands of people come to Los Angeles or New York with the hopes of becoming a star. The reality is that only a select few succeed but this hasn't stopped many from trying. If you are considering this, you should ask yourself if you have what it takes to have a successful acting career.

If you don't get the part in a television show, try to get a part on stage, on the radio or on motion picture productions. You may not be given yet the starring role but only be given a supporting one which isn't that bad when you are just starting out.

While waiting for someone to call, you should also find work in independent films, in commercials, night clubs and theme parks. There are also ads for requiring some actors to do some voiceovers in animated features, audio books and other electronic media like computer games.

For those who have been in the industry for quite a while and have not yet received any new projects, you should see if you can land a teaching position in a high school or university drama department or a job in an acting conservatory.

Since television shows are shot on a seasonal basis and movies are finished in a matter of months, the job of an actor is short term ranging from

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a day to a several months. One of the things that you have to deal with sometimes is the undesirable and unpleasant working conditions as well as stress that go with the territory.

This may include working long and irregular hours, traveling across the country and shooting a scene under adverse weather conditions. You won't always get the chance to sleep in a hotel so most of the time you will have to bunk in a trailer. If there is a break, you can go back there or just wait in the dressing room until its time to perform the scene.

If you happen to have a part in a television show, you have to be able to memorize your lines quickly because this may change within minutes. This is more challenging when you are performing this live in front of a studio audience.

If the scene you are shooting is done out of town or out of the country, don't expect to see your family often or have a social life. You will just have to make up for this when everything is finished.

Aside from wearing make up and putting on costumes, you should always be in good physical condition to be able to perform a part so you will be able to take cues and work around complex technical sets and still be able to project your voice audibly.

Before the director or producer can say cut and print, you will have to do a lot of rehearsals and a lot of takes so everyone will get it right. If you are

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worried that they will work you like a dog, don't bother because there will always be breaks in between so you avoid experiencing dehydration or heat exhaustion.

The reality of an acting career is that it will take a lot of blood, sweat and tears for you to succeed in this business. You may not always be nominated for an Oscar or Academy award for everything you have done but at least you have a job. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **What you need to have a successful acting career**

If you think it only takes beauty to get into Hollywood, think again! Just look at the rising stars nowadays and most of them are not what you will call classic beauties. In fact, some of them even have "defective" features by society's standards before but because of their popularity have managed to turn them into coveted features or if not more or less accepted in society. One classic example is the relatively full lips of Angelina Jolie who before have been criticized for her big lips. The same goes with the freckles of Lindsay Lohan or the chin of actress Reese Witherspoon.

When it comes to career, beauty is not the only basis. There are a lot of things that you need to put into an acting career to make a successful mix. Here are some of the ingredients for success that you need to have with you.

### **1. Talent**

The most beautiful of them may rise to superstardom but without a substantial talent to back them up, they will end up fading into the background. Only those who really have the talent will stay on to make more and more movies. In fact, even if you are not as beautiful or as sexy, if you have the talent you can excel and even outshone others.

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One example is America Ferreira who plays Ugly Betty or Jennifer Hudson who outshone Beyonce in the movie Dream Girls. They are proof that even with a not so covetous body, they can go head to head with the best in Hollywood and even win the race!

## 2. Luck

Some people may discount it but luck plays an important role too. Sometimes when auditioning in some low budgeted film or tv series, you will not expect anything but if it turns out to be such a hit, your name will be recognized all over the world. A lot of today's actors and actresses were given lucky breaks.

Just look at Emma Watson and Daniel Radcliff who are not enjoying superstardom all over the world. They were not even stars when they were chosen to play the iconic role of Hermione and Harry Potter for the onscreen adaptation of a bestselling book.

## 3. Agent and stylists

Another must have in Hollywood is a good agent, someone with the connections. This is the person who will gain you entry to the hottest party so that you can get noticed or maybe secure a slot for you in an audition. Having someone do the marketing for you helps a lot in opening up opportunities. Another must have is a stylist who will help you become presentable in every function. Remember that Hollywood right now is all about fashion and you need to be properly dressed in order to get noticed.

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#### 4. Connections.

Let's face it. If you have connections, it will be easier for you to go out there and meet people. This is the reason why a lot of the children of former actresses and actors are now enjoying stardom, they have backers who have opened the doors for them. This is not to say though that they do not have the talent or the discipline.

They also worked hard but it was easier for them to get where they are because they know people who held the key. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **You Need an Agent to Look After Your Acting Career**

An agent is your representative. It is his or her responsibility to submit you for roles and auditions by casting directors which will soon become part of your acting career. Aside from that, they will also negotiate your fees and review your contract in exchange for 10% of your gross pay when you get the part. Since there are so many of them around, you have to know how to get one.

There are three ways to get an agent.

First, the agent is happy with your performance in the past and offers his or her services to be your agent. This won't happen if you are just starting out so don't put your hopes too much that someone will call you on the phone.

An agent may also see take notice of you during a scene night where you get invited to various scenes to show off your talent to agents, casting directors and directors. This is done regularly and consists of two minute monologues. Afterwards, you go around and give your press kits to the industry professionals who attended the event and wait for their phone call.

Second, you are given by a recommendation from a casting director, director, fellow actor or producer. This can happen if they like you and they

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see that you are not properly represented and deserve something better. Lastly, you get a phone call from an agent after they have reviewed your photo and resume which you had sent through the mail. Majority of the actors starting out get it this way. This will change later on once you have already established yourself in the industry.

When an agent calls you on the phone, it doesn't mean that they will already accept you as a client. It only means that they are inviting you for an interview and then see where things go from there.

The questions they will ask are similar to what a recruiter will ask you when you are applying for a job and when you reply, elaborate on it as though you are telling a story. That way, they will know that you are very articulate and they can already think of ways of how to sell you to casting directors and producers whenever there is an upcoming movie or a new television show that is about to come out.

It wouldn't hurt to also act in front of the agent a part you performed in the past so they can also get an idea of what is range.

If the agent likes you and wants to take you in, ask yourself if you feel the same way about the agent. Should the feelings be mutual then you have already found someone that can look out for your acting career. If you are not happy, don't be afraid to decline their offer and look for someone else.

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One thing you should remember when looking for a talent agent is that you are not required to give them any show money before they decide to represent you. If you are not happy with how your acting career is going, talk to them about what changes need to be made because your acting career is on the line here which may not mean anything to them if they represent other actors. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Your Acting Career Requires Experience**

Talent can only get you so far and in the entertainment business, your acting career also requires experience. So how do you get that?

The best way is to go to an audition and hopefully land a part. Don't think about how much they will pay because the objective here is simply to build up your resume. If you are able to do that, it won't be long before you get a big break.

You can also gain experience by participating in an amateur production. If you are still in school, join the dramatic society or the youth drama club.

To discover your other strengths as actor and your weaknesses that you can improve on, it will be a good idea to sign up for an acting class.

Should you live in a city that does not have a major theater company or studio, you have to take a big leap and move either to Los Angeles or New York where the big names of the entertainment industry are located.

You don't have to do all the work by yourself to gain experience as an actor. An agent can help you look for small gigs to help you get started.

You just have to find one and then impress this person so he or she can use their contacts to find work for you [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

Just be careful when you are looking for an agent because there are some who will ask money from you upfront. If this happens, walk away because an agent only gets paid when you have a job. They usually get 10% of your gross salary and that is for each project.

Work experience is not the only thing you need when you want a spot on television, the theater or the movies. You also have to know how to write a resume and get a few good headshots because what directors see on paper is also what they consider after you perform your monologue.

You should have someone review it and make changes if necessary. Some people make the mistake of writing one that fits a theater or television feature rather than for a commercial or a film so you should make different versions and use them at the right time.

If you are not ready to go for an audition, try finding work as a member of the crew. This will give you the opportunity to get to know everyone because most veterans are more than willing to help newcomers.

This will make it easy for you to audition later on when you have built a relationship with the casting director since you are not a picture or a piece of paper but someone they already know.

There is no guarantee that you will get the part whenever you go to an audition even if you have attended acting classes and worked on other

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projects in the past. The only thing you can do is prepare for it when there is one coming up.

If you are able to stay on course, it won't be long before someone will give you a part. What you have to now is do your best even if it just a small part because everyone will be watching how well you performed.

Did they make a good decision in giving you a chance, only time will tell but a good job could finally get your acting career off the ground. [www.gistmii.com](http://www.gistmii.com)

## **Your Acting Career Starts With an Audition**

Your acting career starts with an audition. This is because it is the venue where casting directors look for talented individuals that will soon play a part in a commercial, show or movie.

Auditions are held on a regular basis so you should hire an agent or get this information by reading the newspaper like Variety.

On the day of the audition, dress neatly and casually. Get there early so you will have to compose and relax before your name is called up.

When your name is called, give to the casting director your headshot and resume then do your thing on stage. Most auditions will require you to do a one or two minute monologue and then read from a part of a script. Some will give the audition script days in advance so you can already practice it. You will then be interviewed so don't be shy and answer each question to the best of your ability. If they accept you, then that is great! If they feel you have the talent but not for the part they are looking for, better luck next time.

Most auditions take about 2 hours and aside from the casting director, there will be others watching. If you happen to miss the audition due to an

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important matter, see if you can arrange a private audition. It is even possible to send your audition by mail by sending them the tape or uploading your video to their website.

While the audition is the starting point of your acting career, you should do some research so you know who they are and their reputation because there are scam artists who use this to victimize people. If they charge you an entrance fee to attend the audition forget about it. Should everything check out, do your best to impress the casting director.

Being accepted during the audition does not yet guarantee you have a part because you are part of a pool of talents that will be closely be examined by the network executives. If you don't get the part, they may offer you another position and this could be a supporting role or one of the extras in the set.

Is it demeaning? Not really and don't forget that this is how some actors and actresses first started before being given the chance to play a starring role. After the project is done, you can add this to your resume.

Landing a part is not easy and you will probably be rejected plenty of times before someone finally says otherwise. So attend additional acting classes and offer your services elsewhere, which is the best way to sharpen your craft.

When another audition is scheduled, forget about what happened before and just stay focused on the task at hand. As an actor or actress, you have

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to be a professional because that is the norm in the entertainment business.

Just come to the audition prepared and play the part to the best of your ability for a few minutes which may sometimes feel like an eternity. Who knows? Maybe this time things will be different so you can walk out the door with a smile on your face and look forward to a promising acting career which you have been dreaming about for a very long time.

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