

Takeaways from Actors' Think Tank, September 21, 2022

Megan Foley Marra - Casting Director/Coach/Director/Producer

Postcard address: P.O. Box 1626, Blue Jay, CA 92417

E-mail: meganmarra@me.com

Sandra Bulk

snbulk1@gmail.com

Postcards! I'm so happy to hear that "old school" is still okay!

Dina Laura

dina.laura@gmail.com

My greatest takeaway is that postcards are still a viable way to reach out to casting directors and make connections! As someone who has a love/not so love relationship with social media, hearing this was music to my ears. Thank you so much, Megan, for sharing your time and wisdom with us.

Rich Henkels

rkhenkels@gmail.com

"I know a Casting Director that has a sign on her wall that says 'you are one of 3,162 people that submitted for this job...' That drills home the importance of recognizing how hard it is to do what we do and what a step forward it is to get to the audition stage.

Craig A. Woolridge

Caw2062@gmail.com

Be a master of your craft, read, do your homework, know the classics (writers, directors, actors, etc..), be as knowledgeable as you can.

Kelly McCaughan

Kellynmccaughan@gmail.com

Megan mentioned that doing good work consistently will get you remembered. It is a good reminder to always be ready!

Kaitlyn Diehl

kaitlyndiehlactor@gmail.com

Megan! Thank you so much for spending time and sharing your wisdom with us today. I loved so much of what you shared but one thing that stood out in particular was your tip about post cards! I'm sick of social media too, so I am all for any excuse to use paper and some old-fashioned mailing in this world of screens! Perhaps you will eventually find a post-card from me.

Roz Jamal

arjamal@verizon.net

My takeaway from Megan is that she enjoys receiving, and encourages, post cards. This is amazing. I also liked her self tape advice to look more engaging and like you're listening. Megan has a warm, sweet persona and great charisma.

Jackie Diehl

jackiediehlactor@gmail.com

If you're an actor, you shouldn't JUST be an actor! Have a lot of other parts of your life being built up and have other stuff going on. You'll have more to talk about and it helps you through the ups and downs. Thanks Megan!!

Shauna Hurley-Hansen

Purepilates@gmail.com

What a lovely session with Megan Mara. I love that Megan wants to work with smart, well-rounded actors who pay attention to what's going on in the world, who read, who have other things in their lives that give them joy, so they can bring that into the room when they are auditioning or acting. Know who Tennessee Williams is!

Luca Cundo

11luca28@gmail.com

"No excuse to not know your lines"

Jamie Vaughan

jamiep.vaughan@yahoo.com

My takeaway from today is that the work is what matters most. If you continually strive to do your very best and improve every single day then everything else will fall into place.

Mike Provenzano

mike@mlprov.com

I loved your take on advertising and using postcards to share our acting world the old fashioned way. Can't wait to try this out.

Stacey Marie Keba

hi@staceymariekeba.com

My takeaway from Megan is that being on the other side of the camera makes you a stronger actor!

Jeannette Nina

Jplenzick@gmail.com

So many great takeaways! Really loved being reminded to be doing other things in the industry other than acting and bringing back the old school way of staying relevant/keeping in touch with a simple postcard.

Shelby Hightower

shelby.k.hightower@gmail.com

What hit home for me is the urge to educate yourself as an actor. Be well rounded and have a life. Mmm! Love it.

Lindsay Michelle Reed

Lindsay.m.reed1@gmail.com

Great session with Megan. I liked her comment that "Commercials are a rich place to mine information." It also helped getting the follow-up of all the information we can pull from the commercials such as "Why is it important?" "Why are they sharing this information?"

Mariel McIntosh

marielmcintosh1@gmail.com

For commercial auditions be more engaged. Think about why the character is doing what they are doing. Think it through and prepare like you would for any other audition.

Rashad Alii

RashadAliKY@gmail.com

I thought it was pretty interesting and nice to keep myself aware of "really talk" and "really listen" while performing an audition to fully make sure I'm engaged.

Shelley Brietling

sbrietling@gmail.com

Very important tips for self-taping:

- 1) Look more engaged. 2) Make sure you are really taking to someone, not just the camera.
- 3) Must be an active listener, listen when you are supposed to be listening, not thinking about your next line. It will show on your face if you are not truthful to the character and scene. Acting is all about doing it and enjoy it!!