

CADA Class Online Tips: How to set up your “home acting studio” to work with Zoom

1. Look for a space that gives you privacy away from other any extraneous sounds: people talking, TV sets, phones and other devices making sounds.
2. Set up your recording device (computer, laptop, tablet or phone) so that it is recording you in a horizontal box, like a movie screen.
3. Set up your recording device so that you will have a place to stand up and move in front of the camera (Long Shots)
4. Have a comfortable chair handy for (Close Ups). Make sure your head is in the middle of your Zoom box. Set up so you are not cutting off a part of your head!
5. Lighting: Avoid lighting that comes from behind as that makes your face dark. Actors need to see each other’s faces in order to react. Make sure you have a good light source that shines on your face from the front.
6. Test your audio and video before joining the class.
7. Have a handy box of hats, puppets and props nearby for theatre games!
8. Parents and students can help by becoming familiar with the Mute and Unmute controls, as well as the Stop video button. If your child cannot use the controls, parents can feel free to assist. Teachers can also assist.
9. Sometimes we use Breakout Rooms to work on scenes in small groups. Then we will gather back together to share our scenes with the entire class. Zoom asks the actors to “accept the invitation” to join the breakout room and also asks actors to “accept return” to main room.

