

StrawHat New York Travel & Hotel Information

The StrawHat Auditions will be held at The Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts at Pace University, 3 Spruce Street (between Park Row and Gold Street) in New York City. If you need to reach us during auditions, call our office at 203-254-8572. We check for messages throughout the day. **Do NOT** contact Pace University for information about auditions or accommodations.

BY SUBWAY: Take the IRT Lexington Line (#4, 5, or 6) to the Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall stop. Fare: \$2.75 for a single ride, or buy a MetroCard for multiple rides. At street level, you'll see City Hall and a small park. Walk south along Centre Street/Park Row (City Hall will be on your right) and you will see the huge ramps leading onto the Brooklyn Bridge. Just south of the bridge is Pace University. Walk past the front entrance of Pace to Spruce Street and turn left: the entrance to the Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts is at the far end of the block near the intersection with Gold Street. You can also take the Broadway #2, 3, J, M, or Z to Fulton Street, the A or C to Broadway/Nassau, or the R or W trains to City Hall, but the walk is longer and may be more confusing. We strongly advise everyone to visit www.mta.info to learn about any planned track repair or station maintenance closings that may be scheduled during the audition weekend so that you can be sure of timely arrival and/or an alternate way to and from your accommodations.

IF YOU DRIVE: There are several parking garages in the area, as Pace is directly across the street from City Hall. Many are open 24 hours, but be sure to check closing times. Do not park illegally: you will be ticketed or towed, and the fines are steep. Also, never leave valuables in your car (or even in your trunk) day or night if you park on the street! If you have a radio, stereo, gps, or other devices, beware of parking on the street after dark. Out-of-state and rental cars are particular targets for trunk thefts. Use a garage, or check with your hotel about parking during your stay, and travel within the city by bus, subway, or taxi.

FINDING HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

NEW THIS YEAR! Get great hotel booking assistance through Road Concierge, a wonderful service that can locate discounted hotel accommodations. Simply email info@roadconcierge.com and tell them you're with StrawHat Auditions. And if you are part of a group needing 5 rooms or more, check out their subsidiary company, www.grouphotelbid.com.

Of course, you can search any number of web sites online, confirm rates, and make reservations on your own: Travelocity, Expedia, Hotels.com and Priceline are all good sources; many of these sites will allow you to search for hotels based on proximity to a specific address (i.e. Pace University).

Still, here are a few of the "tried-and-true" – and some of the "convenient-and-sounds-promising" hotels we've learned about either over the years or over the web.

For convenience to Pace University, Expedia and Hotels.com list **Hampton Inn, Club Quarters Downtown**, the **Millennium Hilton**, the **Holiday Inn Wall Street**, and the **Embassy Suites Hotel**, all upper-end in price. But a little further away are **Hotel 31** in mid-town and **Hotel 17** in Grammercy Park, both listed as tourist class and much more reasonably priced.

In the Theatre District, there are innumerable choices and pricing structures: The **Milford Plaza** (800-221-2690) on 8th Avenue at 45th Street; The **Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza** on Times Square (1-800-HOLIDAY); **Doubletree Guest Suites,** 1568 Bway at 47th & 7th Ave (800-222-TREE) offers you a suite with separate bedroom and living room with sofa bed, fridge, microwave and coffee maker. Other Theatre District options: the **Hotel Edison** at 228 W. 47th between Bway and 8th Ave; the **Belvedere** at 319 W. 48th; the **Travel Inn** at 515 W. 42nd at 10th Ave has a parking garage; the Best Western **President Hotel** is at 234 W. 48th (800-826-4667). Especially convenient if you are coming in on AMTRAK, is the Best Western **Hotel Pennsylvania** across from Penn Station at 33rd Street and Seventh Avenue. They offer reasonable singles and doubles, and will allow for additional guests for a small extra charge: 800-223-8585.

Always confirm your rate when booking. Like parking, hotel rates are currently subject to high city taxes <u>not always included</u> in the quoted price, and pricing fluctuates drastically at different times of the year. Good Luck!