Mason Players Fall 2015 Unified Auditions

Auditions are open to all Mason students in good academic standing.

Sign Up Sheets will be posted on Theater Office Door (PAB A407) by August 31.

Auditions will take place in TheaterSpace (PAB A105)

The plays:

THE MASON FRINGE, featuring the following two plays performing in repertory:

Boleros for the Disenchanted by José Rivera
Directed by Matt Succi

Boleros is a story that examines one couple's relationship over the course of several decades by analyzing their initial meeting and the twilight of their relationship 40 years later. The play looks at how external factors such as migration, family, and illness can strain a strong relationship as well as internal factors like infidelity and the reluctance to forgive mistakes. The show features a primarily Hispanic cast, full of over the top characters filled with their own personal strife and dreams for the future, as well as fiery moments involving machetes and scorned lovers.

Character breakdown:

Flora- 22 year old Puerto Rican woman. Strong willed, incredibly virtuous, and extremely loyal to a fault.

Eusebio- 27 year old National Guard soldier and eventually Flora’s husband. Charismatic and an eternal flirt with a lust for life.


Manuelo- Flora’s 30 year old cheating ex-fiance.

Oscar- 27 year old U.S. Army soldier and Monica’s lover and eventual husband. Always cracking jokes, but stands by what he says.

Monica- Oscar’s 23 years old wife and mother of their child. Extremely self-conscious and shy.

Eve- 25 year old nurse to the now old Eusebio and Flora. Carries a deep sadness within her.

Priest- A 30 year old priest who performs Eusebio’s last rites.

The next two roles will be double cast:

Don Fermin/Older Eusebio- In act 1, Don Fermin is Flora’s abusive when drunk, but sweet when sober father. In act 2, Eusebio is resigned to his hospital bed due to his legs being amputated.

Dona Milla/Older Flora- In act 1, Dona Milla is Flora’s no nonsense mother who eternally supports her daughter. In act 2, Flora is a cancer survivor and mother of nine children.

Special Notes:
This play contains profanity and scenes depicting physical relationships (kissing). While the characters in the show are primarily of Puerto Rican descent, it is not required for actors to be of strictly PR or Latino descent in order to be considered for a role. However, it is recommended that those who audition have an appreciation and understanding or willingness to understand Hispanic culture. You might also be interested in researching the dark history of the relationship between the island of Puerto Rico and the United States Government, as that strained relationship plays a role in the show. Accents, unless naturally occurring, will not be required or recommended.
A Bright New Boise by Samuel D. Hunter
Directed by Nathan Vasquez

In the lonely break room of a run-down Hobby Lobby in Boise, a disgraced evangelical chases a modern miracle—reconnection with his estranged son. Soon his fellow employees uncover his past, his son falls even deeper into depression, and Will must choose between rebuilding a normal family life or returning to the faith that at one time gave his life meaning.

Character breakdown:

**Will**- (late thirties) Will is a disgraced evangelical who is lost after his controversy with the cult up in Northern Idaho. He desperately wants to reconnect with his son, but not completely ready to discount the faith which has made him who he is.

**Alex**- (mid to late teens) Alex is Will’s son who was given up for adoption when he was a baby. Alex’s adoptive family, with the exception of Leroy, has neglected him. As a result he is extremely disconnected and only finds solace in his music. He is prone to panic attacks.

**Leroy**- (early to mid-twenties) Leroy is Alex’s adoptive brother. He is extremely protective of Alex and is extremely distrustful of Will. He claims to be brutally honest and likes to hold up a mirror to society’s “faults,” and yet he refuses to turn that mirror on himself.

**Anna**- (early thirties) Anna is a socially awkward employee of the Hobby Lobby. She prefers to read rather than put effort into her job and is constantly on the lookout for Pauline, who she believes might fire her at any moment. She takes to Will immediately and becomes his one and only friend throughout the main action of the play.

**Pauline**- (late thirties to early forties) Pauline is the tough-as-nails manager of the Hobby Lobby. She is sharp, witty and takes pride in the fact that she took a distressed store and completely turned it around. She does care about the plights of her employees, but her first priority is the store.

Special notes:
This play contains a ton of profanity and touches on subjects that some might consider sensitive—particularly religious topics. Please keep this in mind when auditioning. Also, the role of Alex requires some a cappella singing

Mason Fringe Production Schedule:

NOTE: The cast of each Mason Fringe play will serve as run crew and support staff of the other Fringe offering.

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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 8th-Oct. 2nd</td>
<td>Rehearsals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3rd-6th</td>
<td>Technical &amp; Dress Rehearsals</td>
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<td>Oct. 7th-11th</td>
<td>Performances</td>
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<td>Oct. 11th</td>
<td>Closing &amp; Strike</td>
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The Crucible by Arthur Miller
Directed by Howard Vincent Kurtz and Maggie Rodgers

In a tight-knit community, personal grievances and deception give way to superstition and madness. Please join the Mason School of Theater and the Mason Players as they travel back in history to present Arthur Miller’s classic American drama, THE CRUCIBLE. Directors Howard Vincent Kurtz and Maggie Rodgers bring the production vividly to life in this newly imagined interpretation. Miller’s timeless parable is a reminder of the evils inherent in mindless persecution and the terrifying power of false accusations.

Character Breakdown: 11 Male and 11 Female Roles. Understudy roles (U/S) noted are subject to change:

**MALE ROLES**

**JOHN PROCTOR** – mid-30s
Farmer; strong morals; respected in community; has affair with Abigail Williams which places pressure on his marriage
“REVEREND” PARRIS – mid-40s
Widower; Salem’s minister; troubled and worried about his popularity in the community

REVEREND JOHN HALE – almost 40
Advisor, not from Salem, who investigates claims of witchcraft; sharp; astute; perceptive

“DEPUTY GOVERNOR” THOMAS DANFORTH – mid-60s
Takes charge of the investigations; supervises Judge Hathorne; defends judicial process and authority of the court

THOMAS PUTNAM – about 50 (U/S John Proctor)
Landowner; wealthy, powerful, greedy; motivated mainly by desire to acquire more land

FRANCIS NURSE – about 75 (U/S Reverend Parris)
Rebecca Nurse’s husband; prosperous farmer; well-respected elder in the community

GILES COREY – age 63 [age changed from 83 in the play] (U/S Reverend Hale)
Farmer; strong, independent, and not afraid to speak in the face of adversity

“JUDGE” JOHN HATHORNE – mid-50s (U/S Deputy Governor Danforth)
Judge, not from Salem, who presides over Salem courts; has little compassion or self-doubt

EZEKIEL CHEEVER – mid-30s (U/S Francis Nurse, Giles Corey)
Tailor; assigned position as clerk of the high court to try witches; conformist; obedient

“MARSHAL” GEORGE HERRICK/JOHN WILLARD – early 30s (U/S Thomas Putnam, Thomas Danforth)
Law officer of Salem; carries out duties of the high court; strong morals

MATTHEW HOPKINS – mid 30s (U/S Ezekiel Cheever, “Marshal” George Herrick/John Willard)
Guard in Salem jail

FEMALE ROLES

ELIZABETH PROCTOR – early 30’s
Wife of John Proctor; a loyal wife and mother

ABIGAIL WILLIAMS – age 17
Reverend Parris’ niece, former servant of the Proctors, still in love with John Proctor; manipulates the other girls in her scheme to name Elizabeth Proctor and other individuals in the community as a witch

MARY WARREN – age 17
The Proctors’ servant; needy and co-dependent; one of the girls who accuses individuals in the community of witchcraft; struggles with her alliances between the Proctors and Abigail Williams

REBECCA NURSE – age 72
Widely liked and admired in the community; saintly and wise; accused of witchcraft

TITUBA – mid-40s
Reverend Parris’ slave from Barbados; an outcast in the community who must look out for herself

ANN PUTNAM – age 45 (U/S Elizabeth Proctor)
Wife of Thomas Putnam; tortured soul; lost seven of eight children; blames Rebecca Nurse

MARTHA COREY – mid-60s [role added to this production] (U/S Rebecca Nurse, Tituba)
Wife of Giles Corey; strong independent woman; knows her own mind; literate, well-read; accused of witchcraft

BETTY PARRIS – age 10 (U/S Mercy Lewis, Susanna Wallcott)
Daughter of Reverend Parris, pure and innocent; one of the girls who accuses individuals in the community of witchcraft

MERCY LEWIS – age 18 (U/S Abigail Williams)
The Putnams’ servant; clever and cunning; one of the girls who accuses individuals in the community of witchcraft

SUSANNA WALCOTT – about 16 (U/S Mary Warren)
A nervous, hyper girl; one of the girls who accuses individuals in the community of witchcraft

SARAH GOOD – mid-50s (U/S Betty Parris, Ann Putnam, Martha Corey)
Accused of witchcraft; in jail with Tituba

Production Schedule:
The production will take place in the Harris Theatre. Rehearsals start on September 12, from Mondays to Thursdays, 6:00 to 10:00 PM and Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. No rehearsals on Fridays and Sundays. Ten performances are scheduled, October 21 through November 1, 2015.
Sides from the script will be available for callbacks.

Peter Pan: The Boy Who Hated Mothers by Michael Lluberes,
Based on “Peter and Wendy” by J. M. Barrie
Directed by Jessica Dubish

This radically fresh retelling of the J.M. Barrie classic is not to be missed. Exploring the original ideas and inspirations behind this iconic fantasy unveils a darker story of the boy who wouldn’t grow up. This is Peter Pan as you have never seen it before but how it was always meant to be told.

Character Breakdown:


MRS. DARLING/CAPTAIN HOOK/ADULT WENDY - Female actor. [MRS. DARLING] Accent: RP British. Mother of the Darling children. She used to be warm, graceful; the embodiment of motherhood but is so distraught by the death of her baby she’s not able to function. Also plays [HOOK] Accent: RP British. The greatest villain ever. Scary, elegant, mysterious, cold, theatrical, oily, bloodthirsty. The embodiment of a child’s nightmare. Something of the Grand Guignol about him. Noel Coward mixed with Adolf Hitler. Also plays [ADULT WENDY] Accent: RP British. “She was not a little girl heart-broken about him; she was a grown woman smiling at it all, but they were wet smiles.”

JOHN DARLING - Male actor. Accent: RP British. Age 10. Delicate, hypersensitive, highly intelligent, in danger of growing up to be the stereotypical buttoned up Englishman.


Special notes:
The character of Wendy has a short singing section. Those called back for Wendy will be asked to sing a short song of their choosing, 16 bars a capella, at the callbacks.

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<td>Oct. 13 – Nov 14</td>
<td>Rehearsals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 14 - 18</td>
<td>Technical &amp; Dress Rehearsals, Preview</td>
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<td>Nov 19 – 22</td>
<td>Performances</td>
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<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Closing &amp; Strike</td>
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PREPARATION
Each performer will have a maximum of 3 minutes in front of the directors for the four Fall productions. Prepared monologue preferred; cold readings will be available.

WHAT TO BRING
Please bring your headshot, or a recent photo. If necessary, we will photograph you at the audition. Fill out and bring two copies of the audition form and two copies of your resume, if you have one. Extra audition forms will be available at auditions.

AUDITION DATES
Wednesday, September 2 – General Auditions beginning at 6:00pm
Thursday, September 3 – General Auditions beginning at 6:00pm
Friday, September 4 – Callback list posted
Saturday, September 5 – Callbacks. Specific schedule will be posted. Please note this is the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. Plan accordingly please. Once casting is completed, cast lists are posted, and prospective cast members are emailed role offers.

MASON PLAYER PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS
To be cast, you must be a degree-seeking Mason student with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5. Students may enroll to receive Practicum credit. Enrollment deadline is Tuesday, September 8.
Students may audition for experience only.
Play descriptions are also located on our website http://theater.gmu.edu and in our season brochure.

MORE OPPORTUNITIES
Want to be part of a show – but not on stage? There are lots of crew opportunities. For more information, please contact: Clayton Austin, caustin@gmu.edu or 703-993-1879.