Mason Players Fall 2016 Unified Auditions
August 31 and September 1, 6:00 – 10:00pm
Callbacks on September 3

Sign-up sheets will be posted on the Theater Office Door (PAB A407) by August 29.

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

Auditions will take place in TheaterSpace (PAB A105) and MTB 2013.

Please read the entire document to learn all the information.

The plays:

The Laramie Project by Moisés Kaufman and the members of the Tectonic Theater Project
Directed by Heather Hicks
In October 1998, Matthew Shepard was viciously beaten, tied to a fence, and left to die on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming. Following the attack, Moisés Kaufman and the members of Tectonic Theater Project conducted interviews with hundreds of Laramie residents. These interviews were used to create this emotionally charged story that will leave you considering the past, present, and hope for a better future.

Character breakdown:
The production will have 11 roles. With the exception of the Narrator, Actors will portray multiple characters. (5 men; 5 women, plus gender-neutral Narrator)**

1. Narrator (Male or Female)

2. Male 1

3. Male 2
   Moisés Kaufman, Philip Dubois (Act 1,) Stephen Mead Johnson, Murdock Cooper, John Peacock, Dennis Sheppard, Harry Woods, Priest

4. Male 3
   Jedadiah Shultz, Doug Laws, Dr. Cantway, Matt Mickelson, Andy Paris, Russell Henderson, Aaron McKinney, Philip Dubois (Act 2,) Kerry Drake, Newsoner #2

5. Male 4
   Greg Pierotti, Sgt. Hing, Phil LaBrie, Father Rodger Schmit, Rulon Stacey, Rob DeBree, Jonas Slonaker, Judge
6. Female 1
   Amanda Gronich, Eileen Engen (Act 1,) Marge Murray, Trish Steger, Shadow, Email Writer, Jen

7. Female 2
   Reggie Fluty, Rebecca Hilliker, Waitress, Newperson, Newperson #1 (they are different), Baptist Minister, Sherry Johnsen

8. Female 3
   Barbara Pitts, Catherine Connolly, April Silva, Zubaida Ula, Sherry Aenonson, Lucy Thompson, Eileen Engen (Act 2,) Newperson #3

9. Female 4
   Leigh Fondakowski, Zackie Salmon, Alison Sears, Romain Patterson, Aaron Kreifels, Tiffany Edwards, Shannon

10. Male Ensemble/Swing
    Reporter, Jeffery Lockwood, Governor Geringer, Male Swing

11. Female Ensemble/Swing
    Minister's Wife, Kristin Price, Newperson #4, Cal Rervecha, Female Swing

During auditions, Laramie will also be casting rolls for recorded videos that will be a part of the projections.
** Character Breakdown subject to change.

Special Notes:

This play contains gay slurs and epithets.

Production Schedule:

Sept. 6 - 30  Rehearsals
Oct. 1 - 4   Technical & Dress Rehearsals
Oct 5       Preview
Oct. 6 -9   Performances in TheaterSpace
Oct 12      Technical /Dress Rehearsal in the Gregory Theater
Oct 13 – 15 Performances in Gregory Family Theater, Hylton Performing Arts Center (Science & Technology campus)
Oct. 15     Closing & Strike
THE THREEPENNY OPERA
by Bertolt Brecht, Music by Kurt Weill, Translation by Michael Feingold
Directed by Ken Elston; Musical Direction by Stan Engebretsen
Heavily inspired by John Gay’s acclaimed Beggar’s Opera, Brecht and Weill teamed up to create this daring social satire that would also prove their most popular. Haunted by spirits of the German Music Hall, this perennial Broadway favorite offers much more than the popular ballads, “Mack the Knife” and “Pirate Jenny.” Wartime camaraderie and sacrifices set the stage for this humorous examination of class struggle and sexual politics in Post-WWI New York City.

Character breakdown:

Ensemble members play multiple roles and fulfill many functions during the piece.

Roles:

Macheath
JJ Peachum
Tiger Brown
Filch
Matt
Jack
Smith
Reverand Kimball/Policeman
Polly
Mrs. Peachum
Jenny
Lucy
Dolly/Walt
Betty/Ed
Vixen/Jimi

Molly/Bob

Old Whore/Beggar

Ballad Singer

**Production Schedule:**

- **Sept 12 - Oct. 20**: Rehearsals
- **Oct. 20 - 25**: Technical & Dress Rehearsals
- **Oct 26**: Preview
- **Oct. 27 – 30**: Performances in CFA Concert Hall
- **Nov 2**: Technical/Dress rehearsal in Merchant Hall
- **Nov 3 – 5**: Performances in Merchant Hall, Hylton Performing Arts Center (Science & Technology campus)
- **Nov 5**: Closing & Strike

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**A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare**

*Directed by Mia Amado*

**Character breakdown:**

Cast of 20. M=Male, F=Female, N=Neutral **

- **Theseus (M)** - Priest within the Episcopal Church. Engaged to Hippolyta.
- **Hippolyta (F)** - Engaged to Theseus.
- **Egeus (M)** - Father of Hermia
- **Hermia (F)** - Daughter of Egeus; Young woman in love with Lysandra
- **Lysandra (F)** - Young woman in love with Hermia
- **Demetrius (M)** - Young man in love with Hermia
- **Helena (F)** - Young woman in love with Demetrius
- **Philostrate* (N)** - Friend of Theseus
- **Oberon (M)** - King of the Fairy world
- **Titania (N)** - Queen of the Fairy world
- **Puck* (N)** - Oberon's servant. Also known as Robin Goodfellow.

Fairy Ensemble Under Titania's rule:

- Fairy/Moth (N), Mustardseed (N), Cobweb (N), Peaseblossom (N)

The Rude Mechanicals, laborers who perform *Pyramus and Thisbe* at Theseus and Hippolyta's wedding:

- **Peter Quince (N)** - Carpenter; Director of 'Pyramus and Thisbe'
- **Nick Bottom (M)** - Weaver; Pyramus in 'Pyramus and Thisbe'
Francis Flute (M) - BellowsMender; Thisbe in 'Pyramus and Thisbe'
Tom Snout (N) - Tinker; Wall in 'Pyramus and Thisbe'
Snug (N) - Joiner; Lion in 'Pyramus and Thisbe'
Starveling Tailor (N) - Tailor; Moonshine in 'Pyramus and Thisbe'

*The actor playing Puck will also double as Philostrate.
** Character Breakdown subject to change.

Special Notes:
This play contains mature content including same sex intimacy. Physical demands include movement.

Production Schedule:
Oct. 10 – Nov 11  Rehearsals
Nov 12 - 15  Technical & Dress Rehearsals
Nov 16  Preview
Nov 17 – 20  Performances
Nov 20  Closing & Strike

Additional Projects:
In addition to the full productions mentioned above, two special projects will be cast from these auditions:

The 100th Meridian Project, conceived and directed by Rick Davis
Rehearsals to be determined, one performance only in Harris Theatre on Sept 29.
Ensemble casting.
The American West is parched. We were warned as early as the 1870s by John Wesley Powell, soldier, ethnologist, and director of the U.S. Geological Service. Uniting students and faculty from the sciences, arts, and humanities, the Project examines the “River of American History,” whose tributaries include science, policy and finance, in an effort to understand why Powell’s recommendations were ignored, and whether there are contemporary parallels to past centuries’ willful rejection of sound scientific guidance. An interdisciplinary project presented in cooperation with the School of Theater’s STEAM at Mason initiative.
Kid Pan Alley
Directed by Ken Elston, Musical Direction by Paul Reiser, Dramaturgy by James Magruder
Rehearsals Nov 28 – Dec 2, one performance only in TheaterSpace on Dec 3.
Ensemble casting
This staged reading, performed by Mason Musical Theater students, will be a first glimpse at an original musical by Paul Reiser, working with children as co-composers and lyricists for the not-for-profit Kid Pan Alley. Through creative learning and expression workshops, Kid Pan Alley’s songs have won Grammy nominations, WAMMIE and Parent’s Choice Awards, and have been recorded by such artists as Delbert McClinton, Cracker, Sissy Spacek, Amy Grant, and many more. The score will be drawn from the best KPA songs created over the last 18 years.

LOCATIONS OF AUDITION
The Laramie Project, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and The 100th Meridian Project will hold a unified audition in TheaterSpace (PAB A105). The Threepenny Opera and Kid Pan Alley will hold a unified audition in the Music Theater Building (MTB) room 2013.

PREPARATION
Each performer will have a maximum of 3 minutes in front of the directors of Laramie and Midsummer for its two directors. Prepared monologues demonstrating both classical and contemporary skills preferred; cold readings will be available.

For Threepenny and Kid Pan Alley musical auditions, one prepared monologue, maximum of 90 seconds, and one song (16 – 32 bars only) of your choice (accompanist provided). Callbacks will focus on movement and songs & sides from the show.

WHAT TO BRING
Please bring enough headshots (or recent photos) and resumes (if you have one) for EACH DIRECTOR. Fill out and bring two copies of the audition form. Extra audition forms will be available at auditions.

AUDITION DATES
Wednesday, August 31 – General Auditions beginning at 6:00pm
Thursday, September 1 – General Auditions beginning at 6:00pm
Friday, September 2 – Callback lists posted
Saturday, September 3 – 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 6.
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:
Molly Elston, melston@gmu.edu or 703-993-6080.