

## THE MISFIT PLAYERS AUDITIONS - FAQ

### Do you have any suggestions for auditioning for you?

Most of all, try to relax and have fun. We want you to do well! Also, here's a few tips:

1. *Consult the detailed character descriptions.* It's valuable information for creating a distinct character and the descriptions describe what we're looking for.
2. *Take direction.* After you perform a monologue/scene, the director may ask you to try it again in a different way. Applying what is suggested is part of the acting process and makes a good impression.
3. *Being fully present with "active listening".* It's compelling acting and we look for it. If you're not familiar, here's a brief introduction:  
<https://www.backstage.com/magazine/article/craft-listen-active-listening-can-raise-performance-higher-level-25262/>
4. *As you are reading a scene, always slide your thumb to the next line for your character.* You can engage with the other actors in the scene, but know right where to look when it is your next line. There is a lot of acting done when you're not reading, and if you're looking away from the script we can see it better.
5. *Be kind to other actors, staff and volunteers.* While we are looking for great acting and the right fit, we also want to cast people who play well with others!

### What can I expect at auditions?

When you arrive, you'll check in with the audition assistants. They'll take your audition form if you've filled out ahead of time or will give you one to fill out if you haven't. We'll also give you a number which you'll pin on your shirt (American Idol style). Then we'll take a quick photo of you for the audition team (it helps us remember you!), or if you have a current photo of yourself or a headshot, we'll take that instead.

You'll receive an audition packet, and you can prepare your audition monologue and review the scenes.

When you are called, you'll present your monologue, and the audition team will assign a scene to perform with other actor(s). You'll have the chance to practice the scene with the other actors before you perform it for the committee. Once you've performed a scene or two, you'll be free to go. If you are needed to read further, you may be called to callbacks. We will contact you by the following Tuesday to let you know whether or not you've been cast.

### How should I choose one of the monologues for the audition (especially if I'm interested in several roles)?

For this audition, we'll be using short monologues adapted from the script. It's best to choose a monologue for the character you are most interested in playing (see the character descriptions and excerpt) but you can choose any monologue that shows off your skills best. The director may ask you to read more than one.

### I am only interested in accepting a certain role(s). If I indicate that on my audition form, will that negatively affect how you feel about my audition?

Not at all! We appreciate your honesty and *completely* understand that you may be only interested in doing the show for a certain role or two. Everyone's time is valuable and we won't think less of you - or be reluctant to cast you - if you're only interested in a particular role(s).

If you change your mind during the audition process and want to be considered for more (or less) roles, please contact us before casting begins, (i.e., as soon as possible during or following your audition), as we will read the audition forms carefully when making casting decisions.

**I've never been on stage before (or it's been a long time). Can I still audition?**

Absolutely! We'd LOVE to see you come out – prior experience is not required. We can't guarantee that you'll get a role if you audition, but you certainly have a better chance of getting cast if you come out and take the chance!

**How do callbacks work?**

Callbacks may be held following original auditions. This is generally an opportunity for the director to see more from actors before casting or to have 'chemistry' reads, if needed. You may still be cast if you are not called to callbacks, and you are not guaranteed a role if you called for callbacks.

**How many rehearsals will I be called to?**

In general, the more stage time you have, the more rehearsals you will be called for. We make every effort to call you only when you are needed. We will rehearse the show out of order in the beginning, so that actors will be called to fewer rehearsals. Once we get into runs (Act I, Act II and whole show runs), everyone will be called.

**Will you cast understudies/swings?**

We may cast several 'swings'. They will be asked to play roles at rehearsal when absences occur and become familiar with the script. While they will not be expected to be completely off book for multiple roles, they will be called upon to 'fill in' in case of emergency. If cast, swings would participate in the ensemble in certain scenes.

**I have some conflicts with rehearsals, can I still be cast?**

In most cases, if we know conflicts ahead of time, we can generally work around them. It is essential to list all your conflicts on the rehearsal calendar as we plan our schedule around cast members conflicts and availability. It is unlikely we will cast anyone with a dress rehearsal or performance date conflict.

**If I am cast, what other responsibilities will I have besides performing?**

All actors are expected to help during "build week" and take part in "strike". These are both on the rehearsal schedule. Build week is when we move everything into the theater and build the set. There are a variety of jobs and ways to help out. "Strike" follows the final show, when we take apart the set, clean up with the cast party immediately following!

**If I am not cast, can I still be involved with the production in some other way?**

Absolutely! There are lots of opportunities to be involved in a variety of backstage roles such as costumes, sets, props, run crew and many others. Please reach out and we'd love to find a place for you to help!

**I understand that this is an original work. What is the development history?**

The first draft of *THE MISFIT PLAYERS* was completed in the summer of 2022, followed by a private reading at the playwrights home. After multiple revisions and other private readings, two staged readings followed in November, a public reading at Nova NightSky Theater and an invited reading hosted by the Drama Club at Ashby Ponds.

This production will be the first fully staged production of *THE MISFIT PLAYERS*.