



POSITION DESCRIPTION: Actor

HOURS: Estimated Minimum 50-100 hours/production

General Accountabilities

An actor is responsible to the director and stage manager for punctual attendance at rehearsals, and to learn and perform their role. It is the actor's responsibility to come to rehearsals well-prepared and ready to work, including bringing their scripts, music, rehearsal schedule, pencils, highlighters and dressing appropriately. During the performance run, all actors are responsible to the stage manager in all areas including: backstage conduct, maintenance of dressing rooms, and handling of make-up, properties and costumes. It is the actor's responsibility to wash his or her own dishes, put away his or her own costumes, and return props used to their assigned places.

Specific Duties:

- Study and rehearse role from script, learn and memorize lines, stunts, songs, choreography and cues as directed
- Portray and interpret role based on the director's vision, using speech, gestures, and body movements
- Work closely with director to find the interpretation most suited to the role
- Learn about characters in script and their relationships to each other to develop role interpretations based on the director's vision
- Collaborate with fellow actors as part of an ensemble
- Collaborate with the rest of the production team (wardrobe, props, etc.)

During rehearsals

- The Director is responsible for the overall artistic vision of the production. Actors aid in achieving this vision by portraying a character developed under the director's guidance and direction. Please listen to the director and carry out their wishes to the best of your ability. Our community theatre has a vast range of theatrical experience. We encourage you to use your past experiences to shape your character as you follow the director's vision. If you find that you cannot resolve conflicts with the Director, you should refer any problems to the Production Manager.

- We expect that you will submerge yourself totally in your character. The goal for the actor is to become your character onstage; behaving, moving, and speaking differently from yourself.
- The actor, director, wardrobe, hair, and make-up co-ordinators all collaborate on a character's overall look based on budget and resources available. Ultimately, the director has the final say on the character's look.
- Giving unsolicited acting notes to a castmate/fellow actor is a theatre faux-pas. If an actor has an idea or a suggestion, they may approach the director privately and make an 'offer' directly to the director. Please keep in mind, directors often have a specific vision, so offers may or may not be taken.
- We expect you to be off book on the date set down early in rehearsals. If you are struggling with lines after that time, a simple call to the Stage Manager for "line" is sufficient to keep the action moving and not unnecessarily delaying the other actors.
- If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, or are running late it is imperative that you inform the Stage Manager in good time so that alternative arrangements can be made to continue with the rehearsal and to respect the time of fellow cast and crew members.

During Technical Rehearsal

- Cast members are expected to attend tech rehearsals as scheduled before the show opens. During these rehearsals, you are expected to pay attention, not disrupt the rehearsal, and stay close to the stage, while lighting and sound cues are finalized.

During Dress Rehearsal and all other performances:

- Dress rehearsal is a run of the play; no stops, all props, all lighting and sound effects. There may or may not be an audience. Please arrive at the time designated by the stage manager.
- Arrive early for physical and vocal warm-up, fight call, intimacy call, etc.
- Run an "Italian" (speed-read) version of the script to warm up
- Follow all instructions from Stage Manager
- A dress rehearsal is to be treated as if it is a show night

The Actors Vow, by ELIA KAZAN

I will take my rightful place on stage
and I will be myself.

I am not a cosmic orphan.

I have no reason to be timid.

I will respond as I feel;
awkwardly, vulgarly,
but respond.

I will have my throat open,

I will have my heart open,

I will be vulnerable.

I may have anything or everything
the world has to offer, but the thing
I need most, and want most,
is to be myself.

I will admit rejection, admit pain,
admit frustration, admit even pettiness,
admit shame, admit outrage,
admit anything and everything
that happens to me.

The best and most human parts of
me are those I have inhabited
and hidden from the world.

I will work on it.

I will raise my voice.

I will be heard.