

AUDITION NOTES FOR *RADIUM GIRLS*

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

View Mr. Hamen's director's notes here: centervillehstheatre.com/cast

Here you'll find information about the show as well as character lists and descriptions.

REQUIREMENTS

Prepare to perform two of the readings below. When you perform the texts at your audition, it is helpful to memorize them so you can be ready to make interesting choices for the characters and the texts that show how you use your voice/body/face as an actor.

CHARACTER: Sob Sister

ABOUT THE CHARACTER: "Sob sister" was a derogatory term for a female reporter who specialized in stories that tugged at readers' emotions. This Sob Sister is confident, but melodramatic

TEXT:

Nancy Jane Harlan here for the New York Graphic! The New York Graphic's only girl reporter! Madame Marie Curie, eminent French scientist, embarks on a whistle-stop tour of the United States. The high priestess of science is headed for Washington to receive a gift of one gram of radium—valued at one hundred thousand dollars!

CHARACTER: Kathryn

ABOUT THE CHARACTER: 20s, a dial painter at the Radium Dial Company

TEXT:

I wanna file another complaint. I wanna file another complaint! Three surgeries and they wanted to cut her again. What was left of her jaw rotted so bad, the smell was terrible. And the worst of it is, I couldn't look at her. Irene was so afraid of being alone, but I left her. When she died in the middle of the night, nobody was with her.

CHARACTER: Arthur Roeder

ABOUT THE CHARACTER: President of the U.S. Radium Corporation, mid-40s. A confident, stern business man.

TEXT:

Scientists! Government men! They have no idea what it takes to run a business. That doctor thought advertising was a dirty word. But, Charlie, we showed him. We showed him! We are the world's largest single supplier of radium. The largest in the world. Do you think I am going to stand idly by and let our good name be dragged through the mud? Trust me, Charlie.

CHARACTER: Dr. Flinn

ABOUT THE CHARACTER: Flinn is a dentist hired by the U.S. Radium Corp. to treat the sick girls. He seems trustworthy, but he is actually manipulative.

TEXT:

Reporters are not scientific. They write to sell, not to educate. The scientist is not concerned with what sells. He is concerned with the truth. You would do well to listen to science and ignore the nonsense that is printed in the newspapers. By allowing me to examine you, you are helping me to advance my studies. I thank you.

AUDITIONING FOR A SHOW AT CHS THEATRE

EVERY SHOW IS DIFFERENT:

YOUR FIRST AUDITION IS NOT YOUR LAST

The needs of each show change. Some have small casts. Some have large casts. Some characters are a better fit for certain actors than others. Just because you are cast in a show doesn't mean you'll be the right fit for the next one, and just because you aren't cast doesn't mean you shouldn't return. Keep growing, keep trying!

WHO IS IN THE AUDITION ROOM?

PLAY: If the audition format has you performing a bit of text or scene, it might just be you and/or your scene partner in the room with the director. A stage manager may also be there to organize paperwork.

MUSICAL: The director and music director will be there. If an accompanist is available, he/she will be at the piano. A stage manager may also be there to play music or organize paperwork. If the musical requires a dance audition, you'll be with the choreographer and a group of actors.

CALLBACKS: After auditions finish, directors hold callbacks to see more from certain people or to try out combinations of actors. Depending on what the directors need to see, you could be alone, with a scene partner, or with a group.

WHAT DO I NEED TO PREPARE?

Sometimes a show requires actors to come to auditions with a sample to perform, and sometimes actors just show up. Review the information in the audition contract as well as the details provided in advance. Take time to also review the tentative rehearsal calendar before you fill out the form and sign the contract. Sign up for an audition time slot and bring your form/contract to your audition.

THIS SOUNDS TERRIFYING!

Everybody gets nervous at auditions—even people who have done it before, and even the directors! The good news is that everyone wants you to be successful! Go in with a smile (even if you have to fake it!) to start off on a positive step!