

COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE [ABRIDGED]

AUDITION INFORMATION



ABOUT THE PLAY

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [Abridged] is a mad-capped race to perform all of Shakespeare's 37 plays in about 90 minutes. The Reduced Shakespeare Company, an ensemble of eight committed actors, will stop at nothing to achieve this feat... even if it kills them. (And a third of his plays were tragedies, so death is likely.) It's fast-paced fun for Shakespeare nerds.

ABOUT CASTING

All roles in this ensemble are open to actors of any race, age, ethnicity, gender identity, or body type. We are simply looking for eight actors with a strong sense of comedic timing, who are serious about being silly, and can laugh at themselves. Due to the fact that each character performs a variety of roles, the ability to quickly transition from one to the next is also very important.

CHARACTERS

- **PLAYER ONE** Leader of Troop A. Plays the roles of Benvolio, Lavinia, Macbeth, Polonius, etc.
- **PLAYER TWO** Leader of Troop B. Plays the roles of Tybalt, Titus, Caesar, Gertrude, etc.
- **PLAYER THREE** Tries reaaaaalllly hard... Plays the roles of Nurse, Antony, Hamlet, etc.
- **PLAYER FOUR** Roped into this by P1. Plays the roles of Romeo, Soothsayer, Claudius, etc.
- **PLAYER FIVE** Lost a bet to P2. Plays the roles of Macduff, Hamlet SR, Laertes, etc
- **PLAYER SIX** The scholar of Troop A. Plays the roles of Prince, Friar, Troilus, etc.
- **PLAYER SEVEN** The scholar of Troop B. Plays the roles of Sampson, Horatio, Henry V, etc.
- **PLAYER EIGHT** Often sarcastic and flippant. Plays the roles of Juliet, Cleopatra, Cressida, Ophelia, etc.

PREPARATION

No monologues are requested for this audition. The audition sides we will be using have been made available on our website. Please take the time to read these over and familiarize yourself with the character descriptions provided on the first page of this form. **Please note: every audition slot will conclude with a movement exercise, so please wear comfortable clothing/footwear.**

AUDITIONS

Reservations must be made in advance through our website to secure an audition slot. Walk-ins may be accepted but cannot be guaranteed the chance to audition. Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled audition time. If you have not filled out an audition form in advance, extra copies will be available. Headshots and resumes are not required. We understand that auditions are nerve-wracking—we want you to relax, have fun, and have every opportunity to show us what you can do.

CALL-BACKS

Some actors **may** be called back to read again on Wednesday, March 20th. Callbacks will take place at a different location. We will send out an email when we issue callbacks, so you will know either way. If you are not called back, this

does not mean you are not cast. Really.

NOTIFICATION

Casting decisions will be issued by 5pm on Friday, March 22nd. Please make sure that your contact information is legible. If you have not heard from us by that time, please email auditions@theatreatfirst.org

READ-THRU

The first reading of the play will take place at 6:30 pm on Sunday, March 24th at Unity Somerville.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals will take place at Unity Somerville on Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays from 7-10pm (some Thursdays, as noted on schedule), starting on Monday, March 25th. Not all actors will be required to attend all rehearsals.

CONFLICTS

Please be sure to indicate all potential conflicts on the calendar on the back of the Audition Sheet. Every attempt will be made to accommodate conflicts, but once the schedule is set, it is very hard to adjust it. If you do not have your calendar available at auditions, you may email auditions@theatreatfirst.org with additional conflict information.

WORK DAYS

Actors are expected to attend two work days during the rehearsal period to participate in the construction of set, costumes, props, etc. These will be held on Saturday afternoons at Unity Somerville. If you are not available for work days, the Technical Director will be happy to discuss other ways and times that you can help.

PERFORMANCES

Opening night will be Friday, May 17th at 8:00pm. Additional performances will take place on Saturday, May 18th at 8:00pm; Thursday, May 23rd at 8:00pm, Friday, May 24th at 8:00pm; Saturday, May 25 at 8:00pm, Thursday, May 30th at 8:00pm, Friday, May 31st at 8:00pm; and Saturday, June 1st at 2:00pm. All performances will take place at Unity Somerville at 6 William St.

CREW

If you would like to join the technical crew and/or support staff of *Complete Works*, please make note of that on your audition form. We are happy to train you, but if you have any special skills please let us know. Our producer or a technical lead will contact you regarding participation.

FEEDBACK

We try to make our auditions as smooth and pleasant as possible. If you have comments or questions regarding the process, please speak to one of our staff, or email auditions@theatreatfirst.org

Thank you very much for auditioning for Theatre@First!

Stephanie Haddad
Producer, *Complete Works*
Publicity Coordinator, T@F

Mike Haddad
Director, *Complete Works*
Special Projects Coordinator, T@F