

The Tufts Department of Drama and Dance Presents:
Much Ado about Nothing

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Sheriden Thomas
Balch Arena Theater 2018-2019

Auditions

Auditions will be held:

Friday, September 7th, 5:00pm-8:00pm in the Performance Hangar

Saturday, September 8th, 10:00am-2:00pm in the Performance Hangar

Callbacks will be held:

Sunday, September 9th, 12:00pm-6:00pm in the Balch Arena Theater

We are looking for actors who speak clearly and loudly, who connect well with audience and each other and communicate fully through voice and body the romantic, fame driven, “open carry” world that is our take on *Much Ado About Nothing*.

SIGNING UP

Please sign up with your name and phone number. Please use pencil, and erase if you need to change your audition block. Please do not sign-up for an audition session that is already full. If all blocks are filled up, or if you are unavailable for any of the open slots, please reach out to the stage manager, Grace Kennedy, at grace.kennedy@tufts.edu to make other arrangements.

WHAT TO PREPARE:

1. Auditions will follow a workshop format. Six auditioners will enter the audition space and work/play/audition together.
2. Please at know the storyline of the *Much Ado About Nothing* so you know context. If you want to read our version contact Grace Kennedy, at grace.kennedy@tufts.edu.
3. Study the characters as described in our version of the play. Prepare at least one monologue from the audition packet/sides supplied on the bulletin board where you sign up to audition.
4. ALSO pick an important phrase/verse/chorus (10-15 seconds) from the lyrics of your favorite song that best expresses a clear opinion about falling in love. Be prepared to sing it and say it. Don't worry about your singing skill. The point is your expressed commitment those words about love. If you like, you can create your own brief lyric and/or tune. Have some fun with this.

Be ready to read with others any role in any of the packet scenes. It's better to spend your time working with choices in the supplied texts, than to waste your time memorizing.

ON THE DAY

Please arrive 30 minutes early to the audition to fill out an information sheet and time commitment form. Wear clothes and shoes that you can move around in. Though finish times may vary, plan to be in the audition for the full 80 minutes you signed up for.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will begin on **Monday, November 5th**. The weekly rehearsal schedule will most likely be **Monday-Thursday, 7:00pm-11:00pm** and **Sunday 12:00pm-4:00pm**, though this is subject to change.

Before November 5th, some actors may be called for additional dialect coaching and rehearsal. This will be scheduled by the director and stage manager.

All conflicts for the fall semester, weekly and one time, must be communicated on the audition form. Conflicts for the spring semester will be collected at a later date. Extensive conflicts may affect casting.

Cast members will be asked to return early from winter break for two professional actor days of rehearsal on **Monday, January 14th** and **Tuesday, January 15th**, the two days before the start of the spring semester.

Tech and Performances

All actors are required to attend all of tech. The dates for tech are **Friday, February 8th through Wednesday, February 13th**, including **two full days** on **Saturday, February 9th** and **Sunday, February 10th**.

There will be six performances over two consecutive weekends in the Balch Arena Theater. All performances begin at **8:00pm**.

The dates of those performances are:

- Thursday, February 14th** (preview)
- Friday, February 15th** (opening night)
- Saturday, February 16th**
- Thursday, February 21st**
- Friday, February 22nd**
- Saturday, February 23rd** (closing night)

Strike will take place on **Sunday, February 24th**. All actors are required to attend strike in its entirety.

Please contact the stage manager, Grace Kennedy, at grace.kennedy@tufts.edu with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at auditions!