

Class Act Players New Member Information

As a part of First Stage Youth Theatre (FSYT), Class Act Players was established to allow young artists who are passionate about theatre to explore the craft of theatre and to develop their skills in an accelerated, advanced way. Class Act Players perform a variety of materials exploring theatre in all of its diversity, performing classics like Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to modern productions such as *Fairy Tale Courtroom*. CAP performs at a variety of community events that contribute to the cultural environment of Madison County and the surrounding areas.

Financial Obligation

CAP is a nonprofit organization with an educational mission which strives to provide a high quality, meaningful theatre experience to its members. Providing that experience takes funding. Each member of CAP, who has the financial ability, has an obligation to assist paying the teaching artist's hourly salary or stipend, plus a little extra to cover scholarships and other needed items for CAP.

Scholarships

Because we believe the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of participating in CAP should be available regardless of income level, we are able to offer a limited number of scholarships to deserving members. We are not able to accept alternative payment schedules, because the company will be directly responsible for paying our teaching artist. We ask that scholarship applicants contribute what they can toward tuition and only ask for what they truly need to make CAP affordable to all members.

Guiding Principles

CAP was founded to offer troupe members a serious theatre experience. It is an elite group of young actors who are dedicated to their craft. To attain a high standard of performance quality there has to be a commitment to the organization, other CAP members and the Directors. The expectations and requirements are as follows:

Rehearsal Behavior

Rehearsals are held Saturdays, from 10:30 to 12:30 PM and as needed for productions. Disruptive behavior (including but not limited to non-professional, non-collaborative behavior) will not be tolerated. Members are expected to be collaborative and take various jobs in rotation such as stage manager, assistant stage manager, marketing and publicity, etc. as needed to make each production a success.

Professionalism

Conduct oneself in a manner considered respectable by standards of society. Focus toward the work of the company is of supreme importance. The top priority is the troupe and its work, not the individual. Should these guidelines be breached, the issue must be brought to the attention of an administrator and said administrator has the power to call a meeting to review the terms of the individual's membership. You represent both Class Act Players and First Stage Youth Theatre both at public performances and also our donated meeting place. Disparaging comments about any part of CAP performances or participants is not acceptable CAP behavior.

While we strive to be flexible, due to the ongoing nature of this acting troupe we expect professionalism from our members. Unexcused absences (defined as no appropriate advanced notice to the managing director and/or teaching artist) will be grounds to review the terms of the individual's membership. These circumstances will be approached on an as-needed basis.

Class Act Players encourages its members to audition for other productions, but cautions members to understand the need for CAP to know well in advance of CAP productions. If you have committed to a CAP production, it will be considered unacceptable to jump ship for another production!

Members of CAP are expected to behave in a manner conducive to the productive functioning of a professional theatre company in rehearsals and performances. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior, and unexcused absences may lead to dismissal.

Upon acceptance, you will be sent an invitation to join CAP. You must return all needed forms, which include reading and signing our Class Act Players Handbook, which further defines who we are and what our expectations are. This document and our Handbook have been put together by our founding members who have invested many hours of work and thought to produce them. We welcome your feedback.

Thank you for your interest in Class Act Players.
Break a leg!