Audition Packet

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*

# **by William Shakespeare**

# **directed by Francis Xavier Norton**

**General Interest Meetings/Meet the Director**

**2/10 at North at 2:35PM in 171**

**2/12 2:50PM at South in the Auditorium**

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## Auditions

Monday, Feb. 24—3:30-6:00 PM at North

Tuesday, Feb. 25—2:15-5:15 PM at South

**Callbacks**

2/27—3:30-6:30 PM at North

**Production Dates**

May 7,8,9 at 7:30 PM in the Little Theatre at NNHS

Students who cannot attend auditions at their home school should contact Mr. Brown or Mr. Knoedler. They will arrange a slot at the other school, if necessary.

### Sign up for a time slot:

### At North on Callboard by 171

At South at southstage.org

###  Fill out information at:

[Student Information Form](https://forms.gle/WsyHVW4Te1m9T5Kj8)

Read our edited version of A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

[A Midsummer Night's Dream Script Here](http://www.theatreink.net/MSNDscript.pdf)

**The Play**

SYNOPSIS

In the thick Athenian woods, a troupe of clowns seek a space to work, four runaway lovers steal away to the Athenian forest, and the fairy King and Queen take up arms. As the mortals deal with their own trials and tribulations, they are caught in the crossfires of this unearthly fairy war which leads to love triangles, betrayals, transformations, and mistaken identities that all lead to darkly surreal results.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

**The Athenians:**

* Theseus, *Duke of Athens*
* Hippolyta, *Amazonian Queen, soon to be Theseus' wife*
* Egeus, *father to Hermia*
* Lysander, *young*, *in love with Hermia, rival to Lysandar, loathed by Egeus*
* Hermia, *young*, *daughter of Egeus, in love with Lysander, friend to Helena, forced arrangement to Demetrius, whom she loathes*
* Demetrius, *young, rival to Lysander, former lover of Helena, in Egeus' favor, forced arrangement to Hermia,*
* Helena, *young, friend to Hermia, abandoned lover of Demetrius, in hot pursuit*
* Philostrate, *master of the revels to Theseus*

**The Mechanicals:**

* Quince, *a carpenter*
* Snug, *a joiner*
* Bottom, *a weaver*
* Flute, *a bellows-mender*
* Snout, *a tinker*
* Starveling, *a tailor*

**The Fairies:**

* Oberon, *king of the fairies, husband to Titania, ice and air, fall and winter, wants the changling boy*
* Titania, *queen of the fairies, wife to Oberon, earth and fire, summer and spring, caring for the changling boy*
* Puck, *aka Robin Goodfellow, Servant to King Oberon*
* PeaseBlossom, Cobweb, Moth, Mustardseed, *fairy servants to Queen Titania*
* Fairy ensemble

Audition Information

**WHAT TO PREPARE:**

* Prepare and memorize a monologue from ANY Shakespeare play, playing at no more than 90 seconds. (Audition pieces may NOT be from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*).
* Verse is preferable, but Prose is okay! NO Sonnets please! You may feel free to pick a monologue of ANY gender, or perform a monologue in ANY gender.
* ALSO prepare anything else you would like to show the director that YOU feel best exhibits YOU. This can include a snippet of playing an instrument, another monologue (be it contemporary or classical), poetry reading, stand up, singing, juggling, handstands, back flips, impressions etc. Whatever you feel the MOST like yourself doing. The sky is truly the limit. We want to see YOU, and get to know YOU! Please do not exceed more than 90 seconds on this section as well.

**MONOLOGUE TIPS:**

* Know who you are, to whom you are talking, and what you NEED from the person you are talking to. WHY are you saying this monologue?
* What happened the MOMENT BEFORE that makes you say this monologue? What is the context?
* o Understand the literal meaning of the words and what they mean in context of the moment.
* o Make strong, active, and committed choices to get what you want from who you are speaking to.
* o Use your body and playing area to physicalize the text.

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### SIGN-UPS:

### North Students: Sign-up for an audition slot on the callboard outside 171

###  and complete information form at: <https://goo.gl/forms/gfKqW0wkNDu2bbe43>

**South Students: Sign-up for an audition slot at SouthStage.org or the Callboard**

 and complete information form at: <https://goo.gl/forms/gfKqW0wkNDu2bbe43>

**AUDITION DAY:**

* Arrive at least a few 10-15 minutes before your time with your forms filled out.
* Check in with a stage manager and have your pic taken.
* Warm-up and be mentally, physically, and vocally ready to perform.
* Be respectful and supportive in and outside of auditions.
* Slate yourself: Tell us who you are, what piece you will perform and why you are interested in performing in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream.*
* Have fun and enjoy the experience! We want you to be amazing and enjoy your (very short) show.

**CALLBACKS:**

* The callback list will be posted at Theatreink.net

by 9 PM on 2/26.

* Callback sides will be available on 2/10 at Theatreink.net

**AT CALLBACKS:**

* You will be seen in groups, and you may take part in a warm up led by the director, as well as a brief movement session.

***(Please alert the Stage Manager or the Director of any physical limitations or boundaries!)***

* You will then present sides (readings-scenes) from the play with a partner.
* Be familiar with your sides—memorization is not necessary. Look up words you don’t know, create a character within the context of the play, and identify your objective and obstacles.
* Please do not hesitate to ask questions!
* Be respectful and supportive in your group. A good actor is a generous scene partner.

**ABOUT REHEARSALS:**

Shakespeare wrote plays to be acted and performed out loud, not read from a book. In rehearsal we will create the world of these characters through their words. The key is for the actors to truly understand the words in all their levels of meaning, to appreciate what these characters want, and to use an open voice and body to bring the characters to life. Expect to look things up--a lot. Come to rehearsal ready to pour your heart and mind, voice and body into playing in this world.

**GOALS FOR THE PRODUCTION PROCESS IS TO CREATE:**

* A supportive environment where each actor feels safe to play outside their usual comfort zone; A deeper understanding of your instrument (body, voice and imagination) and how to access and strengthen your abilities within the craft.
* Develop a universal theatrical language that we create our play from.
* Engage fully in the craft of THEATRE-MAKING from multiple perspectives (design, movement, text, voice, and performance)
* Develop a stronger sense of mind-body connection, as well as learning various types of physical theatre.
* A solid technique and confidence in performing verse and prose. A performance that entertains and challenges the audience; and A show you and our audience will be proud of and never forget. One that you will look back on and say “Hey, I made that!”

### EXPECTATIONS:

* Respect the process, your fellow actors, designers, crew, director and especially your own work throughout the process.
* Please do not be late. If you are going to be late or absent, please let a stage manager know as soon as you know.
* Please do not talk while a fellow actor is working, or while we are giving notes. You will learn by watching and listening to others work.
* Phones and other electronic devices should be off (not just silent) and put away during rehearsals. If you have a specific need to be accessible, please make arrangements with us and the stage manager.
* Please bring a pencil to rehearsals in order to make notes.
* Please speak up for yourself. If you are uncomfortable or confused with a Never direct fellow actors. Actors must be in line with the director and have the opportunity to explore and own their role.
* I am available during breaks to discuss ideas, concerns, as well as ideas you may have about your character. Your primary responsibility is to own your work and support the work of your fellow cast members.
* In order to attend rehearsals or perform, you are expected to be in school the entire day. If you are too sick to attend school then you should not be at rehearsal. If you need clarification, please contact Mr. Brown. In some cases there may be some exceptions based on certain situations. Mr. Brown will only make exceptions after discussing it with him in advance. DO NOT attend rehearsal if you were not present in school. You will be sent home.

A Midsummer Night’s Dream

AUDITION CARD

School: North\_\_\_\_ South\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Pronoun\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Theatre, Vocal, and Dance Experience/Training/Musical instruments: ***(Please attach résumé if you have one)***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

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***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

Please list any special skills you have

(MAGIC, turns, jumps, tumbling, stilts, puppetry, etc.)

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

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***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

Are you willing to dye/cut your hair for the show? Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_

Are you comfortable learning fight choreography?Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_

Are you comfortable kissing on stage? Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_

Some roles may be same-gender couples)

I am comfortable kissing a only a boy\_\_\_

 only a girl\_\_\_

 either\_\_\_

Are you willing to grow facial hair for the show? Yes\_\_No\_\_

Are you comfortable kissing on stage? Yes\_\_No\_\_

Are you in *JCS or Hello, Dolly!?* Yes\_\_No\_\_

Are you a Playwright for the

Playwright’s Festival? Yes\_\_No\_\_

Which roles are you most interested in?

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

*(All roles are open to actors of any gender, ethnicity, and physical ability except as noted) (Please note, that this does not guarantee you will be considered or called back for these roles)*

What roles will you NOT accept?

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

(Feel free to use a separate page for this)