

**ANNOUNCING AUDITIONS
FOR VVC THEATRE ARTS SPRING '24 PRODUCTIONS:**

Flora and Ulysses

Director—Emily Ruiz

Stage Management Faculty Advisor –TBD

Much Ado About Nothing

Director—Bryon Raymond

Stage Management Faculty Advisor – Hillary Vairin

AUDITION DETAILS

Auditioners will be auditioning for *both shows* in the performing arts building in room 128

Thursday, February 8th from 4-7.

AND

Friday, February 9 starting at 4. We will aim to end at 7. It is possible it may go later.

Auditioners should come both days.

WHAT TO PREPARE -

Choose a monologue from either show to perform, fully memorized, for Thursday's Audition.

The options are below.

Wear clothes that allow for movement and bring water.

ABOUT FLORA & ULYSSES

“Can a little squirrel change the human heart? After getting sucked up by a vacuum cleaner, a (now hairless) squirrel is rescued by Flora Belle Buckman, a 10-year-old self-proclaimed cynic. She names him Ulysses and discovers he has been reborn a superhero. Indeed, this once average squirrel can suddenly understand Flora, fly, and even write poetry. Together they embark on an adventure full of quirky characters and bursting with heart.”

75 minutes of Super Squirrel Fun! If you'd like to see the script, please contact Emily Ruiz.

ROLES AVAILABLE FOR FLORA & ULYSSES

This production is committed to diverse, inclusive casting. Every auditionee will be considered for every role (see list of roles below), unless you designate differently on your audition form.

FLORA – a 10 year old girl. Loves comic books and crime. Self-proclaimed cynic.

Tootie Tickham – Her neighbor – Loves poetry and takes in her great nephew William Spiver, even though he is a bit “neurotic”

Donald Tickham – Tootie’s Husband – who thinks a good present for his wife is a vacuum.

Ulysses – A Squirrel (the actor will voice the squirrel’s thoughts, and puppeteer the squirrel) Turns into a superhero squirrel who can write poetry and fly!

Phyllis Buckman – Flora's mother. Writes romance novels. Going through a divorce with George. A little pre-occupied with getting rid of Ulysses and her typewriter.

George Buckman – Flora's father – Sad Dad, cries a lot. Is a little robotic with his pleasantries. Follows Phyllis’ lead, until he sees Ulysses fly at donut world. Then we see his true self!

William Spiver – an eleven-year-old boy – Wears dark glasses and says he is blind due to trauma.

Dr. Meescham – an elderly woman – psychologist and George’s neighbor. Uses tales of a strange fictional land to try to connect with Flora. George comes over and cries on her couch a lot.

Rita-the waitress at Do-nut world – Gets nosy about what Flora has with her. Wears big hair and a nametag that says RITA!

Ernie – the cook at Do-nut world – Brandishes a spatula to take out Ulysses.

Mr. Klaus – a cat (puppet) - Attacks anyone in sight. Stalks the hallways at George’s apt building.

Alfred T. Slipper - aka The Amazing Incandesto; looks a lot like George Buckman

MONOLOGUES

Ulysses – His heart was beating very fast. Something had happened, but what? He couldn't think. He was too hungry to think. *he lifts his nose and sniffs.* Cheese? Something Cheesy. Cheese puff! *He gobbles the cheese puff greedily.* More! *He is intrigued by the typewriter and slowly tries to type.* He worked slowly. It took half the night. Was he fighting evil? Who could say? But as he worked, his whiskers trembled and his heart sang.

Mrs. Tickham – The squirrel. The squirrel wrote...poetry. Ulysses, I too am a great lover of poetry, and what you wrote moves me. I'd like to share a small poem I have committed to memory, by a great poet names Rainer Maria Rilke. Would you like to hear it? "You, sent out beyon your recall,/go to the limits of your longing./ Embody me. / Flare up like flame / and make big shadows I can move in."

Flora – The Criminal Element says criminals are everywhere. And *anyone* can be a criminal. It says, "the human heart is like a deep, dark river. If we are not careful, that river can carry us along in its hidden currents of want and anger and need, and transform each of us into the very criminal we fear." Do you think that's true, Pop?

William Spiver – Flora Belle, what a melodious name. I cannot see. Would it trouble you terribly, Flora Belle, if I put my hand on your shoulder so you can guide me? The world is a treacherous place when you can't see. I am eleven, but I have an old soul. I'm small for my age. Excessive trauma can hinder growth. The universe is a random place, Flora Belle.

PRODUCTION DETAILS

Rehearsals will begin the week of February 12th and will generally rehearse Tuesday –Thursday 4-7. Longer rehearsals (5:30-9:30) will be required closer to the show date. Shows will be the weekend of April 26th We will also perform 4 daytime performances on April 25, 26, 28 & 29 from 8am-12.

See Rehearsal Schedule for more detail.

Questions? Email the director, Emily Ruiz, at emily.ruiz@vvc.edu

ABOUT MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

“A consummate romantic comedy that dramatises the battle of the sexes with a dazzling display of Shakespeare's wit and wordplay.

Two young lovers, Claudio and Hero, are about to be married, but the devious scheming of a resentful Prince looks set to thwart the nuptials. Meanwhile, marriage seems inconceivable for reluctant lovers Beatrice and Benedick, whose constant witty sparring threatens to keep them apart forever.”

ROLES AVAILABLE FOR MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Don Pedro, *Prince of Aragon*

Don John, *Bastard brother to Don Pedro*

Benedick, *Officer in the company of Don Pedro*

Claudio, *Officer in the company of Don Pedro*

Conrade, *Officer in the company of Don Pedro*

Borachio, *Officer in the company of Don Pedro*

Messenger,

Friar Francis,

Leonato, *Governor of Messina*

Innogen, *Leonato's Wife*

Hero, *Leonato's Daughter*

Beatrice, *Leonato's Niece*

Ursula, *Leonato's Housekeeper*

Angelo, *Ursula's Husband, a servant in Leonato's House*

Margaret, *Their Daughter, a maid in Leonato's House*

Dogberry, *Master Constable*

Verges, *His Deputy*

George Seacoal, *A Member of the Watch*

Hugh Oatcake, *A Member of the Watch*

Sexton, *A Local Official*

Balthasar, *A Local Musician*

Monologues: I am willing to consider gender bending roles! Memorize any monologue!

Borachio: Go then, find me a meet hour to draw Don Pedro and the Count Claudio alone, tell them that you know that Hero loves me. They will scarcely believe this without trial. Offer them instances which shall bear no less likelihood than to see me court her privately; hear me call Margaret Hero; and bring them to see this the very night before the intended wedding, and there shall appear such seeming truths of Hero's disloyalty, that jealousy shall be called assurance, and all the preparation overthrown.

Benedick: This can be no trick. The conference was sadly borne, they have the truth of this from Hero, they seem to pity the lady. It seems her affections have the full bent. Love me? Why it must be requited. I hear how I am censured: they say I will bear myself proudly if I perceive the love come from her; they say too, that she will rather die than give any sign of affection. I did never think to marry. I must not seem proud. They say the lady is fair, 'tis a truth, I can bear them witness; and virtuous, 'tis so, I cannot reprove it; and wise, but for loving me. By my troth, it is no addition to her wit, nor no great argument of her folly, for I will be horribly in love with her.

Hero: Good Margaret, run thee to the parlour; There shalt thou find my cousin Beatrice proposing with the prince and Claudio. Whisper her ear, and tell her I and your mother walk here about, and that our whole discourse is all of her. Say that thou overheardst us, and bid her steal where she can hide her to listen our purpose. This is thy office, bear thee well in it, and leave us alone. Now, Ursula, when Beatrice doth come, our talk must only be of Benedick. When I do name him, let it be thy part to praise him more than ever man did merit. My talk to thee must be how Benedick is sick in love with Beatrice. Of this matter, is little Cupid's crafty arrow made, that only wounds by hearsay.

Claudio: Sweet prince, you learn me noble thankfulness. There, Leonato, take her back again, give not this rotten orange to your friend, She's but the sign and semblance of her honour. Behold how like a maid she blushes here! O what authority and show of truth can cunning sin cover itself withal! Comes not that blood as modest evidence to witness simple virtue? Would you not swear all you that see her, that she were a maid by these exterior shows? But she is none. She knows the hear of a luxurious bed. Her blush is guiltiness, not modesty.

Beatrice: You dare easier be friends with me, than fight with mine enemy. Is he not approved in the height a villain, that hath slandered, scorned, dishonoured my kinswoman? O that I were a man! What, bear her in hand until they come to take hands, and then with public accusaton, uncovered slander, unmitigated rancour? O God that I were a man! I would eat his heart in the marketplace. Sweet Hero, she is wronged, she is slandered, she is undone. Princes and counties! Surely a princely testimony, a goodly count, Count Cornect, a sweet gallant surely; O that I were a man for his sake! Or that I had any friend would be a man for my sake. He is not as valiant as Hercules that only tells a lie and swears it. I cannot be a man with wishing, therefore I will die a woman with grieving.

Dogberry: Dost thou not suspect my place? Dost thou not suspect my years? O that he were here to write me down an ass! But masters, remember that I am an ass. Though it be not written down, yet forget not that I am an ass. No, thou villain, thou art full of piety as shall be proved upon thee by good witness. I am a wise fellow, and which is more an officer, and which is more a householder, and which is more as pretty a piece of flesh as any in Messina, and one that knows the law, go to; and a rich fellow enough, go to; and a fellow that hat had losses, and one that hath two coats, and every thing handsome about him. Bring him away. O that I had been writ down an ass!

PRODUCTION DETAILS

Rehearsals will begin the week of March 4th and will generally rehearse Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9 PM. Longer rehearsals (5-9:30) will be required during tech week as we get closer to show dates. Shows will be the weekends of May 17th and May 23rd with 3 morning performances for local high school students on May 21, 22, and 23 that will require you to be in the theatre from 8 AM to 12 Noon.

Check rehearsal schedule for more details. Any questions can be sent to the director, Bryon Raymond, at bryon.raymond@vvc.edu

FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Auditions 4-7	9 Auditions Continued	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Presidents' Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 All Call Table Read 6-9 PM	5	6 6-9 PM Blackbox	7	8	9
10	11 6-9 PM Blackbox	12	13 6-9 PM Blackbox	14	15	16
17	18 6-9 PM Blackbox	19	20 6-9 PM Blackbox	21	22	23
24	25 6-9 PM Blackbox	26	27 6-9 PM Blackbox	28	29 Good Friday	30
Easter Sunday	31					

APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6-9 PM Blackbox	2	3 6-9 PM Blackbox	4	5	6
7	8 Spring Break	9 Spring Break	10 Spring Break	11 Spring Break	12 Spring Break	13
14	15 6-9 PM Blackbox	16	17 6-9 PM Blackbox	18	19	20
21	22 6-9 PM Blackbox	23	24 6-9 PM Blackbox	25	26	27
28	29 6-9 PM Blackbox	30				

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6-9 PM Blackbox	2	3	4
5	6 Designer Run 6-9 PM Blackbox	7	8 6:30-9 PM Blackbox	9	10 6:30-9 PM Blackbox	11 Tech/Load in 5-9:30
12 Mother's Day	13 Tech 5-9:30	14 Dress 5-9:30	15 Dress 5-9:30	16 Final Dress 5-9:30	17 Opening Call 5 PM Show 7	18 Call 5 PM Show 7 PM
19 Call 12 Noon Show 2 PM	20	21 HS Matinee Call 8 AM Show 10 AM	22 HS Matinee Call 8 AM Show 10 AM	23 HS Matinee Call 8 AM Show 10 AM Call 5 PM Show 7	24 Call 5 PM Show 7	25 Call 5 PM Show 7 PM
26 Closing Call 12 Noon Show 2 PM Strike 5-7 PM	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

Flora & Ulysses Rehearsal Schedule

March

					1	2
3	4	5 4-7 128	6	7 4-7 128	8	9
10	11	12 4-7 128	13	14 4-7 128	15	16
17	18	19 4-7 128	20	21 4-7 128	22	23
24	25	26 4-7 128	27	28 4-7 128	29	30

31

FLORA & ULYSSES Rehearsal Schedule

February

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Auditions 4-7 Rm128	9 Auditions Blackbox # 128	10
11	12	13 4-7 Rm128	14	15 4-7 Rm128	16	17
18	19	20 4-7 Rm128	21	22 4-7 Rm128	23	24
25	26	27 4-7 Rm128	28	29 4-7 Am128		

April

Rehearsal Schedule Flora & Ulysses

	1	2 4-7 128	3	4 4-7 128	5 5:30-9:30 128	6
7	8 VVC NO	9	10	11	12	13
		SPRING BREAK Rehearsal!				
14	15 LOAD-IN 5:30-9:30 128	16 Makeup Costume Parade 5:30-9:30 MAIN	17 Designer Run 5:30-9:30 MAIN	18 5:30-9:30 MAIN	19 5:30-9:30 MAIN	20 12-6 MAIN
21	22 TECH! 5:30-9:30	23 DRESS 5:30-9:30	24 DRESS 5:30-9:30	25 call 8 show 10	26 call 8 show 10 call 5:30 - show 7:30	27 call 12:30 show 2:30 show 7:30
28 call 12:30 show 2:30	29 call 8 show 10	30 School Matinee call 8 show 10				

strike 12-2!

