

William Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* Audition Call



Show Title: *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

By William Shakespeare

Company: Bard in the Valley www.bardinthevalley.com

Director: Dylan Coulter

Producer: Brad Hendy

Sir John Falstaff is broke! While on a getaway from the busyness of court, vacationing on the sunny beaches of England at the lavish, if slightly shabby, Garter Hotel, John's fortunes take a turn. The disgraced knight finds that his funds have run dry.

Falstaff is sure that by using his charms he can solve this dilemma and rescue his vacation, returning to a time of revelling and relaxation. All he must do is seduce one of two wealthy (and married) local ladies. They will surely provide him with the funds he needs for a good time.

Unfortunately, these married women find out that Falstaff is wooing them both. Doubly unfortunately, so do their husbands.

As hijinx ensue surrounding Falstaff's designs on lust and money, we are treated to one of Shakespeare's most outrageous comedies. Other denizens of the town are also swept up in the silliness of this plot, and they also find that their own amorous adventures also go awry.

The play closes with a rebuke of shallowness and greed, of marriage for station and convenience, and reminds us to respect our spouses and trust our hearts. Finally, Falstaff gets what he deserves and is punished with... well, not much at all, really, but do we mind? He's just so much fun.

Audition Dates:

Open Auditions: Sunday, February 23rd 2025 from 11:00am-3:00pm (10-minute time slots) and Wednesday, February 26th 2025 from 6:30-9:30pm (10-minute time slots)

Callbacks: Sunday March 2nd 2025 from 11:00am-4:00pm (Appointment times to be determined)

Audition Location: Address will be provided in advance of the audition date. Auditions take place in Langley, BC.

No preparation of text is required, auditions will be cold -reads in partners.

E-mail auditions@bardinthevalley.com to book your audition time slot. Please include a resume and headshot in one document.

Deadline to submit: Friday, February 21st at 5:00pm

This is a non-equity production.

A \$500.00 honorarium will be offered to the actors involved.

Casting: 10-11 actors (most in double roles, below are the description of the cast of characters, with role doubling to be determined at a later date)

Sir John Falstaff A debaucherous Knight, old and unfit, more used to robbing passersby than protecting them. Down on his luck, confident in his charms.

Bardolph A companion of Falstaff, a vagabond and a ruffian.

Pistol A companion to Falstaff, a cowardly but boastful soldier.

Mistress Alice Ford A middle-aged, well-regarded Lady, married to a well-to-do husband. Seeks revenge on Falstaff when he sends identical love letters to both her and Mistress Page.

Frank Ford Alice's wealthy and jealous husband, who seeks to discover his wife's infidelity, and catch Falstaff.

Mistress Margaret Page A middle aged, well-regarded Lady, married to a well-to-do husband. Seeks revenge on Falstaff when he sends identical love letters to both her and Mistress Ford. She also wishes to find a suitor for her daughter, Anne.

George Page Margaret's wealthy and trusting husband. He seeks a suitor for his daughter, Anne.

Anne Page George and Margaret's daughter, a young woman who seeks to marry for love, and to avoid the many suitors that have been put in her path. She is in love with the gentleman Fenton.

The Host of the Garter Hotel The host and concierge of The Garter Hotel. Often involved with the mischief of the play, but ultimately seeks to find his guests a peaceful, restful stay in the hotel.

Parson Hugh Evans A Welsh Parson of the town. Seeks to help his friend, Abraham Slender, to marry Anne Page, and to keep the peace amongst the squabbling nobles.

Doctor Caius A French Doctor, in love with Anne Page.

Mistress Quickly Servant to Doctor Caius. Involved with much mischief, helping the wives with their revenge, and assisting all suitors in their bids for Anne's hand.

Justice Robert Shallow An aged Judge, seeking for his young cousin Abraham Slender to marry Anne Page.

Abraham Slender A young foppish gentleman, uninterested in marriage, but willingly led into it by those around him.

Fenton A young, worthy gentleman and the true love of Anne Page.

Production Information:

Rehearsals:

Rehearsals all take place at various locations in Langley, BC.

Readthrough: TBD

Rehearsals: Two or three times per week.

Sundays 12:30-4:30, Mondays 6:30-9:30 & Wednesdays 6:30-9:30

Tech/dress rehearsals:

Tuesday June 24th & Wednesday June 25th 5-10pm

Preview performance: Thursday, June 26th

Production Dates:

Performances:

All performances begin at 7:00pm with a call time of 5:30pm.

Township 7 winery

June 27, 28, 29, July 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13

Douglas Park Spirit Square Stage

July 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27

Thank you for your interest in our production, we look forward to seeing you at auditions.