



THE OUTSIDER

Main-Stage Show #3 – March-April 2022

Written by Paul Slade Smith

Director: Jennifer Powell 4842557785, jjpowell340@gmail.com

Producer: Sherrie Schwab 9548810979, macadoo09@yahoo.com

AUDITION PACKET FOR THE OUTSIDER

Open Auditions: September 18 and 19. Alternate dates September 25 or 26.

For the best audition experience, please try to attend on one of the dates above. If you absolutely cannot be at the set audition dates, please contact production so that we can schedule an individual appointment that works best with your schedule.

Rehearsal start date: If you are cast, you may pick up your script on Monday Sept 27 (after late auditions have been completed). There may be character homework in your script. Please complete it on time for our character discussion and **initial read-through on Wednesday, October 6 at 7:00 for full cast and crew.** Recordings are welcome. After that you are on your own until rehearsals begin.

Regular rehearsals begin on Monday, January 3 at 6:30. In general, we will rehearse weekly from Monday through Thursday. For the first few weeks it's possible I won't need everyone every day and will schedule accordingly so please keep your schedule flexible. We will probably take a break the week of Feb. 21 to allow for anyone involved in One Weekend Only on Feb. 24-27, 2022.

Show dates (you must be able to make all of them): Opening Night is Thursday, March 24. The show runs March 24, 25, 26, 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10 (Sun. matinee) March 14, 15, 16.

Setting: "The Outsider" takes place in one location, the office of the governor of a small Florida town and is set in the present day. The new governor steps into the big shoes of a larger than life former governor who was forced to resign in a scandal. The new governor is intelligent and competent but a bit of a geek and totally unprepared to take over the position. He is supported by a strong Chief of staff who is ready to work by his side to help him be successful along with a young successful pollster ready to provide data on what voters want. Things begin to fall apart rapidly when the new governor bumbles a conversation with a new temporary leaving her, and the press, with the impression she is his nominee for Lieutenant Governor! An experienced political consultant, a female reporter and her videographer round out the cast and are all pulled into the fiasco. And of course, no office is complete without a little romance.

Synopsis (by the author for media use):

Synopsis (by me for auditions): Come join the cast of "The Outsider," a political farce with all the mix ups you could imagine coming from a 'bean counter', now governor, and his new, slightly air-head Executive Assistant/Lieutenant Governor who struggles to operate even a standard office intercom! Everyone has an opinion on how to turn this disastrous turn of events into a success complete with the political consultant providing 'canned' responses, on color coded index cards, for both of them to use no matter what questions they are asked. This play is a chance for a lighthearted look at politics and lots of laughter at all the silly things behind the scenes that make a candidate successful.

Characters

Cast: 4 men, 3 women:

Paige Caldwell: female, 20s to 40s. A professional pollster. A smart, confident woman with a professional's view of politics: she sees it as a series of contests to be won.

Dave Riley: male, 30s/40s. The Chief of Staff to the new Governor. Very smart, but--despite years of experience in government--endearingly earnest and naïve on the subject of politics.

Louise Peakes: female, 30s to 50s. A temporary employee hired as the Governor's executive assistant. Personable, likable, impressively confident, and entirely inept. Without knowing it, she has the air of a politician about her. The friendliness of her smile, and the confident way she looks you in the eye, would make you think, "I'd vote for her."

Ned Newley: male, 50/60s. The new Governor. A person of impressive ability, but a complete lack of confidence. A man awaiting permission to enter a room in which he is already standing.

Arthur Vance: male, 50s/60s. One of the most experienced and successful political consultants in the country. His overbearing personality, and confidence in his own opinions over the opinions of others, should make him dislikable, but his ego is more than tempered by the joy—even glee—he brings into the room. He's a showman, but his excitement is 100% genuine, and it's contagious.

Rachel Parsons: female, 30s. A TV reporter. She has the looks to be an on-air correspondent—though, if television had never been invented, she still would have been a journalist. Straight-forward and honest, and inquisitive by nature. She's seen enough of life—and politics—to be cynical but she's more apt to make a wry joke.

AC Petersen: male, 30s to 50s. A TV camera man. A working man, and—for most people—the guy you didn't notice was there. Which is fine with AC; he has a low tolerance for idiocy and would rather not interact with anyone. His near-silence doesn't make him seem unfriendly, just a bit of a mystery.

****Age ranges are suggestions only. Our make-up artist, Claudia, can add or subtract at least a decade.***

Director's Notes

About auditions: Casting a play is more than just deciding who reads each role the best. It entails putting together a believable team. Variations in voices, heights, ages, movements and attitudes will all be considerations when creating The Outsider cast. No matter what room we use for auditions, please project as you would for a full house in the theatre.

"The Outsider" is a character-driven comedy, so thoroughly understanding your character is essential. Please show us a character who is sincere and wholly committed to his or her beliefs. Play your role with slightly-over-the-top sincerity and determination. If the audience believes in the characters they will be invested in the story and its outcome.

Good comedy moves along crisply and hesitation is its enemy. Actors will be required to speak conversationally. When people converse, they usually jump in just as (or even a nanosecond before) the previous person finishes their sentence. Knowing your cues is every bit as important as knowing your lines.

Every role in this show is attainable -- no one has been pre-cast. If you'd like to read a script before auditions, please let me know at jjpowell340@gmail.com and I'll arrange to get one to you.

About Rehearsals and Performances: We will not tolerate divas. All cast and crew are equally important characters. No actor is to criticize or coach another; not even with the best of intentions. If something bothers you, please tell the director - in private or by email.

The Outsider is serious about the 4th wall (if you are new to theater and don't know what the 4th wall is, please ask me). Please don't play to the audience, or even acknowledge that you have an audience; not even if they are howling with laughter.

To the best of my ability, I have set up a rehearsal schedule that does not waste any actor's time. To the best of your ability, please arrive at rehearsal quietly and a couple minutes before your designated time.

Production Team (so far):

- Director – Jennifer Powell
- Producer – Sherri Schwab
- Stage Manager – Karen Witte
- Technical Director - Jimmy Zimmerman
- Lighting Design –
- Lighting Tech -
- Sound Design -
- Sound Tech -
- Props -
- Costumes - Riet Steinmetz
- Make-up - Claudia McEwen
- Hair and Wigs - Maresa Casey
- Poster, Program Design and Ads - Jeanette Gierula

THE OUTSIDER REHEARSAL SCHEDULE (Subject to changes as needed)

Show Dates: You must be able to make all of them: Opening Night is Thursday, March 24. The show runs March 24, 25, 26, 31, April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10 (Sun. matinee) March 14, 15, 16.

All rehearsals begin at 6:30 p.m. Rehearsal space to be announced later.

Cast members may pick up their scripts on Monday Sept. 27, following the weekend for alternate auditions. The script may include homework for you to do on your character. Please read the script ASAP and thoughtfully complete your homework. You will use it to create your own character and help the other characters - your teammates - understand who you are.

Tuesday, October 6: 7:00 PM

First read through - **FULL CAST AND CREW**. We will begin with character analysis (as per your homework), then read the play with or without expression (your choice). Tape recorders welcome. After the read-through you are on your own until January.

Regular rehearsals begin on January 3. Please check this schedule to see when you are needed. When/if we finish blocking a scene early, we will run the scene. When you are sure your character has nothing more to do that evening, please leave quietly.

Monday, January 3:

Second read through - FULL CAST - with projection and pizzazz. Conversational. Tape recorders welcome.

Tuesday, January 4:

6:30- Block Act 1, Scene 1 - pages 11 to Louise' exit at top of page 20: Dave, Page, Louise

7:30 - Block Act 1, Scene 1 - pages 20 to before Arthur's entrance page 29: Paige, Dave, Ned, Louise

Wednesday, January 5:

6:30 - Block Act 1, Scene 1 - pages 29 to 35: Arthur, Ned, Dave, Paige

7:45 - Block Act 1, Scene 2 - pages 36 to Paige's exit 45: Dave, Ned, Paige, Louise, Arthur

Thursday, January 6:

6:30 - Block Act 1, Scene 2 - pages 45-58: Full cast

Act 1 is all blocked. On to Act 2!

Monday, January 10:

6:30 - Block Act 2, Scene 1 - pages 59 to 68 (the end): Arthur, Dave, Paige, Ned

Tuesday, January 11:

6:30 - Block Act 2, Scene 2 - pages 69 - top of 80: Full cast

Wednesday, January 12:

6:30 - Block Act 2, Scene 2 - pages 80 - blackout pg. 89: Full cast

Thursday, January 13

6:30 – Block Act 2 Scene 3 pages 89 - 97: Dave, Arthur, Ned, Louise, Paige, Rachel

Woohoo, the play is blocked! Please work hard on memorizing your lines and cues.

Monday, January 17:

6:30 – Everyone except Rachel and A.C. - Stumble through Act 1. Stop and go. Complete any missing blocking.

Tuesday, January 18:

6:30 - Full Cast - Stumble through Act 2. Stop and go. Complete any missing blocking.

Wednesday January 19.

6:30 Act 2 Scene 1 and Scene 2 up to top of page 80. The full cast is required. You may leave quietly as soon as your character is finished.

Thursday January 20:

6:30 - Full Cast – Finish Act 2 page 80 - end:

Stop and go with lots of repeats. Use your props if they are available.

Monday January 24

6:30 Act 1 Full cast

Stop and go with repeats. We are still on book, but please use your props as best you can. Also, please get into the habit of keeping your props in the same place every night so you always know where they are. You are responsible for making sure your props make it on stage with you.

Tuesday, January 25

6:30 Act 2 Full cast

Stop and go with repeats. Use your props if available

Wednesday, January 26

6:30 Full cast. Act 1 - Twice.

Thursday, December 2:
6:30 - Act 2 - Twice.

Monday, January 31:
6:30 - Act 1 - **OFF BOOK WITH PROMPTING.**

Tuesday, February 1:
6:30 - Act 2

Wednesday, February 2:
6:30 - Act 2 - **OFF BOOK WITH PROMPTING**

Thursday, February 3:
6:30 - Act 2 - Twice, if possible

Monday, February 7:
6:30 - Act 1 - Stop and go with props. Tech people (lights/sound) can come experiment or observe any of these 2 days.

Tuesday, February 8:
6:30- Act 2 - Stop and go with props. Twice if possible.

Wednesday, February 9:
6:30 – Act 1

Thursday February 10:
6:30 – Act 2

SET BUILD FEBRUARY 13-18

REHEARSALS ARE NOW ON STAGE

Please find a handy place in the green room to keep your own props. Make sure you put them away after every rehearsal. Please do not move any other actor's props!

Monday, February 14:
6:30 - Act 1 – stop and go with props. Twice if possible. Go back on book if needed to get comfortable on stage

Tuesday, February 15:
6:30 - Act 2 – stop and go with props. Twice if possible.

NO BOOK AND NO PROMPTING UNLESS YOU ASK BY CALLING “LINE”

Wednesday, February 16:
Full show with stop and go only if necessary. Costumes.

Thursday February 17
6:30 Full show. Costumes.

BREAK FOR OWO. REHEARSALS RESUME MONDAY FEBRUARY 28

Monday, February 28:

6:30 – Act 1 No prompting. No costumes.

Tuesday, March 1:

6:30 - Act 2 No prompting. No costumes.

Wednesday, March 2:

6:30 Tech night. Costume and make up
Run show. Please bring your patience!

Thursday, March 3:

6:30 – Trouble spots.

Monday, March 7:

6:30 – Act 1 Costumes, no make-up. Twice if possible. Lights and sound. Emphasis on pacing and timing.

Tuesday, March 8:

6:30 – Act 2 Costumes, no make-up. Twice if possible. Lights and sound.

Wednesday, March 9:

6:30 Run show. Costumes and tech. Fix it night for timing, pacing blocking, costumes, tech

Thursday, March 10:

6:30 – Run show. Costumes and tech.

Monday, March 14:

6:30 - Run show. **BIG NIGHT** - Over-act and over-react. It's your chance to try everything you felt like doing but didn't dare. Stay in character. Don't add or delete lines. If what you plan to do involves another actor, share your plan with them. Surprise me, not your acting partners. Now have fun! Costumes. No make-up

Tuesday, March 15:

Run show. Costumes and make-up. Incorporate the best of big night!

PRESS NIGHT WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY

Wednesday, March 16:

6:30 or earlier if possible. Run show. Costumes and make up. Drill trouble spots or run show - whatever we need to kill it on opening night.

Thursday, March 17:

6:30 or earlier if possible. Run show. Costumes and make up

Monday March 21:

6:30 Run show. Full dress rehearsal. Costumes, make up, tech.

Tuesday March 22:

6:30 Run show. Full dress rehearsal. Costumes, make up, tech.

Wednesday March 23:

No rehearsal unless absolutely necessary. Rest, Relax and Recharge!

Thursday March 24

OPENING NIGHT! Break-a-leg!

The show starts promptly at 8. Please be in the Green Room by 7:00. Energy circle is at 7:15 nightly.