

CHARACTER CREATION notes

Choosing the right character for you, is a key ingredient to maximizing your fun. Our Faire can help guide you in developing the perfect character, for **you**. There are lots of opportunities to develop your character, such as, workshops, sewing circles, questionnaires, dances, meetings and more! All of these options will be explained. To get yourself started think about life in the renaissance. Look back at your answers on the Character Background Worksheet, what type of job would have been assigned to you? What type of job would you be good at?

When deciding what character you want to be, consider the talents you already have. Make a short list of your talents to bring. Those talents just might work at the festival, even if you have only had that talent for a few weeks. If you juggle, sing, play an instrument, sew, cook, are comically funny, consider using it. Take the lead from whatever interests you may have. What subjects did you like in school? What do you like to do for entertainment or when you're with friends? What do you do when your friends are gone? Are you tall, short, thin, athletic, fluffy? Keep in mind some of your character's characteristics will match your own (weight, height, eye color, are yours to work with). Use your own characteristics to your advantage, if they are barely noticeable, make them noticeable! (have people told you that you're: funny, tall, interesting, strong, rude, nice, talented, etc.), write those traits down and bring the list to a workshop. Ask any of the mentors to help you build these into your character. It will make your character more interesting to others and more uniquely "your" character. AND, more fun for you.

SOME REAL WORLD LIMITATIONS>>>> The cost of your garb (costume) will depend largely on the social class of your character. Many people have made a peasant's outfit with \$20 and a trip to good will. The garb for a noble can vary from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. Your costume/Garb is the most critical step in creating your character. To make sure you have Garb that is safe, comfortable and plausible to our time period we have a workshop **that is required**. It is also important to create a character that YOU can believe; and that you can believe it and play it all day. **It is wise to avoid negative or frightening characters, as they are, as a general rule, not allowed at faire**. It is usually much more fun to choose a realistic person to portray. Extreme fantasy characters are Extremely difficult to perform all day, and even more difficult to enjoy. Most of our mentors will be happy to help you work on your character, you need only ask. Work sheets and class workshops will help! We are all here to help and have a good time. If you are having fun the patrons will be having fun as well. If you play your part well it is you and your character that they will be remembering and telling their friends about.
