



Sierra Madre Playhouse

Silent Sky

By Lauren Gunderson

Directed by Barbara Schofield

Produced by Sierra Madre Playhouse

The award-winning Sierra Madre Playhouse (SMP), located in Sierra Madre, California 91024 (just east of Pasadena) is committed to equitable, diverse, and inclusive representation in our productions, striving to make the experience of performing at our theater creative and fulfilling.

Both Union & Non-Union actors will be considered. Seeking actors of all ethnic backgrounds and gender identities for this cast.

Proof of Vaccinations for COVID-19 will be a requirement for employment.

Performers Pay: \$15 an hour for all rehearsals and performances.

IMPORTANT DATES:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, July 8, 2022

CALL BACKS: Begin Monday, July 11 through Wednesday July 13, 2022

FIRST REHEARSAL: Sunday, Jul 31, 2022

TECH WEEK: Friday September 2 through Thursday September 8

OPENS: Friday, September 9, 2022

CLOSES: Sunday, October 9, 2022

PERFORMANCES: All performances at Sierra Madre Playhouse

Fridays & Saturdays: 8:00 pm; Saturday & Sunday matinees: 2:30 pm.

One (1) possible additional performance on a selected weeknight.

DATES: (19 shows): Evening [E] and Matinee [M]

September 9E, 10E, 11M, 16E, 17M, 17E, 18M, 23E, 24M, 24E, 25M, 30E

October 1M, 1E, 2M, 7E, 8M, 8E, 9M

Possible additional show(s) within that period

Rehearsals begin Sunday, July 31, at Sierra Madre Playhouse. It will be a 6 week rehearsal period of up to 20 hours a week. Final rehearsal schedule will be arranged after the show is cast. No reasonable conflicts should keep actors from submitting.

Tech week and dress rehearsals begin Friday, September 2 through Thursday, September 8. Actors must be completely available during that period.

SUBMISSIONS

Please submit taped first submissions. Email headshot, resume, and audition monologue to silentsky@sierramadreplayhouse.org or through Actors Access, Backstage, or LA Casting.

Include a slate and a full body shot. One (1) 1-minute monologue: comedy, romantic comedy, or lightly dramatic. Monologues from the play are acceptable, but not mandatory. Well-prepared monologues only, however complete memorization is not required. If you are seeking consideration for the role of Williamina, please include a brief sample of your Scottish dialect.

PLOT SUMMARY

When Henrietta Leavitt begins work at the Harvard Observatory in the early 1900s, she isn't allowed to touch a telescope or express an original idea. Instead, she joins a group of women "computers," charting the stars for a renowned astronomer who calculates projects in "girl hours" and has no time for the women's probing theories. As Henrietta, in her free time, attempts to measure the light and distance of stars, she must also take measure of her life on Earth, trying to balance her dedication to science with family obligations and the possibility of love. This imaginative re-telling of Leavitt's life and achievements explores a woman's place in society during a time of immense scientific discoveries and social change. Henrietta Leavitt and her female colleagues believe in both, and their dedication changed the way we understand both the heavens and the Earth.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Seeking actors of all ethnic backgrounds and gender identities for this cast.

HENRIETTA LEAVITT: [Female, Mid 20s to Mid 30s] - Mathematician, trained in Astronomy. Brilliant, meticulous, good sense of irony with a dry wit and passionate nature-- almost always wearing a period hearing-aid.

MARGARET LEAVITT: [Female, Early 20s to Early 30s] Henrietta's sister: homemaker, creative, religious, loyal and kind. Piano skills preferred, but not essential.

PETER SHAW: [Male, Mid 20s to Early 40s] Astronomer. Apprentice to "Pickering" Head of the Harvard Observatory. Love interest for Henrietta. Awkward around women but pretending not to be, smart, decent, sincere.

ANNIE CANNON: [Female, 30s-50s] Head of the women's "Computer" dept. at Harvard Observatory. The leader, terse and sure, can be brusque, grows into a firebrand. Co-worker with Henrietta.

WILLIAMINA FLEMING: [Female, 30s-50s] Former Head of "Computer" dept. Scottish immigrant. Smart as a whip and fun. Co-worker with Henrietta. **Scottish accent needed.**