



2/7/20 - 2/22/20
By Paul Slade Smith

The Farmington Players

Audition Notice

Unnecessary Farce

By Paul Slade Smith

Sunday, November 10th, 2019

Registration: 12:30pm Auditions: 1:00pm

Farmington Players Barn Theater

32332 West 12 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Director: Anne Craft

Assistant Director: Eric Nogas

Producer: Tim Timmer

Stage Manager: TBD

Performance Dates: February 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 20th, 21st, & 22nd

Mandatory Dates: February 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th

Rehearsals: 3-4 per week

Synopsis: Two cops, three crooks, eight doors, no waiting.... *Unnecessary Farce* is an award-winning stage comedy that combines all the elements of classic farce with a contemporary plot.

In an economy motel room, an embezzling mayor is supposed to meet with his female accountant. In the room next door, two undercover cops are supposed to catch the meeting on videotape. But there's some confusion as to who's in which room, who's watching the video, who's taken the money, who's hired a hit man, and why the accountant keeps taking off her clothes.

Character Breakdown (age/speeches) Ages are only an approximation.
Must be able to portray the age listed by each Character.

ERIC SHERIDAN, Male, 30s. 323 speeches. A police officer. A bookish, even-keeled guy who finds himself completely out of his element when called upon to express his feelings for a woman, lie to his boss, disguise himself as someone else, and stand up to an armed mobster—while not wearing any pants. Actor must be comfortable wearing boxer shorts on stage. Characters Eric and Karen will share an onstage kiss.

BILLIE DWYER, Female, 20s/30s. 284 speeches. A police officer, Eric's partner. Excitable and entirely unthreatening, she seemingly lacks every skill necessary for police work, but is as eager to succeed as she seems destined to fail. This is a physical role. Actor will be rolling on the floor, flipping over the bed, and have her hands tied behind her back.

KAREN BROWN, Female, 30s. 336 speeches. An accountant, who has always taken pride in her accountant-like, professional demeanor—until this morning, when she finds herself filled with a sexual hunger, and unable to keep things in control. Actor must be comfortable removing clothes onstage, and wearing just a bra and pantyhose or slip. Characters Karen and Eric will share an onstage kiss.

MAYOR MEEKLY, Male, 50s to 70s. 105 speeches. An Innocent, with a capital I. An affable, gentle fellow. Not too quick on the pick-up, but a sweet, sweet soul.

AGENT FRANK, Male, 20s to 50s. 225 speeches. The head of Security at Town Hall, and, frankly, the wrong man for the job. Though he presents the confident, gruff exterior of a secret service agent (or film noir detective, even), he is frequently (and, at moments of crisis, invariably) a man frightened by his own shadow. This is a physical role. Actor may have other actors sitting on his back. Actor must be comfortable wearing boxer shorts onstage.

TODD, Male, 20s to 50s. 129 speeches. Speaks with a pronounced Scottish accent. A professional hit man. Cool, quiet, and perceptive when at his best, but more frequently an angry Scotsman—and the angrier he becomes, the thicker his accent gets, until he is entirely indecipherable.

MARY MEEKLY, Female, 50s to 70s. 72 speeches. The Mayor's wife. Small in stature and unfailingly sweet, she seems, in every way, the perfect match for her husband. This is a semi-physical role. Actor will climb over the bed and flip onto/over the bed.