



Presents

The graphic for "Rehearsal for MURDER" features the word "Rehearsal" in a large, elegant black cursive font. Below it, the word "for" is written in a smaller, simple font. The word "MURDER" is written in large, bold, red, distressed block letters. A black quill pen is positioned diagonally across the word "MURDER". To the left of the word "for" are two theater masks: one with a sad expression and one with a happy expression.

Adapted by D.D. BROOKE from the teleplay by RICHARD LEVINSON & WILLIAM LINK
Directed by DIANE W. WILSON

Auditions: 7 p.m. Sunday, June 26, 2022, and 7 p.m. Monday, June 27, 2022

Callbacks possible on Wednesday, June 29, 2022

Auditions will be held at Noblesville First United Methodist Church,

2051 Monument Street, Noblesville, IN, 46060

Sunday: Stephenson Hall (basement stage)

Monday: Whitcomb Chapel

Show Dates: September 23, 2022, - October 2, 2022

Show Times: Friday, & Saturday at 8:00

Saturday & Sunday at 2:00pm

Ivy Tech Community College of Hamilton County,

300 North 17th Street, Noblesville, IN, 46060

Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$14 for ages 12 and younger and ages 65 and older.

For reservations, call (317) 773-1085 or visit <https://thebelfrytheatre.com/>.

ABOUT THE BELFRY THEATRE: In July of 1965, a collection of Noblesville residents who enjoyed gathering to read plays decided it was time to take their passion to the next step. That summer, Mrs. Anne Braswell, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Campbell, Mrs. and Mrs. Robert Kraft, Mr. and Mrs. John Kyle, Mrs. Shirley Pritchard, and their leader, the Rev. Mr. John Burbank, formed the Hamilton County Theatre Guild. The Belfry Theatre is a friendly, welcoming place where those who wish to express their acting or other creative skills meet those who enjoy and appreciate quality productions of comedies, dramas, and musicals. Our goal is to attract and develop good actors and production personnel and showcase their talents in exceptional productions that will enrich and entertain our prospective audiences. We welcome diversity.

CONTACT INFO FOR PRODUCTION TEAM:

Director: Diane W Wilson: Diane@WandWDestinations.com · 317.650.5648

Producer: Betsy Reason: betsy.reason@gmail.com · 317.440.3792

Stage Manager: Fran Knapp: franknapp@att.net · 317.402.6182

Rehearsal for Murder

Synopsis: A year following the untimely death of a famous onscreen actress and an up-and-coming Broadway star, a famous playwright (and former fiancé of the star) assembles all those who last interacted with the actress under the pretense of reading excerpts from a new play he is writing. Even though the actress's death was ruled as a suicide, the playwright believes otherwise; and he plans to prove it and trap a killer as the scenes from his new play come to life.

The Years: 1980 (opening night of the comedy *Chamber Music* by Alex Dennison, the after party, and the death of Monica Welles) & 1981 (exactly one year after the opening and Monica's death)

The Settings: A Broadway Stage & Monica Welles' Study

The Characters (and stage ages):

Alex Dennison: A playwright in his late 40s to mid-50s, Alex is handsome, debonair, witty, intelligent, and willing to do just about anything to trap the killer of his beloved fiancé.

Monica Welles: The famous and beautiful film actress, fiancé of Alex, and victim, Monica is "brought to life" through flashbacks in order to help Alex trap her killer. Cast as the lead (her first time on stage) in Dennison's comedy *Chamber Music*, she was in her early- to mid-40s when she met her early demise.

Lloyd Andrews: The play's director for the 1980 show *Chamber Music* (and the last time Monica was on stage), Lloyd is at the very least in his early 40s. He is handsome, no-nonsense, and he has an excellent reputation.

Bella Lamb: The play's producer for the 1980 show *Chamber Music* (and the last time Monica was on stage), Bella is bright, extremely wealthy, and sophisticated. She is in her late 40s to early 60s.

Karen Daniels: Merely an up-and-coming Broadway actress in 1980, Karen is now a sought-after star. She was Monica's understudy a year prior in *Chamber Music*, but she quickly made her way to the top. Karen is in her mid- to late 30s; she is beautiful and no longer the innocent ingénue she was.

David Mathews: A tall, popular, and handsome Broadway actor, David is also very smug and full of himself, believing that every woman worships him. He approaches each show with the belief that he'll have to dust off his fireplace mantle for another Tony. He had played lead in *Chamber Music*, opposite Monica. David is in his mid-40s to early 50s.

Leo Gibbs: A supporting Broadway actor, Leo is in his mid- to late 40s; he isn't particularly charming or attractive, but he is slightly overweight. He has always viewed himself as the comic relief. Yet, he doesn't let his "lower" status upset him. He, too, was in *Chamber Music*.

Sally Bean: Alex's new assistant/secretary from Maine. She is young (18 to 22), energetic, bright but naïve, and very excited to help Alex with his new play.

Ernie: The gruff, no-nonsense backstage theatre manager who reveres Alex and was genuinely fond of Monica. He is in his mid-50s to late 60s.

Loretta: The play's stage manager for *Chamber Music* (and the last time Monica was on stage). Loretta is in her mid-30s to mid-60s and is very efficient and determined.

Male Policeman: One of NY's finest in his late 30s to early 50s; he assists in the investigation of Monica's death.

Female Policeman: One of NY's finest in her late 20s to mid-50s; she assists in the investigation of Monica's death.

Santoro: The delivery man who brings in Monica's Study - set up exactly as it was on the day of her death and perfect for a re-enactment - he can be any age (20+ to 60).

Frank Heller: An observer in Act One to everything occurring on-stage during the present & during "flashbacks," Frank, finally intervenes in Act Two, at first portraying Lieutenant McElroy, the detective who closed Monica Welles' case, and then himself. Frank, who is in his late 30s to early 40s, is a jack-of-all-trades: actor (often out of work), bartender, cab driver, etc.

Mac: An observer to everything that is happening on-stage during the present & during "flashbacks." He joins in on the action during the last part of Act II. He is in his 50s.

Note: *Ernie & Santoro, as well as the Male Police Officer & Mac may be doubled. In addition, Loretta and the policewoman may be doubled.*

As noted previously on the first page, **auditions** are being held at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument Street, Noblesville, IN, 46060.

- 7 p.m. Sunday, June 26th; Stephenson Hall (basement stage)
- 7 p.m. Monday, June 27th; Whitcomb Chapel
- Note: Callbacks possible on Wednesday, June 29th; Place TBD

Should you wish to audition and are unable to do so on either of the audition dates, then please call the director at 317.650.5648 or email her at Diane@WandWDestinations.com.

Performances are held at Ivy Tech Community College of Hamilton County, 300 North 17th Street, Noblesville, IN, 46060. Performance dates are as follows:

- Friday, September 23, 2022, at 8pm
- Saturday, September 24, 2022, at 2pm
- Saturday, September 24, 2022, at 8pm
- Sunday, September 25, 2022, at 2pm
- Friday, September 30, 2022, at 8pm
- Saturday, October 1, 2022, at 2pm
- Saturday, October 1, 2022, at 8pm
- Sunday, October 2, 2022, at 2pm*

*You are required to assist with strike immediately following the final performance.

FIRST READ THROUGH: Monday, July 11, 2022

AUDITION SHEETS AND REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE CONFLICT SCHEDULE:

Please make certain the audition sheet (pages 6 - 7 of this packet) is filled out completely. Please write legibly; print your email address very clearly. **Please list all known conflicts between July 11, 2022, and September 17, 2022, including Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Exclude dates between Sunday, August 21, and Monday, September 5. Sunday, September 18, 2022, is a technical rehearsal and attendance is mandatory, as are all performances.**

REHEARSALS:

- The schedule will be finalized after the show is cast.
- Rehearsals will consist of 3 to 4 nights a week; weekend rehearsals may be possible.
- Rehearsals will run from 7:00pm to 9:00pm (possibly until 9:30pm)
- Rehearsals will be held at the director's house in Carmel until Load-in/Tech Day, September 18, 2022, at which time rehearsals will move to Ivy Tech, 300 North 17th Street, Noblesville. Actors will only be called for rehearsals for which they are needed*.
- There will be no rehearsals between Sunday, August 21, and Monday, September 5.

***Beginning the week of August 15th, cast members will be expected to stay for the entire rehearsal unless prior arrangements have been made.**

For technical week, we will run the entire show (in costume and/or full dress); all cast members are expected to stay for the entire rehearsal during tech week. Rehearsals will begin by 6:30pm and will end at 10:00pm.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU AUDITION: Actors will be asked to read from the script and possibly participate in improvisation. Actors will be called to the stage one or more times to try different scenes and to try different actor combinations. Actors should arrive on time for the audition(s) and expect to stay for the entire evening (9:00pm-ish). You are welcome to attend both nights, but you only need to attend one night.

Please arrive on time, as we will close the doors at 7:00pm each evening. Therefore, if you have yet to complete the online audition form prior to arriving and are prolific in your writing, then you may wish to arrive early, so your audition sheet (with head shot) is complete by 7:00pm. Doors will open at 6:30pm.

FAQs

WHAT SHOULD I BRING TO THE AUDITION? Please bring a list of all schedule conflicts and a résumé (if you have one). If you have a headshot, please bring it; we will attach it to your audition form. Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes so that you can move easily at auditions.

WHEN WILL I FIND OUT IF I'VE BEEN CAST? You will be notified by phone whether you are cast or not. We hope to notify everyone by Friday, July 1, 2022; however, you definitely will be notified by Friday, July 8th.

I WAS NOT ASKED TO ATTEND THE SECOND NIGHT OF AUDITIONS. DOES THAT MEAN I WON'T BE CAST? Not necessarily. If we have a good idea of your potential, then you will more than likely not be asked to return.

WHAT IF I HAVE A CONFLICT WITH REHEARSAL DATES? DOES THAT MEAN I WON'T BE CAST? The director usually will work around minor conflicts, which is why it is important to list all known conflicts on the audition form. However, **actors must be available for all performances. Conflicts with performance dates will cause you to not be cast. If you have a conflict with a performance date, then please do not audition.**

WHAT IF I GET SICK AND HAVE TO MISS A REHEARSAL? If you are too sick to go to work (or attend school), then we typically don't want you at rehearsal. Contact the director or stage manager as soon as you can if you must miss rehearsal due to illness or an emergency.

Scripts are available at <https://www.dramaticpublishing.com/rehearsal-for-murder>. However, it does take some time to receive a script. You may wish to check amazon.com or used bookstores in the area. And, remember, it isn't necessary to have seen the script prior to auditioning.



Welcome to The Belfry Theatre!

AUDITION/CONTACT FORM: Please complete as much of the requested information below as possible; and/or circle or check the appropriate choice where applicable. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Full Name _____

Home Address _____

Primary Phone _____ Secondary Phone _____

Email Address _____ Facebook Name _____

Best way to contact you? Email Phone Facebook

Sex: Male Female Age: _____ / Stage Ages: _____

Height _____ Waist _____ Inseam _____ Shoe Size _____

Theater experience (continue on back, separate paper, or attach résumé)

Show	Role	Theatre	Year

Would be willing to color your hair, cut (or grow) it into period style (1980s), or wear/purchase a wig in order to conform to the era? Yes No

Below, please list your known schedule **conflicts from July 11, 2022, through Saturday 17, 2022**, including Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. At this time, please exclude conflicts between Sunday, August 21st, and Monday, September 5th, as there are no planned rehearsals on any of those dates.

If not cast in this production, then with what crew activities could you assist? (Please circle)
Set Construction - Stage crew - Set decoration (painting) - Costuming - Props - Publicity - Tech crew - Other (please explain) _____

How did you hear about the auditions? _____

THE BELFRY CONSENT FORM

Parent/Guardian's Consent for Those Auditioning under the Age of 18

I give permission for my teenager to audition for *Rehearsal for Murder*, and I acknowledge and accept the conditions. I consent to my young adult performing in *Rehearsal for Murder* if selected. I acknowledge it is my responsibility to ensure my teen attends rehearsals and performances as required for this production. I accept the responsibility that parents may be expected to be involved with the production in some form as a backstage assistant and/or in charge of my teen's safety and supervision.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Date:

All Actors: Permission to Use Name, Pictures, or Other Identifying Information

There are times when Play Directors and Board Members believe it is appropriate to recognize cast members and their work in a public forum. Examples of such recognition include, but are not limited to, publishing actors' names, photographs, and/or displaying aspects of their work on The Belfry Theatre/Hamilton County Theatre Guild website and/or other media. Cast members' photos, likeness, may also be used in promotional posters, Facebook page(s), and/or printouts. These printed documents will be used to promote the theatre either by promoting the play directly or The Belfry Theatre/Hamilton County Theatre Guild as a whole. By signing below you agree to allow The Belfry Theatre/Hamilton County Theatre Guild to use your photo or likeness in the above described material however they see fit for the betterment of The Belfry Theatre/Hamilton County Theatre Guild.

Signature of Actor (or Parent/Guardian, if under age 18):

Date:
