

KU Summer Theater Auditions

Saturday March 27

Open call: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 pm
Call backs: 3:00 – 8:00 pm

KU Summer Theatre is proud to announce its summer season of Colette Freedman's *Sister Cities* and Doris Baizley's *Shiloh Rules*, directed by theatre faculty members Nicole Hodges Persley and Mechele Leon. KU Summer Theatre is seeking actresses who can commit to a repertory schedule for the summer of 2010. Actresses will be cast to play roles in both plays and so are required to commit to an intensive rehearsal schedule and performance schedule of seven-to-eight hours daily. We begin rehearsals in early June. Both shows will run in July. This is a semi-professional production—**all performers are paid**. We strongly encourage all actresses to read the full scripts before coming to auditions. You may be asked to improvise from both works. Copies of scripts are available in Murphy Hall 317.

Casting Breakdown

We are calling actresses ages 18-50 of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to audition for these plays. Please prepare three minutes of audition material, wear comfortable clothing and be prepared to improvise.

Shiloh Rules by Doris Baizley

Cast Breakdown

- Clara May Abbott — Union Nurse Reenactor (20s-50s)
- Meg Barton — Union Nurse Reenactor (20s)
- Cecilia Delauney Pettison — Confederate Refugee Reenactor (20s-50s)
- LucyGale Scruggs — Confederate Refugee Reenactor (20s)
- Widow Beckwith — Concessionaire (20s-50s)
- Park Ranger Wilson — (African American Woman, 20s-30s)

Play Synopsis: *Shiloh Rules* is a full-length, two-act drama with comic elements about six women involved in a Civil War reenactment event at Shiloh Battlefield Park in Tennessee. Two northerners enact Union Nurses while two southerners enact Confederate refugees. As the historical reenactment gets underway, the entrepreneurial and “neutral” Widow Beckwith shuttles between both sides of the battle. Park Ranger Wilson, an African American woman, is not impressed when the ladies argue with her that the reenactment has “nothing to do with slavery” and attempt to police the event. As one character says to another, it’s “Little Women Meets the Biography Channel.”

Sister Cities by Collette Freedman

Cast Breakdown

- **Mary** — (mother) 50s-60s, self-absorbed former dancer. Wry wit.
- **Carolina** — 40-something/uber thin/A+ personality/lawyer/recently divorced
- **Austin** — 30-something/ gay/ athletic/successful writer/lives with Mary (mother)-longish hair/ Princeton alum.
- **Baltimore** — 20-something/ spirited/bohemian/Harvard grad student medium to long hair. Seeking multi-racial actresses for this role.
- **Dallas** — late 20-30-something/perpetual sorority sister/ teacher/ uptight/married/walking ad for the *Ann Taylor* clothing line personified

Play Synopsis: Mary Baxter has had an enviable life — a dancer who married young and never looked back as she traveled the world. Four different husbands gave her four daughters, each of whom are as different from each other as the cities they were named after. Carolina, compulsive and organized, is a Seattle based attorney, while Austin, a New York Times best-selling author, lives in the family home in Poughkeepsie. Dallas, the ultimate conformer, lives and teaches in Philadelphia, while the baby, Baltimore, is a free-spirited, eternal student at Harvard.

When Mary dies, Austin calls her estranged sisters to return to their childhood home for what appears to be a wake; yet, what turns into a family drama that will unearth old animosities and new secrets that will change them forever. Imagine *Steel Magnolias* meets *Meet the Fockers*.