

Centre Stage Eaglescliffe

Audition Policy

The committee

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023

Producer: Kieron Layton

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## **AUDITION POLICY – FEBRUARY 2023**

### **AIM**

Centre Stage carries out auditions to identify cast members for every production that takes place. The audition process is to identify the strongest person for each role as well as to ensure the right mix of people form the cast. This document describes the different ways auditions are carried out, how decisions are made following these auditions and members responsibilities in relation to this.

### **THE PANEL**

The panel is a group of people who have the decision making responsibility for casting Centre Stage shows. It will be made up of members from the Centre Stage Committee with a minimum of three members in attendance.

### **AUDITION PROCESS**

Before auditions take place there will be an opportunity to have a read through of the script, in order to familiarise yourself with the characters and identify potential parts you would like to audition for. The read through and audition date(s) will be promoted via social media and directly with members of the previous production. The audition process may differ each production as deemed necessary by the production team at that time, this process will be communicated prior to auditions taking place. The following will be observed at all auditions irrespective of show:

- An equal and fair amount of time to audition
- The same audition process for everyone

There are a variety of situations in which parts cannot be decided based on the audition process alone (vacant parts) such as:

- Lack of interest in a particular role, for example, nobody auditioned for the role.
- Lack of suitability for the part by those who auditioned.
- A member auditioned for two parts and was the strongest member for both roles.

In these circumstances the panel, to ensure the production is successfully cast, may offer the role to someone who auditioned for a different role based on suitability for the part, readvertise auditions for that role or contact previous members etc. The panel reserves the right to 'call back' members to audition for parts if needed.

### **THE DECISION**

One of the most important obligations of Centre Stage is to our audiences. We must provide them with an experience they will enjoy, and for which they will be satisfied they have received value for money based off ticket prices. Therefore, Centre Stage will select a cast that will result in the best production possible. Criteria includes, but is not limited to:

- Standard of acting, singing, and/or dancing ability
- Enthusiasm and confidence

- Availability to attend rehearsals, however individual circumstances will be taken into consideration if discussed with the production team

After everyone has auditioned the panel vote and the majority vote will decide who is offered each part. Only the panel will be present when making decisions and this will be kept confidential.

### **COMMUNICATING THE DECISION**

After casting decisions have been made, the production team will inform the company, and the successful individuals, within a time frame as stated during the audition process. Individuals not cast in a main role, where possible, will be given further consideration for lines or featured moments as required at the discretion of the production team. Casting announcements will be made via social media, or directly to the successful candidate if social media is not their preferred method of communication, for example, they don't have a social media account.

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Centre Stage is a community group therefore, it is likely panel members will have personal relationships with members who audition for parts. These relationships may be partners or family members. Any conflict of interest will be managed accordingly:

- Where an auditionee has a relationship with a panel member, that member will be allowed to give feedback to the panel, however they must abstain from the casting decision.
- The panel will be reminded of this policy and the underpinning aim of this policy at the beginning of the auditions and during the decision making process.
- Panel members will treat all auditionees the same and will give no preferential treatment to individuals.

### **FEEDBACK**

Feedback will be decided by the producer for each show. If feedback is given members will have to wait 48 hours to request it. Feedback will be constructive and will provide areas of strength and areas for improvement. The panel will not provide justification or explanation for decisions that were made. Centre Stage asks that members refrain from using social media to post negative messages about the group or individual panel members in response to audition decisions.