

Cast Rules and Guidelines Agreement

Upon applying for cast, you must sign this agreement to acknowledge that you have read and understand all components.

- Questions, comments, concerns are to be brought up to leadership directly

Age Requirements:

You must be 18+ to join cast.

- If you're 16+ a parent must meet and give consent for your application to be considered. However, some roles will not be available to you until you have come of age. (Ie: Trixie)
- Under 16 must be accompanied by a parent and will be accepted only on a case-to-case basis.

Probationary Period:

Every new member will be subject to a probationary period of 180 days; at the end of this period, your membership will be re-evaluated.

- There may be the option to be evaluated at the end of a three month period.
- Being asked to leave at the end of this period may result from not attending shows you've been scheduled for, not showing effort to learn or complete your role, or for inappropriate behavior.
- You may be asked to leave prior to the end of your probationary period and can be let go at any time at the theater and leaderships discretion.

Auditions:

If you're interested in auditioning for a role, contact leadership and inform them of your intent.

If you're given the opportunity to give an audition, you must have already begun rehearsing on your own time and are expected to have begun researching where to acquire your costume.

- Critiques will be given and you will be notified if you're approved to begin building your costume.
- If you do not pass your audition, you will be required to wait one month before attempting another audition.

Auditions will typically take place within rehearsal to test your knowledge of the part as well as your chemistry with co-stars.

- Auditions do not guarantee casting. A successful audition puts you in the list of potential candidates for a role.
- Trixie is the only role who may be given the option to do an audition over video.
- Though auditions for other roles cannot be done through video, you may send rehearsal videos for feedback.

Role Designation:

*As we rebuild, this process will be implemented more in full.

The goal of this cast is to have three levels of performers;

1. *Primary* – the performer with a level of talent, knowledge of part, costuming, and professionalism that is considered “convention quality”
2. *Secondary* – these performers must work to continually challenge the primary for the role being studied and are additionally expected to be prepared to perform in place of primary in the case of emergencies or changes in casting
3. *Understudy* – at this level, you are expected to be prepared to perform in case of emergency and are also expected to challenge both primary and secondary roles.

Secondary and Understudy roles are expected to bring costumes and makeup to every show in case of emergency.

**when we return to weekly shows, secondaries may be offered one show per month, though casting may not be guaranteed*

Casting Criteria:

*You must be able to convince leadership and our audience that you
are the shadow.*

To elaborate; Midnight Insanity's overall goal is to build an illusion of the movie actors stepping off of the screen and onto our stage. This is not 100% possible, however, we do our best to create this illusion through the implementation of the following 5 pillars of casting:

1 - VISUAL - similar looks and build to the on-screen character you are shadowing. This can also include proportional casting; ie: a taller Janet/Magenta might require a taller Brad/ Riff Raff to compensate. You can often increase your visual accuracy by using wigs, lashes, artificial facial hair, makeup, etc.

Stage makeup application should be practiced before a performer is cast in a show. You should practice this on your own time and should send photos of the practice applications to leadership.

The goal is to transform your face through shading and highlighting with makeup to resemble the character as much as possible. This obviously applies much more to some characters (magenta, frank, etc) than to others (Brad). However, even characters that do not wear visible make up (like Brad) should learn how to highlight/shade their face appropriately for stage lighting. This helps to visually adjust your facial features in a way that furthers the illusion of the actors stepping off the screen.

2 - COSTUME - costumes should be as screen accurate as possible. They should also fit as similarly to the original as possible. Sometimes this requires alterations to compensate for the visual differences between our shadow cast and the on-screen actors.

3 - KNOWLEDGE OF PART - This includes overall stage blocking and memorization of your character's personal body movements, placement & facial expressions. Most of the memorization involves sound/verbal cues from the movie and requires tremendous practice & memorization ability.

4 - CHARACTER - an understanding of WHO your character is;

ie: how they're feeling, what they're thinking and the ability to convince the audience that you ARE that character. This is something that must be considered anytime you are in costume and visible to audience.

5 - DEDICATION - Those who are there for every show/rehearsal (rather than ONLY when they're cast to perform) gain an advantage. The point is to create a great show for the AUDIENCE, which encourages repeat attendance and increases ticket sales, which keeps our theater happy & thriving. Although we do not use seniority specifically, it can still play a part since it's much more difficult to ascertain the overall dedication of a newer cast member.

Casting is SOLEY decided by leadership. Availability, passing an audition, and interest in a role does not guarantee casting.

- In the event that you need financial assistance with costuming and cast pays for your costumes, they are owned by cast until you have paid it off. If you leave cast before that time, please be sure to pay for the costuming in full or return them so that others may benefit from them.

Availability:

You must communicate your availability before the given deadline or you risk not getting priority in casting. If you put availability in, and then do not show up because of not getting your desired role, you will NOT be considered for future casting.

Attendance:

{is mandatory}

If you have something come up, notify cast leads immediately. If rehearsals are missed, you may not get cast in your desired role. Additionally, you are required to provide evidence that you are rehearsing & preparing on your own time, ESPECIALLY if you miss rehearsal.

- DO NOT POST IN GROUP CHAT FOR ATTENDANCE -

Call-outs are to be made with at least 24 hours notice

- Emergencies happen, yes, but if you're having consistent emergencies, you must show evidence of preparation for your role in your own time and you may be asked to take a leave of absence.
- If you must leave a show early, notify a cast lead before leaving.

Admission to the Show:

Actively participating cast may attend shows for free, even if not cast for the show. Guests must pay for a ticket.

Call Time:

(Varies based on theater schedule. This will be announced in the week prior to the show)

At call time, performers must be in full makeup and costume (with appropriate coverings for characters who have surprise reveals ie: Frank, Trixie, Rocky)

Late arrival must be communicated to cast leads.

you are NEVER to be visible to audience in partial costume or partial makeup

Please do not arrive more than 15 minutes early to rehearsals, especially if it takes place at a private residence or if it is following another class at a studio.

STAY IN CONTACT AND UP TO DATE:

Most communication currently takes place through;

Facebook: messenger group chat "MIDNIGHT INSANITY GC" for main communication, and through the private cast page, "MI CAST ONLY" for resources, casting, rules, etc.

Instagram: @WorldFamousMidnightInsanity

- We also have Discord and occasionally use Zoom.
- You may also contact leadership directly through text or email.

PLEASE stay up to date on the cast page, checking for updates at least once a week. Check messenger group chats when you are tagged directly or in an @everyone as well as on the day of a show at the minimum.

Personal Items and Props are your responsibility. Leave valuables in a secure location, respect other's property, and do not leave personal items within the theater.

- If you damage cast property, you will be required to replace/repair or pay to replace/repair the item(s)

Cast to Cast Relations:

We always strive for a healthy, respectful, and professional relationship with all other casts.

- Do not compare our cast to others
 - Do not criticize other casts
 - Do not criticize our cast to other casts
- *again, if you have concerns, reach out to cast leads.

Our focus at MI is to create a screen accurate representation of the movie. Other casts do not have the same requirements. Acknowledging that different casts put on different shows, you are welcome to join another cast instead of or in addition to our cast.

Behavior:

Always be respectful and professional towards cast, theater employees, and audience. If there is a problem, address it privately with cast leaders. You must take responsibility for your actions and emotions.

- You are expected to set aside personal issues and animosity while at any cast function.
- You must have appropriate behavior at all cast functions/ gatherings of cast members in public spaces, as you are representative of

Midnight Insanity. This includes when there are small gatherings of cast members in public spaces. (The more of us in one place, the more easily we may be recognized)

- No coercion, gossip, or division, especially while in costume, at a show, or anywhere you may be recognized as cast.
- If the issue you have is too severe to set aside, you are expected to contact leadership immediately.
- It is up to audience and the screen-gag phantom to make jokes about the movie
- If you are not on stage and want to do call-backs, you must try not to overpower the audience. No shout-masters.

There will continue to be a three strike/ warning rule; However, a single incident MAY result in someone's immediate termination. This depends on severity and impact on the cast and/or theater.

- This will be at the leadership and theater's discretion.

Restaurants:

Cast must leave a minimum of a 20% tip when visiting as a group. Be respectful, conscious of volume, and dressed appropriately.

Drug and Alcohol policy:

No underage consumption of cannabis or alcohol is permitted. No illegal/ illicit drugs are allowed. No glass should be backstage, on the stage, or near the props.

Currently we have a "know your limit" policy, however this may be changed to a no tolerance policy if people abuse the leniency.

- If you are unable to complete your job/responsibilities due to intoxication, you will receive a strike on your record and may be asked to leave the event.

Cleanliness:

Please practice good hygiene and remove trash from the backstage area after the show

- This can include taking a shower, re-applying deodorant, brushing your teeth, applying perfume/cologne, and keeping costumes clean/aired out between shows.
- We are all required to clean up and pack up cast belongings after the show. We also recommend helping theater staff to clean the aftermath of prop-bags, especially after sold out shows.

Leave of Absence:

With adequate notice, leaves of absence are permitted; However, you acknowledge that the role you had before you left may be fulfilled upon your return.

If your role has been filled, we will attempt to find you another role.

*please give at least one month notice of leave in order to return on good terms.

- While on leave, you must buy a ticket to attend the show

Resignation:

One month notice is required in order to resign from cast in good standing.

Non-Disclosure Policy:

Cast business must stay within cast. Do not post/ discuss cast business outside of official cast page. If you're unsure that a topic is appropriate to discuss outside of cast, consult leadership.

Print your name in the blank and then sign and date this portion. You may keep the prior pages for your records and must return this portion to cast leadership.

I _____, have read and acknowledge the guidelines and cast rules provided above. I agree that if I fail to adhere to these guidelines, I may be asked to leave cast. It is my responsibility to review this document on the cast website periodically to ensure I am up to date on cast policies.

Sign here: _____ Date: _____