



By Will Averill

Thank you for your interest in seeking a role in Norton High School's fall drama. Below you will find important information that may be vital to your potential involvement.

### Academic Eligibility

First and foremost, your number one priority at Norton High School is your academics. In order to be eligible to secure a role in this year's fall drama, you must meet the same requirements as student athletes. If you are deemed ineligible by the OHSAA academic eligibility requirements, you will not be eligible to participate in this extra-curricular activity.

### Costume Fee

It is customary that cast members are responsible to obtain all or part of their costumes for drama productions. To ensure that all costumes will match the time and setting of the play, we will rent all costumes for *The Trials of Robin Hood*. There is a costume fee of \$40 per main show cast member. For Greenshow cast members, there is a \$15 costume fee to cover costs of materials for handmade costume pieces.

### Rehearsals

For the most part, rehearsals will take place after school, from **2:45 until 4:45 p.m., Monday through Wednesday**. Transportation arrangements must be made in advance. All cast and crewmembers are expected to have transportation from NHS no later than 5:00. When the calendar draws near the **production dates (November 7,8,9), evening rehearsals will take place**. A more detailed calendar with rehearsal locations and times will be provided to all receiving a part or serving on the crew. **Should you receive a part in the play, all cast members need to plan for an after school meeting and first read through on Thursday, August 29 from 2:45-4:30.**

### Responsibilities

**Before you audition for this play, understand that all cast and crew must strictly adhere to the NHS Code of Student Conduct. Those in violation of NHS's standards of behavior are subject to forfeiting their role in this production.**

As a member of the cast and crew, you will be held to high standards. Your work ethic, cooperation, behavior, and dedication are vital to a successful production. As a cast member, it is your responsibility to memorize lines by deadlines given by the director. Additionally, it is your responsibility to take direction from the director, to be at all required rehearsals, and to put forth the effort necessary to put on a quality production. As a crewmember, it is your responsibility to take direction from the director, to know your role as a crew member, and to know the script inside and out. As a member of the production, it is your responsibility to be sure that you are representing the Drama Department with class. Additionally, it is your responsibility to represent Norton High School in a manner that will be viewed positively by the Norton community.

### Rehearsal Attendance

Speech and Drama students are some of the busiest students at the High School. If you anticipate conflicts with rehearsal, do not audition/accept a role in this play. Join us on crew or committee and try to work out your schedule for the next play.

I will be casting two Understudies who will have the responsibility of attending rehearsals to support the production by prompting, standing-in for blocking, and learning the play.

### About the Play

#### **THE TRIALS OF ROBIN HOOD, BY WILL AVERILL**

CAST: 22-25M, 20-25F

Robin Hood: lusty hero, hopeless lover, or evil criminal? Upon his return from the Crusades, King Richard is forced to try and figure out what happened in his kingdom during his absence. Is the outlaw Robin Hood a hero, a lovelorn sap, or just plain mean? Told from the perspectives of Robin himself, Maid Marian, and Prince John, this hilarious tale combines three different stories into one -- and with three different endings, leaves it up to the audience to decide which one is true.

#### **GREENSHOW**

CAST: 10-15M/F

In the tradition of Shakespeare, the Greenshow will warm up audiences with short skits, dances, and songs. This year's offering is inspired by British medieval folklore with a modern twist.

#### **WHO WAS ROBIN HOOD?**

Robin is famous for his gallantry, robbing the rich to feed the poor and fighting against injustice and tyranny. Anyone who knows of Robin has also heard the stories of his outlaw band. The names of Little John, Friar Tuck, Maid Marion, Allan a Dale, Will Scarlet, Much the Miller and the evil Sheriff of Nottingham are as much a part of the legend as Robin Hood himself.

The stories of Robin portray him as a fearless outlaw leading his band of "merry men" (and women) against the tyranny of Prince John, The Sheriff of Nottingham and Sir Guy of Gisbourne. A brilliant archer, Robin lived a life of adventure - poaching the King's deer from the outlaws' retreat in Sherwood Forest.

Stories about the adventures of Robin have been told and retold for over six hundred years. In Robin's time, few people could read or write and consequently little was written down about the exploits of our hero. Instead, people learnt about Robin and his band through the ballad and song of wandering minstrels who weaved a patchwork of fact and fiction into the contemporary culture of the time. (source: <http://www.robinhood.ltd.uk/robinhood/legend.html>)

## Audition Procedure

Fill out the application and bring it with you to auditions on Wednesday, August 28. Review the eight attached audition scenes. Not every character in the play is represented in the audition scenes. That's OK—just choose the scene that best represents your ability and creativity. You may choose TWO scenes to read as part of your audition. Memorization is not necessary, but ACTING is necessary! Interpret and read your chosen role to the best of your ability. Directors will evaluate how well you use your **vocals, facial expressions, and body language** to bring the character to life. **Do not hold back in your audition...be creative and have fun!**

**Crew folks**—please come and check in at the beginning, turn in your paperwork, then you're free to go.

## Tips for the audition

This play is a comedic twist on a classic story. Even though presented in a humorous interpretation, the characters are the same ones depicted in the classic Robin Hood story. Informed actors will research the Robin Hood story and learn about the characters. **If you want to have a successful audition**, it is essential that you do your homework and get some knowledge about the story and characters. There are some good character descriptions here: <http://www.boldoutlaw.com/robbeg/> Also, Robin Hood is a classic BRITISH story and legend. If you can use a BRITISH ACCENT in your audition—DO IT! **The successful audition should include** appropriate vocals, facial expressions, gestures, and body movements. Do not hold back at this audition!

Thanks for your interest in Norton Drama. After coming off of a fun and successful previous year, I am excited about the possibilities with this play. Come ready to work and be creative! Reliable and innovative people will build, support, and perform this production.

See you soon—

Mrs. Pletcher