

Hi all,



The Barn Theatre wants to produce some radio plays and has asked me to direct, specifically 3 episodes of "Fibber McGee and Molly." Accordingly, we would like to find out who is interested in participating. Based on who is interested, we'll see if we need to do any sort of audition process.

This is voice performance, so clarity, variety, and playfulness will be very important.

Please reply by Tuesday, 9/8, if you are interested. Please reply to Cheri (production@thebarntheatre.com), but if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at keith_green@live.com <mailto:keith_green@live.com> .

We could use:

- * 4 adult men
- * 4 adult women
- * 1-2 sound effects people
- * 1 pianist

I've detailed the roles a bit more below.

Below is a lot of information about what it is and how it will work. Sorry for the length, but we're taking a different approach, so some explanation is warranted.

IN GENERAL...

We are going to record 3 episodes of "Fibber McGee and Molly," live, in the theatre. Given it's a radio play, there are no lines to memorize, and there are no costumes, set, etc.

The three episodes we want to record are:

Fibber McGee and Molly: Census Enumerator (<http://www.genericradio.com/show.php?id=366126d33272fd8e>)

Fibber McGee and Molly: Fibber has a Happy Face (<http://www.genericradio.com/show.php?id=5a63c52e2621f42a>)

Fibber McGee and Molly: Fibber Tries to Learn the Piano
(<http://www.genericradio.com/show.php?id=3c25f77b2023b033>)

DATES/REHEARSALS

The goal is to have this all done no later than the end of September, but specific dates for rehearsals and for the live recording will be determined in collaboration with the cast and The Barn. But in general, I expect:

- * 1-3 rehearsals that can be done at The Barn or via Zoom
- * 1 technical rehearsal, live at The Barn
- * 1 performance for recording, live at The Barn

These could be spread out over a couple of weeks, or they could all be done just a few days, again depending on what we work out collaboratively.

COVID ISSUES

First, I anticipate we will be using 4 microphones: a dedicated one for Fibber; a dedicated one for Molly; a dedicated one for the sound effects; and one that will be used for the other characters. The microphones will be placed 10-12 feet apart, so there will be plenty of social distancing.

For the shared microphone, we'll work together to figure out the best way to minimize exposure. I don't recall any of the characters being on that microphone simultaneously, so that will help.

Second, as for masks, not sure. The goal is to go without while performing to maximize sound quality. That's why the distances between microphones is important.

Third, the audience will be limited to 50 people (Barn Theatre Season Ticket Members/Advertisers/Sponsors) to maximize social distancing for them.

Fourth, The Barn is planning to hang a piece of plexiglass between the stage and audience as well as taking other sanitizing steps.

CAST SIZE

Cast size is flexible. I want to include as many of you as are interested. Specific role assignments will be determined once we have an ensemble. But initially, here's what I'm looking at:

For Men:

- * 1 to play Fibber McGee
- * 1 to play Mr. Old Timer (if you are familiar with Walter Brennan from the old westerns, that's what this guy is like) and other bit roles
- * 1 to play Wilcox (the announcer) and other bit roles
- * 1 to play Dr. Gamble and other bit roles

For Women:

- * 1 to play Molly
- * 1 to play Abigail Uppington
- * 2 to play various roles

SOUND EFFECTS/SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have ever seen something like "A Prairie Home Companion," I really want us to have our own sound effects person(s) doing all the effects live. These effects include things like:

- * Door bells, knocks, and doors opening and closing
- * Crashes, small and large
- * Dog bark
- * Champagne cork popping
- * Window opening

The other special need for "Fibber McGee and Molly: Fibber Tries to Learn the Piano" is a pianist. Most of the playing is of Fibber playing very badly, with one moment when another character plays very well.

So that's the plan as of now. Once we have an ensemble, we'll be able to solidify dates, schedule, and overall process.