

Auditions APA Fall Play

Agatha Christie's **A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED**

The Victorian home of the proper Miss Letitia Blacklock hardly seems a likely setting for a crime. So when a mysterious advertisement in the local paper announces the exact date and time a murder will take place there, the mistress of the house can only imagine it must be a silly prank. Of course, it's not. Luckily, the indefatigable Miss Marple is on hand to help the local inspector tackle one of Agatha Christie's most fiendishly ingenious and deadly puzzles of mixed motives, long-buried secrets and concealed identities.

Friday, August 29 & Tuesday, September 2
Callbacks are Thursday, September 4

Sign up on the call board in the M building for a time slot and prepare a 1 minute dramatic monologue, preferably memorized. We also encourage you to also audition for APA's Fall musical *Barnum* however since they are a week apart you may only be cast in one of the productions.

Director Robert Rotenberry is seeking actors for 4 performances October 23, 24, 25

The cast for A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED adapted by Leslie Darbon, includes 5 men and 7 women, playing ages 20 to 70, or so. The play takes place in Chipping Cleghorn, an English village. This means all of the characters (with 2 exceptions) should have some semblance of an English accent. Please prepare to read with an accent, but don't let this get you bogged down. The role of Mitzi will require a mid-European accent (e.g. Hungarian, Romanian, perhaps from an Asian country etc.), and the role of Rudy Scherz requires a Swiss accent. Skill with the accents is greatly appreciated, but they can be learned as well. We will be reading sides from the script for auditions for callbacks.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Miss Marple: Miss Marple is overly inquisitive, grandmotherly, but shrewd. Amateur detective. (Age: 60–70)

Letitia Blacklock: Owner of Little Paddocks, Letitia is attractive. She has clearly looked after her figure and features. She has taken in Bunny as well as Julia, Patrick and Phillipa. Reserved and opinionated. (Age: 45–50)

Inspector Craddock: Craddock is the local police inspector. He is serious and business oriented. (Age: 50)

Julia Simmons: Julia is staying with her Aunt Lettie. She is studying pharmacy. Beautiful but difficult. (Age: 22-24)

Patrick Simmons: Julia's brother, Patrick is a very handsome young man. A jokester, fights with Julia. (Age: 25–26)

Dora Bunner: Dora is Lettie's school chum who has become her companion. Befuddled and laughable. (Age: 45–50)

Mitzi: Lettie's cook, Mitzi is dark and mid-European or Asian (e.g. Hungarian, Romanian, Yugoslavian, Chinese etc.). She is explosive, if not paranoid but is very funny. (Age: 25–26)

Phillipa Haymes: Tall, rather elegant looking, blonde, and classy, Phillipa is a war widow with a young son. (Age: 26)

Edmund Swettenham: A serious young man with pretensions of being a writer, Edmund is dark and foreign looking, though very British. Embarrassed by his mother. He is interested in Phillipa. (Age: 26–27)

Mrs. Swettenham: Mrs. Swettenham is new to the village, she is very pushy but easily flustered. (Age: 58–60)

Sergeant Mellors: Mellors is Craddock's assistant. Sometimes not too bright but diligent. (Age: 25–30)

Rudi Scherz: Rudi is a young Swiss national. (Age: 20-21)

Six understudies will be cast to cover multiple roles.

***Each APA student who would like to audition must have APA Sticker in order to audition for this and all APA main stage shows. Each student must also have at least a 3.0 in their APA classes and an over G.P.A. of no less than 2.0 on your last report card or school transcript. Please bring copy of your last report card (or transcript) and your APA sticker to the audition or you will not be allowed to audition.

