

Auditions for *Unwell, a Midwestern Gothic Mystery*: a new audio drama serial from HartLife NFP.

HartLife NFP, the creators of the audio drama serial *Our Fair City*, will be holding auditions for their new flagship show *Unwell* on Sunday, February 18th and Saturday, February 24th, from 11am until 5pm.

We are currently seeking voice actors of all ethnicities (especially people of color) and genders (especially trans people). Some roles have specified genders, races, cultural backgrounds, or sexualities and some do not. We are committed to creating a diverse cast of talented actors and rewrites will be done with the final cast in mind.

Auditions will be held at HartLife Studios- 1934 N Campbell, Chicago IL, and will be short on-mic readings of sides, to be provided before auditions.

To set up an 15 minute audition slot, please send an email with resume attached to contact@ourfaircity.com.

A brief description of the Project:

Unwell is an audio drama about the mutability of memory, families of choice and blood, and the beauty and terror of the rural Midwest. In the first season, Lillian Harper moves to the small town of Mt. Absalom, Ohio, to care for her estranged mother Dorothy who has just showed the first signs of early-onset Alzheimer's. Living in the town's boarding house which has been run by her family for generations, she discovers conspiracies, ghosts, and a new family in the house's strange assortment of residents.

Unwell is currently planned to run for five seasons, each with 12 episodes. Some roles will involve a multiple-season commitment to the production.

Details on the First Season:

- First season full cast read-through: April of 2018
- Recording: between July and September of 2018 depending on actor availability.
- Compensation: \$35 per episode (with an expectation of 2-12 episodes per season depending on role), plus a stipend for the full cast read-through
- Maximum of 12 nights of recording for the first season, depending on number of episodes.
- Written by **Jim McDoniel** (*Writer for Our Fair City, Deathscribe 2017 Finalist*), **Jessica Wright Buha** (*Playwright produced by Lifeline Theater, The Plagiarists, Goodman Theatre, and more*), **Bilal Dardai** (*former artistic director and longtime ensemble member of the Chicago Neofuturists*), and **Jessica Best** (*creator of the award winning Strange Case of Starship Iris*). Directed by Jeffrey Gardner. Lead sound design by Ryan Schile.

Role Breakdown:

1. LILLIAN HARPER
 - a. Female or Nonbinary
 - b. Early 30's
 - c. Any ethnicity.
 - d. LILLIAN has recently moved to Mt. Absalom, OH to care for their estranged mother and the family boarding house as symptoms of early onset Alzheimer's appear. They have fond memories of visiting the town during summers as a child, but have not been back (or seen their Mother) since.

2. DR RUDDY PELHAM
 - a. Male or Nonbinary
 - b. Mid 30's
 - c. Any ethnicity
 - d. Ruddy is an astronomer who has recently moved to Mt. Absalom to rebuild the town's shuttered observatory. They are garrulous and sincere, and very open minded about the unusual goings-on in the house.

3. ABBIE DOUGLAS
 - a. Female or Nonbinary
 - b. Mid 20's
 - c. Any ethnicity
 - d. ABBIE is a recent college grad, a young historian who has moved to Mt. Absalom to write an official history of the strange town. They are skeptical, brilliant, and occasionally abrasive- the voice of caution and reason in a house full of ghosts.

4. THEODORE WESLEY
 - a. Male or Nonbinary
 - b. Teen
 - c. Any ethnicity
 - d. "Wes" is a teenage aid, volunteering with Dorothy Harper after school and on the weekends. They are very close, and Wes has become involved in nearly every aspect of running the boarding house.

5. CHESTER WARREN
 - a. Male
 - b. Mid 40's
 - c. Caucasian
 - d. Chester is the head of the local rotary club- a genial man who just wants to do what's best for his town. He is well liked, though he is occasionally a bit too helpful.

6. MARISOL CABRERA

- a. Female
- b. Early-Mid 30's
- c. Latina
- d. Marisol is the owner of Mt. Absalom's record store/VHS rental- a local who doesn't let the town's strangeness bother her.

7. SILAS CARTER

- a. Male
- b. Late 50's
- c. Any ethnicity
- d. A strange man on the edge of town, Silas is by turns dotting and snarling, grandfatherly and animalistic. He is sickeningly unpredictable and deeply charismatic.