



PAPA Audition Announcement

Are you ready for some Courtroom Drama? **The Plaza Alliance for the Performing Arts announces auditions to cast for a revival of Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution* on Monday, November 13, and Tuesday, November 14, from 7:00-9:00pm at the Plaza Arts Center.** PAPA presented *Witness for the Prosecution* during the Fall of 1983 in the main courtroom of the Putnam County Courthouse. Permission has been obtained to repeat this production in the main courtroom during February of 2018. We will not be providing scripts prior to auditions. Participants will have the opportunity to peruse the script on the evenings of auditions.

Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution* has become one of her most adapted stories for stage, film, and TV. She wrote it initially as the short story, *Traitor Hands*, where it was published in a United Kingdom collection in 1933. This story was first adapted for stage in 1954 and opened in London at the Winter Garden Theater.

Witness for the Prosecution tells the story of Leonard Vole, a young man, who despite being married to an older wife, fosters a relationship with a wealthy, influential matron, Mrs. Emily Jane French. When Mrs. French is found murdered, Leonard is taken by his attorney, Mr. Mayhew, to a law office to ask the famous trial lawyer, Wilfrid Robarts, to represent him. In Robarts' office, Leonard is arrested for the murder of Mrs. French. Leonard's wife, Romaine, asks Robarts to lead Leonard's defense.

Robarts agrees to represent Leonard. In the courtroom, Judge Wainwright presides as evidence mounts against Leonard. The case presented by the prosecutor, Mr. Myers, builds against Leonard as testimony is given by the Dr. Wyatt, police forensics, Clegg, the laboratory assistant, and Mrs. French's housekeeper, Janet MacKenzie. The courtroom drama, *Witness for the Prosecution*, culminates with an ending with a twist that promises to keep the audience engaged.

***Witness for the Prosecution* will be presented at the Putnam County Courthouse in the Main Courtroom on February 8, 9, 10, and 15, 16, 17 in 2018**

More Information on Cast: *Witness for the Prosecution* Era 1950s

There are several characters to be cast in this play. The list of the cast for *Witness for the Prosecution* includes these roles.

Leonard Vole – Defendant - Male 25-35 Confident young man, married to an older wife, who he appears to love. Appears in Act one office scene and courtroom scenes.

Wilfrid Robarts – Defense Attorney – Male 40-60 Competent trial lawyer, who enjoys his solid reputation as a topnotch trial attorney. Appears in all scenes in play.

Carter – Robarts' Chief Clerk - Male 40-60 Thoroughly prepared aide to Robarts. Appears in office scenes.

Judge Wainwright - Male 40-70 – No-nonsense judge. Runs a tight courtroom agenda. Appears only in courtroom scenes.

Greta – Typist to Robarts - Female 20-40 – Youthfully efficient in her support of Robarts’ office. Likes a little gossip. Appears only in office scenes.

Mr. Mayhew – Attorney - Male 30-60 Solicitous in manner. Acts as second fiddle to Robarts in court scenes. Appears in office and court scenes.

Romaine - Female 35-50 – Mysterious, different in manner than the norm. Appears distant, disconnected in her affection for her husband, Leonard. Appears in courtroom scenes and office scenes.

Inspector Hearn/Policeman (Act 3) - Male 30-50 Appears as arresting office in Act one and as policeman in remaining acts.

Plain Clothes Detective/Warden - Male 20-40 – Appears as detective in Act one and Warden in charge of Leonard in subsequent acts.

Clerk/Usher - Male/Female 20-50 Performs oaths, presentation of evidence in courtroom. In courtroom scenes only.

Myers – Prosecutor Male 40-60 Confident that he has built a solid case against Leonard Vole. Is aggressive in questioning of witnesses in courtroom scenes.

Court Stenographer - Male/Female – Non-speaking role. Writes proceedings in courtroom scenes.

Foreman - Male/Female – Only speaking role in jury. Announces verdict of the jury.

Dr. Wyatt - Male/Female 40-60 Professional medical expert. Gives sure and complete testimony in courtroom.

Janet MacKenzie - Female 50-70 Older female, who is hard of hearing, opinionated and not easily swayed from her belief of Leonard’s guilt.

Clegg - Male/Female 30-50 – Laboratory assistant to Dr. Wyatt. Further confirms medical evidence.

Other Woman - Female 20-ish Pretty, sassy, etc.

For questions concerning this production please contact Margaret at 706-485-5106 or morris_m@mercer.edu or contact the Plaza at 706-923-1655 or email events@theplazaartscenter.com