Evoluted
by Cindy J. Kaiser

MEMBER OPEN PLAY AGENDA & FORMAT

1. Arrivals/Sign-in

2. Welcome, Introductions

- Welcome to Member Open Play (MOP) at the Playwrights' Center, an opportunity for members to hear their plays read out loud and receive constructive feedback from fellow members. A reminder that the Center does not censor writers. We make our best effort to inform members joining us for Open Play about the content of the play being read.
- A reminder that for this play, we've outlined the following content warnings:
    - ***No content warnings***
- Let's introduce ourselves:
    - Your first name
    - Your pronouns
    - Is this your first Member Open Play session?

3. Intro of play by playwright and casting

- Introduction of the play from Playwright
    - Inspiration for the play?
    - Questions being asked by the play?
    - Any special considerations we should know?
- Casting & Reading
    - Based off the people present, and willing volunteers, a PWC staff member will "cast" the play. Please note we will try to adhere as closely as possible to the playwright's breakdown. Sometimes due to the casual nature of MOP, readers may be assigned roles outside of their perceived identity. In the spirit of collaboration, we encourage readers to embrace the role as fully and respectfully as possible.
    - Here at the Center we choose to assume good intent among our members and their work. Yet, we also want to provide a space that allows for constructive feedback from various identities and backgrounds. Sometimes, a piece of writing can be unintentionally triggering for a variety of reasons. As you know, no one is required to read out loud. If you find yourself uncomfortable at any moment, please know that you are free to exit the space at any time. We welcome feedback via email, or of course in our facilitated talkback after the reading.

4. **Read the play straight through without breaking**

5. **Brief five-minute break to stretch, use the restroom, get some water, etc.**

6. **Talkback Guidelines**
    a. A PWC staff member will facilitate the talk-back with a series of questions (listed below)
    b. We want to remind participants that the playwright does not have to respond to comments or answer any questions. If they want to, they are welcome to just listen.
    c. Please gear your comments/questions toward helping the playwright write the play *they* want to write. We ask that participants refrain from offering rewriting suggestions, or get caught up in comments around design, staging, stage directions, etc.
    d. If we run out of time and you still have comments you would like to share with the playwright, you can send them to our **Member Open Play - Afterthoughts form**.

7. **Talkback discussion prompts:**
    A. What is the play about? or What happened in the play?
    B. What stood out for you or was particularly effective?
    C. Was there anything that was confusing or took you out of the play?
    D. Who or what did you wish there was more of?
    E. Were there any concerns you noted around issues of identity, including but not limited to race, class, gender, sexuality, religious/spiritual affiliation, or ability?