

AUDITION DATES FOR Fall 2024 STAGE CENTER THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

Stage Center Theatre welcomes all actors from the University community at all experience levels. Below are the audition dates, times and locations for this fall Nuevas Voces Prize Winning Play festival and our partner production, HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF STARS with Teatro Vista! Nuevas Voces is our annual festival that celebrates vital writing from the NEIU community. Teatro Vista is Chicago's and one of the nation's leading professional theaters that centers and cultivates the work and identities of Latine artists and other artists of color. Check out their website here for more info: <https://www.teatrovista.org/>

Nuevas Voces will be directed by guest artist and NEIU alumnus Lisa Harriman while HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF STARS will bring internationally acclaimed playwright Sandra Delgado and guest director Denise Serna to campus!

So please mark your calendars! Auditions for Fall will be held in person or via self-tape recording. Please read the following instructions carefully:

Spring In-Person Auditions (Building F, Room 109) NEIU 5500 N St. Louis Avenue.

- 630-8 p.m. Thursday, September 5th

Callbacks: To be determined by the director.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHEDULE AN AUDITION IN-PERSON:

Auditions will be held in 7-minute slots by appointment or by self-tape. Walk-ins are welcome, but scheduling ahead is preferred!!

To schedule your audition:

- 1) **Please email neiuauditions@gmail.com to reserve your slot.**
- 2) Proceed to the Audition Materials Folder [here](#) and follow the below instructions.
 - a) Please review the casting breakdown linked in the folder and pasted below for important information regarding casting as specifics.
 - b) Choose the appropriate audition sides from this link for the character for whom you'd like to audition. Note: You do NOT need to be memorized for the audition. If a character has more than one audition scene, please prepare all options given in your folder.
 - c) We encourage you to read the script in advance
- 3) Please fill out our [Stage Center Information Form](#) prior to your audition. Please review all production dates carefully and include conflicts to the best of your ability.

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production dates carefully and include conflicts to the best of your ability!

Questions? Need support/assistance in prepping? Email agoldstein@neiu.edu for support!

CASTING BREAKDOWNS

by Sandra Delgado

Directed by Guest Artist Denise Yvette Serna

Co-produced in partnership with Teatro Vista.

Like millions of Americans, Clara's days are consumed with juggling work and family. Recently divorced, she's taking care of her tween-age daughter, her aging father – and paying alimony to her under-employed ex-husband. But in the midst of all that stress, she's got something to look forward to: a long planned trip to Europe with her daughter Stella. In preparation, Clara, who immigrated to the US with her family as a child, decides to apply for full citizenship. She wants to be able to stand in the same customs line as Stella. But when her citizenship application is flagged, it sets off an unfathomable series of events that threaten to force her out of the only home she's ever known.

Time

2015

Place

Chicago

The Cosmos

About the world(s):

Think *Weeds* meets Kafka's *The Trial* with a hint of Pina Bausch. This is an expressionistic dramedy where the surreal crashes into the real. There is the world where Clara is with her family and then there is the interstitial world: the in-between world dominated by wind and voices. Heightened movement in the interstitial scenes should echo the whirlwind in Clara's mind. Locations should appear as quickly as they disappear. Again: a whirlwind.

Character Breakdown

Clara, Latina, Stella's mother. Observant, compassionate. Learning to self soothe. A thoughtful parent. A hopeful American. She was a cheerleader and homecoming queen. She got a 35 on the English portion of her ACT. She was a manager at a candy store in the mall once, and when she was alone, she'd eat fancy chocolate and sour patch kids.

Ruben*** (see note below) Afro-Latinx as written though all LatinX identities are welcome to audition and will be considered for this production. a friend, but also Clara's, you know, "cousin". The connect. The confidante. Someone who will tell you the truth.

David, White, Clara's ex and Stella's father. A cool white guy. You don't want to resent him. But it's inescapable that he moves with privilege that Clara does not.

Papi, Latino, Clara's father and Stella's abuelito. Feels grief, love, and isolation in the profound way only an elder can. Is dealing with his own transitions. Clara moves through the world with privileges he does not.

Stella, Latina/White,, Clara and David's daughter.

Vega/Chava (played by the same actor), Latina, an immigration attorney/Ruben's neighbor. Each character carries themselves with authority and compassion, though it looks a little different.

and...

A Chorus of Stars

Chorus of stars will be embodied by the ensemble. If you are particularly interested in stage movement/ ensemble roles, please indicate in your audition materials. The actors named roles will also Be a part of the ensemble.

Additional Notes from the Director:

Casting Note:

****This production is a hybrid university and professional collaboration, featuring a guest director, that places a strong emphasis on authentic representation. As outlined in the script, one character must be portrayed by an Afro-LatinX actor. Our aim is to ensure that this identity is visible and celebrated within the ensemble.*

We are actively seeking talented performers who identify as Afro-LatinX to audition for this production. We recognize that this identity is not commonly represented on our campus, and we are committed to creating a space where Afro-LatinX voices are both seen and heard. Your presence in this production is vital to the integrity of the story we are telling and to the broader goal of increasing visibility for Afro-LatinX identities.

We encourage all students who resonate with this identity to consider auditioning and becoming part of this powerful narrative. Your participation will not only enrich the production but also contribute to a more inclusive and representative artistic community.

Performance Note:

We will work with an expectation for performers to explore realistic and abstract stage movement, ensemble storytelling, and breath work. You may be animating objects or creating spectacles that are indicated in the stage directions.

Haze and Lights Note

*This production will likely include theatrical haze and bright or flashing lights. Please include any questions or concerns.

THE HUMAN GOLDFISH

CHARACTERS

SHAUNTE BELL: Black female. 33-36 years old, mother. In school to be a nurse. Smart and attentive.

HAKEEM BELL: Black male, 18 years old and oldest son. Measured, observant.

HAYDEN BELL: Black male, 17 years old, son. Middle child, a bit of a goofball.

HAZEL BELL: Black female, 16 years old, daughter. Fiery and quick.

All genders are invited and encouraged to audition for Hakeem, Hayden, and Hazel.

SETTING

This takes place at their home. Specifically, in the living room. Present day.

INEVITABLE

CHARACTER

MARISSA: 21 years old, female-identified or nonbinary. Smart, facetious, and very powerful. “Little Miss/Mx Perfect” but slightly haunted and a little awkward – knows something you don’t. Her/their special abilities are biokinesis (inflicting injury or pain), indestructibility, mind control, telekinesis, and regeneration.

COLE: 21 years old, athletic, any gender. Flighty, goofy, and bold. Their special ability is teleportation.

TAYLOR: 21 years old, any gender. Sharp, observant, reliable, and courageous. A bit resentful. While they have no “special ability,” they are strong in combat.

JASPER: 21 years old, any gender. Smooth, flirtatious and agile. Their special ability is telekinesis.

LUCIFER: 50 years old, any gender. Powerful, leader of the anarchy, a scientist who specializes in nanotechnology to create humans with special abilities. Woman and nonbinary actors to the front.

SETTING

Middle of June, summertime, 2020. A damaged civilization or a broken society in the city of Chicago. A dystopian post-apocalyptic nation in a large city inside a building. A large building that has a spacious, secluded training room for those in society to train with powers or for combat.

IT IS WHAT IT IS

CHARACTERS

DAUGHTER: (Early to late 20's.) Anxious. Feels like the weight of the world is on her shoulders. Youngest of three children.

MOTHER: (Late 40's to Early 50's.) Comforting but a devil's advocate. A voice of reason and a sounding board for DAUGHTER'S frustrations. Wears blue.