

Education

Chesed Chap

Fall 2023

Who?

Producer: Chesed Chap
Director: Clara Yuste-Golob
Stage Manager: Sita Kottlilil
Preferred Contact Email: ex1@yaledramat.org

What?

A new comedy set at an Arizona bordertown high school that has had its arts program shut down by a new superintendent. We follow Wallace, senior and upstart director of the jazz band, as she faces the impossible: the American public school system.

When?

Info Session: August 28th, 7-8pm on Zoom (meeting ID: 632 158 2992, passcode 'education')
Auditions: August 29th-September 1st
Date of First Rehearsal: September 11th
Tech Week: September 29- October 4
Performance Dates: October 5-7
Overall Dates (First Rehearsal to Last Performance): 9/11-10/7

Time Commitment

Weekly Estimated Time Commitment:
9 hours per week during rehearsals, up to 20 hours per week during tech (the week leading up to the final performances)

Content Warnings

Includes brief exposure of undergarments, coarse language, and references to sex.

Audition Expectations

Auditionees should arrive early. Monologues excerpted from the play will be **provided**, and auditionees will choose one to perform on book (i.e. not memorized). They may be given notes and asked to perform a second time.

Audition Location(s)

- **Tues, Aug 29th, 7-10pm @ WLH 112**
- **Wed, Aug 30th, 9:30-11pm @ WLH 112**
- **Thurs, Aug 31, 7:30-11pm @ WLH 112**
- **Fri, Sep 1, 2:30-4pm @ WLH 011**

Please contact Chesed at 520-841-0353 if you get lost!

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***Education* Audition Packet**

Fall-Ex 2023

Yale University Dramatic Association, Inc. · P.O. Box 209037 · New Haven, CT 06520 · (860) 531-8224



EDUCATION by Chesed Chap follows the senior year of the jazz band at Arizona bordertown Pastizales High School, where a new superintendent has discontinued all arts programs in favor of longer core curriculum classes. Senior Wallace Piotowski is tasked with attempting to direct the jazz band herself, despite only being able to play glockenspiel. As the jazz band rushes to rehearse for the annual winter jazz clinic, *Education* irreverently explores power, bureaucracy, and art in the American public school. This comedic play is looking for actors of any experience, and welcomes first-time theater makers! Auditionees do not need to have any prior experience with instruments/music.

Meet the Team



Clara Yuste-Golob (director, they/them) is a junior in Berkeley studying Theater and Performance Studies who loves challah french toast, Spanish literature, and the band Muna. When not directing, you can find them singing jazz a capella with Proof of the Pudding or Eastern European folk music with the Yale Slavic Chorus. Or on the air at WYBC with Chesed.



Chesed Chap (producer/playwright, she/her) is a junior in Pauli Murray majoring in Theater and Performance Studies. This play was inspired by her involvement in her high school's marching/jazz/steel drum bands in Patagonia, Arizona. She is the director of the sketch comedy group Red Hot Poker. In her free time she makes comics, analyzes dreams on WYBC with Clara, and ponders in Bass Library.



Sita Kottlil (stage manager, she/her) is a junior in Davenport, majoring in Political Science and on the pre-med track. Outside of *Education*, you can find her PLing for La Casa, college aide-ing for the

Davenport College Office (go Gnomes!), distributing Narcan to students through her club, Students for Sensible Drug Policy, as well as speed-walking to the Medical School to do research. In her free time, she loves to read, try out New Haven restaurants, and dance in her room. She is so excited to be stage managing *Education* this fall!

Production Team Positions

If you are interested in working on the production team as an assistant director, assistant producer, assistant stage manager, or with our lights, sets, costumes, or makeup teams (can work on multiple teams!), **please contact Chesed at ex1@yaledramat.org**. Working as an assistant or on a team for the Fall-Ex can be a wonderful introduction to Yale theater and a way to meet many new friends (that's how Chesed and Sita met as first years!). Those not cast are also encouraged to join our production team! **These positions do not require previous experience.**

The Cast

All roles are open to actors of all races/ethnicities. Gender identities provided are in reference to the characters and not a requirement of the actor playing them.

All characters use coarse language throughout the show.

This is not a musical, but a play with music elements. The student characters can expect to play an instrument (not play *well*) and occasionally sing (not full songs), however, actors are not expected to become proficient at the instrument, nor do they need previous musical training. Music rehearsals will be low-stakes, and actors who have experience with a particular instrument could potentially play that rather than the instrument suggested for their character. **Actors of any/no music background are encouraged to audition. There is no music portion of the audition.**

The Students:

Instruments are flexible depending on casting.

WALLACE (*this character uses she/her*) is the nervous yet determined director of the jazz band. Overburdened with the nostalgia of what the jazz band was like under the leadership of an experienced teacher, she learns to smile through the pain and speak her mind. Plays the glockenspiel.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

**Wallace bugs Nico.*

NICO (*this character uses he/him*) is an ex-basketball player who feels out of place in the jazz band, yet strangely magnetized to Wallace and her mission. Surprisingly witty for someone who smokes weed everyday. Plays the drums.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

**Nico hugs Wallace.*

**Nico takes off his shirt in one scene, however, this can be altered according to the actor's comfortability.*

AUDREY (*this character uses she/her*) is Wallace's best friend, but would like to be seen as more than that. Outspoken, hilarious, and brutally honest. Plays the upright bass, and sometimes saxophone.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

YEARBOOK KID (*this character uses he/him*) is new to Pastizales High School. Meek and curious, his interviews for the yearbook can get on the lurker-y side. No instrument.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

The Teachers:

MR. HATHE (*this character uses he/him*) is the history teacher and basketball coach. And now the principal. And briefly the music teacher. Blunt and nonchalant-bordering-on-lazy, his classroom always manages to be in chaos.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

MS. LAWLEY (*this character uses she/her*) is the zany new science teacher. She is determined to help the jazz band stick it to the man.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

SUPERINTENDENT HOCHSTETTER (*this character uses she/her and is white*) has eliminated the arts at Pastizales High School. Shallow and cutthroat, she intends to transform the school in her image.

Rehearsal time: 9 hours/week

**Comments by the other characters are frequently made referencing Hochstetter's breasts.*

Audition Timeline

- Info session: Mon, Aug 28th, 7-8pm

Sign up to receive link via email: <https://forms.gle/QeG4B4Scpu4KcrWt8> (or go to Zoom with the meeting ID 632 158 2992 and passcode 'education'). The info session is an opportunity to ask questions/get to know the production team, and is not mandatory nor will impact chances of being cast.

- Auditions: [sign up via Yale College Arts' audition page](#) (click on 'Education', and make an account to access the ability to select a 10-minute audition slot)
 - **Tues, Aug 29th, 7-10pm @ WLH 112**
 - **Wed, Aug 30th, 9:30-11pm @ WLH 112**
 - **Thurs, Aug 31, 7:30-11pm @ WLH 112**
 - **Fri, Sep 1, 2:30-4pm @ WLH 011**
8-9pm @ WLH 011
- Callbacks: Sun, Sep 3, 2:15-6pm
- Casting notifications (calls) begin at **noon** on **Sun, Sep 10th**

Accessibility

The Dramat is committed to accommodating any and all access needs; please do not hesitate to contact us at ex1@yaledramat.org with any questions or concerns.

Audition Expectations

Auditions will consist of arriving **10 minutes before** your scheduled audition time, checking in, and selecting your monologue from the [provided options](#). There are four monologues to choose from, all excerpted from *Education* and titled with the character you will be reading. Any additional roles will be read by a member of the casting team. During the audition, you will perform your chosen monologue. We are not expecting a memorized or polished performance; we want to see you think on your feet. You might be given a note or pointer and asked to perform the monologue again. Afterwards, we will thank you for coming in, and your audition will be done!

Rehearsal Expectations

This show has a quick turnaround time from auditions to performances, so we'll be getting started right away after casting, and will be working as an ensemble when possible in rehearsals for the rest of the month. The rehearsal room is a collaborative space, where company members respect each other and the work they take part in. During a sample rehearsal, we'll begin with a check-in and a warm-up, and might work on blocking, characterization, or inhabiting the world of the play (music! mood boards! improv!) before checking out and setting goals for the next rehearsal.

Our stage manager Sita will work her Google Calendar magic to schedule rehearsals based on everyone's availability, and actors will be called as needed by scene. That being said, all cast members will be expected to dedicate 6-12 hours a week to the show over the course of the month, from rehearsals to tech all the way through performances– we'll be kicking off the school year with laughter, line learning, and good vibes, and going up just in time for Family Weekend.

Contact Us

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