**MARY JANE by Amy Herzog**

Directed by Sarah Valeika

Produced by Ellie Burke

April 29- May 1, 2021

Hello and Welcome!!!

**What is this play?**

Most importantly, this is a story of a community of strong caregivers. At its center is Mary Jane, a mother who faces both the mundane and the extraordinary challenges of parenthood for a sick child. As we are introduced to women around her, we find in each of them a strength, compassion, wisdom and wit that carry them forward—and hold them all together even as their worlds threaten to fall apart.

**Who are these characters?**

*Mary Jane (30s, female identifying): mother of Alex [Note: this role is precast]*

*Dr. Toros/Sherry (40-50, female or nonbinary): the former, a well-meaning doctor, often under pressures from parents which she cannot possibly satisfy; the latter, a nurse.*

*Brianne/Chaya (30-40, female identifying): the former, a Facebook friend of Mary Jane’s with shared experiences; the latter, a Hasidic mother whose child shares a room with Mary Jane’s son*

*Amelia/Kat (20s, female or nonbinary): the former, Sherry’s niece, a shy and endearing college student; the latter, the music therapist*

*Ruthie/Tenkei (60-70, female or nonbinary): the former, the blunt and honest superintendent; the latter, a Buddhist nun born into an Episcopalian family*

**How do I Audition?**

Anyone, regardless of enrollment status, year or experience, is welcome to audition! We invite you to audition with a self-tape (quality of filming here will not affect our decision!), and we ask that you include three things:

1. Tell us **why you are interested in this play**! Are you inspired by someone in your life, a story you’ve heard, our description of this play? What do you want in an ensemble experience?
2. A **monologue or short story** of your choice! This should be 1-2 minutes in length, and can be dramatic or comedic, from a play or crafted by yourself. Just share something that gives us a glimpse of what you love, what words feel right in your mouth, what stories you love to share.
3. Please tell us your **preferred role(s).** You may be asked in callbacks to read for multiple characters, but please select one of the four sets of character pairs that you feel most drawn to.