

DRAMA CLUB

About Drama Club

Drama Club students are heavily involved in every decision-making process, from selecting title of show, to designing the posters & t-shirts; from lighting each scene, to costuming the actors. They make business decisions, as well as problem-solving decisions. Drama Club students thoughtfully work together to realize a common goal: to successfully bring a script to life on stage.

The transferable skills gained in this process are many: verbal, written, and nonverbal communication skills; decision, problem-solving skills; diplomacy skills; organizational skills; clerical skills; accounting skills; public relations skills; media & technology skills; not to mention the invaluable growth in poise and self-confidence as a result of developing these skills. As you can see, Drama Club is so much more than memorizing lines and wearing costumes.

Club Expectations



Be kind & be respectful.

Be on time, be prepared, & be consistent.

Inform Ms. Bryant when you need to leave rehearsal early.

Take careful notes in your scrip with pencil only.

Learn your lines by October 8 or sooner.

All LACS school rules also apply.

Calendar Will be Ready at Time of Auditions

Remind.com Attached

You can also sign up via my website:
msbryantlowvilleacademy.weebly.com
 We also have a private Facebook page. Ask an officer to invite you.

Officers

Jack Samsa (*senior*), President

Matthew McIntosh (*junior*), Vice President

Hattie Steele (*senior*), Secretary

Kendyl Hardy (*junior*), Treasurer

IMPORTANT

1. **Auditions:** Please turn in the attached handout at the time of your audition.

2. **Parent Signature** giving Permission to Participate in Drama Club due by Tuesday, September 18th.

You will need the following SUPPLIES at every rehearsal:

1. **Your script.**
2. **A folder**
3. **Pencil & eraser**
4. **Highlighters**
5. **Sticky notes**

AUDITION INFORMATION

Title of show: Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*

Adapted by Jon Jory

Performances Nov. 8 & 9 at 7PM

Audition Date: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 (*please see Ms. Bryant if you have a conflict*)

Audition Time: 3:25 – 4:15 (*audition order: seniors, juniors, sophomores, freshmen*)

Audition Location: LACS Room 3304

Roles: 8 females, 6 males (*13-40 actors possible: 8-20 females, 5-20 males*)

Recommended Audition Preparation:

1. Read the novel.
2. Read the script.
3. Watch a film adaptation.
4. Watch at least one documentary covering the Regency Period.
5. Learn your monologue lines.

About the Play:¹ All of the wit and romance of Jane Austen's classic 1813 novel come to life in this refreshingly fast-paced and engaging new adaptation. Finding a husband is hardly Elizabeth Bennet's most urgent priority.

¹ Source: Playscripts, Inc.

Show dates: Thursday, November 8th & Friday, November 9th @ 7PM

But with four sisters, an overzealous match-making mother, and a string of unsuitable suitors, it's difficult to escape the subject. When the independent-minded Elizabeth meets the handsome but enigmatic Mr. Darcy, she is determined not to let her feelings triumph over her own good sense---but the truth turns out to be slipperier than it seems. In a society where subtle snubs and deceit proliferate, is it possible for Elizabeth and Darcy to look beyond his pride and her prejudice, and to make the best match of all?

Setting: In and around Hertfordshire, England, 1813 (Regency Period)

Production Description²

Casting a play of "Pride and Prejudice," adapted by Jon Jory from the Novel by Jane Austen. Production states: "This is a fresh, fluid, somewhat physical adaptation of Jane Austen's beloved novel. As a true ensemble piece, all cast will be expected to participate with simple scene shifts (moving a lightweight chair, placing props, pulling a curtain, etc.) and quick, clever representations of location. It is possible some performers will almost never leave the stage, in order to keep the seamless, cinematic pacing of the script. There is flexibility to the double casting of some roles, so bring your versatility and willingness to play."

Cast of Characters as listed in the script by Jon Jory:

Mr. Bennet

Mrs. Bennet

Elizabeth Bennet

Jane Bennet

Mary Bennet / Charlotte Lucas (*double role*)

Kitty Bennet

Lydia Bennet / Georgiana (*double role*)

Mr. Darcy

Mr. Bingley / Colonel Fitzwilliam / Servant (*triple role*)

Sir William Lucas / Mr. Collins / Mr. Gardiner (*triple role*)

Miss Bingley / Mrs. Gardiner (*double role*)

Ball Guest / George Wickham (*double role*)

Ball Guest / Lady Catherine De Bourgh / Housekeeper (*triple role*)

Ball Guest / Officer / Servant (*triple role*)

Character Breakdown:

² Source: <https://www.backstage.com/casting/pride-prejudice->

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Mr. Bennet (*lead male, 50-65*) - The patriarch of the Bennet family, a gentleman of modest income with five unmarried daughters. Mr. Bennet has a sarcastic, cynical sense of humor that he uses to purposefully irritate his wife. Understands the manners of the age, but has a great sense of humor. Loves his daughters and his wife. A country squire who cares little for responsibility or social frippery. He loves his daughters and his wife, but often cares more for a good joke than being a strong, responsible father.

Mrs. Bennet (*lead female, 50-65*) - Mother of five girls. Mr. Bennet's wife, a foolish, noisy woman whose only goal in life is to see her daughters married. Because of her low breeding and often unbecoming behavior, Mrs. Bennet often repels the very suitors whom she tries to attract for her daughters. She wants the best for all of them, despite their lack of dowry, and worries the rules of inheritance will leave them stranded. Mr. Bennet's emotional wife. Mrs. Bennet is vapid and vain. Her largest concern in life is seeing her daughters married (preferably to a rich man) so they may care for her when she is older.

Elizabeth Bennet (*lead female, 20*) - The Bennets' vivacious second daughter. Elizabeth is a studier of character. She is witty, funny, and willful, something her mother often despairs over. Despite her seeming cynicism, Elizabeth is truly a romantic, swearing that if she were to marry it would only be for the deepest love and to a man whom she could respect. She rarely takes other's barbs to heart, preferring to laugh them away. Well-read, outspoken, sees life with more skepticism than her older sister. Elizabeth is the most intelligent and sensible of the five Bennet sisters. She is well read and quick-witted, with a tongue that occasionally proves too sharp for her own good.

Jane Bennet (*lead female*) - Jane always sees the good in everyone, even when their actions seem inexcusable or cruel. Though her mother would prefer Jane marry someone rich, she would much rather marry for love. She is shy with her emotions, shielding her heart by presenting a charming, polite exterior. Mature, well-mannered, and sees only the best in everyone she meets. The eldest and most beautiful Bennet sister. Jane is more reserved and gentler than Elizabeth.

Mary Bennet (*lead female, 19*) - The third, and middle, daughter of the Bennets. Thoroughly unremarkable, Mary strives to be as witty as Lizzy by correlating other's behavior to religion and philosophy. She is the most accomplished of the sisters due to her stoicism and plodding determination in the face of mediocrity. Always reading. Always.

Charlotte Lucas (*supporting female, 26*) - Elizabeth's dear friend and neighbor. She is older than Lizzy, reaching the age where she is considered to be "on the shelf" and a burden to her parents. Pragmatic where Elizabeth is romantic, and also six years older than Elizabeth, Charlotte does not view love as the most vital component of a marriage. She is more interested in having a comfortable home. Because of her plain appearance, Charlotte has not married and has a more practical approach to marriage.

Kitty Bennet (*lead female, 17*) - The fourth Bennet daughter. Kitty follows the lead of her younger sister, Lydia. She is silly and energetic, caring more for the opinions of officers and the latest lace fashions, rather than for books or learning. She wants to be seen as an individual, but is always shadowed by her younger sister.

Lydia Bennet (*lead female, 14*) - The youngest Bennet sister, she is gossipy, immature, and self-involved. The youngest Bennet daughter at age 14, and arguably the most ridiculous. She is loud, brash, silly, and self-centered. She cares only for her own wants, and she cares not a whit for how her actions and choices affect her sisters. Somewhat rebellious and opinionated. She wants to grow up much faster than expected.

Georgiana (*supporting female, 14*) - Also 14, but she is opposite of Lydia in every way. Georgiana is shy, shrinking from social interactions. She is much younger than her brother, whom she looks up to as a father figure. Attractive, quiet.

Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy (*lead male, 28*) - The enigmatic, wealthy master of the Pemberley Estate. Mr. Darcy is of the upper class and looks down on those of the lower classes. He does not care to ingratiate himself to others. Too often, he has watched others value his opinions only for his wealth and influence. He is shy and reticent, preferring to observe social gatherings from the edges. Nephew of Lady Catherine de Bourgh. Though Darcy is intelligent and honest, his excess of pride causes him to look down on his social inferiors. Wealthy, clever house-guest of Bingley. A bit aloof and opinionated, particularly about class and family status.

Mr. Charles Bingley (*lead male, 25*) - The new single man in the Bennets' neighborhood. He is affable, charming, and eager to please. He enjoys dancing and any other social activities. Despite (or because of) the fact he and Mr. Darcy are opposites in nearly every way, Bingley and Darcy are the very best of friends. Darcy's considerably wealthy best friend. Bingley's purchase of Netherfield, an estate near the Bennets, serves as the impetus for the novel. He is a genial, well-intentioned gentleman, whose easygoing nature contrasts with Darcy's initially discourteous demeanor. Responsible, mature, somewhat conservative.

Colonel Fitzwilliam (*supporting male, 25*) - Mr. Darcy's cousin. Their relationship is more that of brothers, because of their similar ages. Colonel Fitzwilliam is sociable and pleasant, like Mr. Bingley. Colonel Fitzwilliam is the second son of an earl, so he has lived in privilege but worked for his own status in the military.

Sir William Lucas (*supporting male, 50's*) - Charlotte's father and the Bennets' neighbor. He is considered the highest ranked man in the neighborhood due to his knighthood, and he is popular with his neighbors due to his kindness and volubility.

Mr. Collins (*supporting male, 25*) - A pompous, generally idiotic clergyman who stands to inherit Mr. Bennet's property. He is the worst combination of snobbish and obsequiousness. Distant cousin of Mr. Bennett, and presumed male heir to the Bennett estate. Mr. Bennet's clergyman cousin who will inherit Longbourn Estate, the Bennets' home. He is repulsive to the Bennet women and patently ridiculous, particularly in his effusive esteem for his patroness, Lady Catherine de Bourgh.

Mr. Gardiner (*supporting male, 35*) – Mrs. Bennett's brother, patient, caring, and surprisingly, a man of taste.

Miss Caroline Bingley (*supporting female, 22*) – She is shrewish and cruel to those she deems below her station. Miss Bingley is obsessed with becoming the next Mrs. Darcy, though she pursues him more for his wealth and influence than his personality. Snobbish, spoiled, scheming younger sister of Mr. Bingley. Miss Bingley bears inordinate disdain for Elizabeth's middle-class background.

Mrs. Gardiner (*supporting female, 30*) - Wife to Edward, sensible, intuitive, kind. She and Elizabeth have a close relationship, and Elizabeth often confides in her.

George Wickham (*supporting male, 28*) - A handsome, fortune-hunting militia officer. Wickham's has good looks and charm which attract Elizabeth initially, but Darcy's revelation about Wickham's disreputable past clues her in to his true nature. Feels betrayed by Darcy. Courts two of the Bennett sisters. A member of Meryton's (the Bennets' hometown) local militia. He has a complicated past with Mr. Darcy, though in the beginning Lizzy does not know what. He is charming and seems to possess all the social skills a young man ought to.

Lady Catherine De Bourgh (*supporting female, 50-65*) - A widow. Mr. Darcy's imperious, meddling aunt. A rich, bossy noblewoman; Mr. Collins's patron and Darcy's aunt. Lady Catherine epitomizes class snobbery, especially in her attempts to order the middle-class Elizabeth away from her well-bred nephew. Actress portraying this role may be doubled with multiple other roles. She is a powerful woman, and she believes her opinion is not only the right opinion, but also the only opinion.

NOTE: Depending on audition turnout, some multi-character roles *may* become individual roles. In addition, some non-speaking extras may be cast.

MONOLOGUES

For Jane, Elizabeth, Mary/Charlotte, Miss Bingley/Mrs. Gardiner, Lady Catherine:

ELIZABETH: How humiliating is this discovery, yet how just a humiliation. Had I been in love I could not have been more wretchedly blind, but vanity, not love, has been my folly. As to the mention of my family in terms so mortifying, my sense of shame is severe, but the charge strikes too forcibly for denial. Their defects, I fear, seem hopeless of remedy. My mother puts herself forward beyond all expectation while my father does nothing to restrain the uncontrollable giddiness and self-willed carelessness of my younger sisters. Only excepting dear Jane what can I call them all but ignorant, idle and vain... How despicably I have acted! I, who have prided myself on my discernment. Until this moment, I never knew myself.

For Mr. Darcy, George Wickham, Mr. Bingley/Colonel Fitzwilliam:

DARCY: In vain have I struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you... I see I dismay you. I am slow, even dilatory. I should have declared myself at an earlier date. But there were, of course, the family obstacles which judgment always opposed to inclination. The general sense of your social inferiority, of it being a degradation of the line. I could not forget my responsibility to an estate, a way of life, a pride of place which might, given your circumstances, dis-include you, and thus the very ardency I described took place against my will and reason, or rather in opposition to my character and inclination, but the very strength of my attachment has made it impossible for me to conquer my feelings, and I can only express the hope that these feelings will now be rewarded by your acceptance of my hand. There... I have spoken ill but mean well, Miss Bennet.

For Mr. Bennet, Sir William/Mr. Collins/Mr. Gardiner:

MR. COLLINS: Before I am run away with by my feelings... I shall enumerate my reasons for marrying. First, to set the example of matrimony in my parish... Secondly, it greatly adds to a man's well-being. And thirdly by the particular advice and recommendation of Lady de Bourgh, my patroness... You may observe, fair cousin, that I do not reckon the notice of Lady Catherine de Bourgh the least of my advantages. Your wit and vivacity, I think, must be acceptable to her, especially when tempered with the silence and respect which her rank invariably excites. Fourth, as I am to inherit this estate after the death of your honoured father, I feel bound to choose a wife from among his daughters that the loss to them might be as little possible... As to dowry, I am well aware of your father's finances and you may assure yourself that no ungenerous reproach shall ever pass my lips when we are married.

For Mrs. Bennet, Kitty Bennet, Lydia Bennet/Georgiana Darcy:

LYDIA: Congratulate me, sisters; it is a great while since I've been here. Good gracious! When I went away, I am sure I had no idea of being married, though I thought it would be very good fun if I was. Dear Jane, I take your place now, and you must go lower because I am a married woman. And what do you think of my husband? Is he not a charming man? All my sisters must go to Brighton now, as that is the place to get husbands. (For Mrs. Bennet, Kitty Bennet, Lydia Bennet/Georgiana Darcy)

Parent/Guardian Participation Permission and Student Commitment Form:

I understand that my child is auditioning and/or participating in the LACS HS Drama Club and I give my parent/guardian permission to permit him/her to participate in the 2018-2019 production. I understand that rehearsals take place after school, as well as some evenings and some Saturdays. Further, I understand that **the final four rehearsals and both performances require mandatory attendance of the entire cast and crew.** Lastly, I understand that unexcused absences or inappropriate behavior may result in one's dismissal from participation at the advisor's discretion.

- Please contact Ms. Bryant if your child cannot attend a rehearsal, is late, or must leave early.
- Attendance is taken and students are to sign-in at the beginning of each rehearsal.
- The advisor will not keep students from leaving rehearsals on time as indicated on the given rehearsal calendar.
- Students are not to keep their rides waiting; they may excuse themselves and meet their rides directly.
- Rides should pick up their children on time, as well.

Please be aware that students must remain in good academic and disciplinary standing in order to participate in the Drama Club production of *Pride & Prejudice*.

Thank you for your support,

Ms. Bryant (mbryant@lowvilleacademy.org / 376-9015 ext. 3304)

Signatures Required:

I give my child permission to participate in LACS Drama Club and agree to the expectations thereof.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

I am committed to faithfully participate in the LACS Drama Club 2018-19 *Pride & Prejudice* production.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Please turn in the following survey to Ms. Bryant at the audition.

- Name _____
- Parent/Guardian Phone Contact _____
- Grade: _____ HMRM Teacher Name _____
- Please indicate the parts you are most interested in, or simply state that you will take any role however great or small:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- Is/are there any role(s) that you will NOT accept? Please name the character(s) explain your reasoning(s) if yes.
- We also need a backstage crew in the following areas (you don't need to audition for the following position(s); many stage crew hands make light work for all). Please circle any you are interested in doing.
 1. Props coordinator
 2. Makeup/Hair
 3. Sound
 4. Lighting
 5. Wardrobe Organizer
 6. Set Design
 7. Historian
 8. Photographer
 9. Poster designer
 10. Playbill designer
 11. Publicity

Other Extracurricular Activities / Commitments / Jobs

List **ANY** conflicts that will interfere with rehearsals (please cross examine the drama calendar with your personal calendar to make informed decisions).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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