



WHO/WHERE: The Navasota Theatre Alliance at 104 W. Washington Avenue, Navasota, Texas 77868, 936-825-3195, navasotatheatrealliance@gmail.com, www.navasotatheatre.org

WHAT/WHEN: Open auditions for cast and crew for the full-length comedy/drama *Steel Magnolias* by Robert Harling directed by Earlene Rainey will be held on **Monday, July 24 AND Tuesday, July 25**. It is requested that actors plan on attending both audition days. Please arrive promptly by 6:45PM. If you'd like to save time, you can fill out the audition form in advance. Please download it from our website and bring it with you.

WHAT TO EXPECT: All potential cast and crew must fill out an application outlining their interests and qualifications. During the auditions, you'll be asked to cold read from the script. The director may ask you to read for different parts beyond those listed on your application. We ask that you make every effort to attend both audition dates. It is NTA's policy not to distribute scripts in advance so everyone has an equal opportunity to be cast for any character-specific role in which they can successfully execute in a believable manner. Once a cast and crew are selected, NTA will provide a contract that needs to be signed and returned prior to the first rehearsal. House rules will also be distributed at no later than first rehearsal. Youth under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

NTA is an all-volunteer community theatre and non-profit 501(c)3 organization that welcomes anyone with an interest in community theatre and ability to learn to attend its auditions. In addition to the characters in this play, we also seek assistant directors, stage managers, technical directors, prop building teams, and stage hands. If you're interested in a crew role, please come to the auditions.

DIRECTOR BIO: Earlene Rainey has been involved with community theatre for over 18 years. She has extensive experience as an actress and as a director of community theatre, church plays, and local touring groups. She was the artistic director for the Navasota Theatre Alliance for many years and as such has directed 38 plays and founded and directed the Theatre's annual graveside historical performances of "Lanterns & Legends" and our faith based traveling troupe, "In His Light Players." She also expanded and directed our children's theatre camps to include strong curriculum and training in all areas of theatre with resulting full productions at the end of their camp experience. Mrs. Rainey is also a speaker and trainer with the John Maxwell Leadership Team.

DESCRIPTION: *Steel Magnolias* by Robert Harling

Six women come together in this hilarious and heartwarming story of life, love and loss in a small Louisiana parish. At the center of the group is Shelby, newly married and joyfully pregnant, despite the

fact that her diabetes could make childbirth life-threatening. Terrified and angry at the possibility of losing her only daughter, M'Lynn looks to her four closest friends for strength and laughter as she battles her deepest fear of death in order to join Shelby in celebrating the miracle of new life.

ROLE/CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS: 6 Females

Truvy: Aged 40's-60's - Owner of a small town beauty shop. She cares about and knows everyone's business and shares it with anyone who will listen. A Southern Belle. She always has advice for you, and they often come in the form of country sayings.

Annelle: Aged 20's- A rather shy woman with a recent personal challenge. She is a trained hair dresser. She goes from a very soft -spoken person to a bible loving Christian with her heart on her sleeve.

Clairee: Aged 50's-60's- A widow of the former mayor of Chinquapin. She is wealthy and also knows everyone's business. She is the sarcastic member of the group. She loves to laugh and poke fun at the little things that others cry over. She is very close with Ouiser.

Shelby: Aged 20's- A diabetic young lady. Prettiest girl in town, and loved by all. She has a complicated relationship with her mother, and often rebels just for the sake of rebellion.

M'Lynn: Aged 50's. The mother of Shelby, her youngest child and only daughter. She is over-protective at times and finds the need to have a firm grasp on the world at all times.

Ouiser (pronounced Weezer): Aged 50's-60's. She is roughly the same age as Clairee, as they are great friends with lots of history between them. She is a wealthy old bitty. She is a loveably miserable lady, though. Her unique personality and sense of humor is a great relief in the serious scenes.

AGE RANGE DISCLAIMER: Noted age ranges are broad and may be adjusted in some characters allowing the director, at his or her discretion, to make believable character matches among defined roles, and appropriately align characters within a believable multi-generational performance.

A Dramatist Play Service, Inc. production.