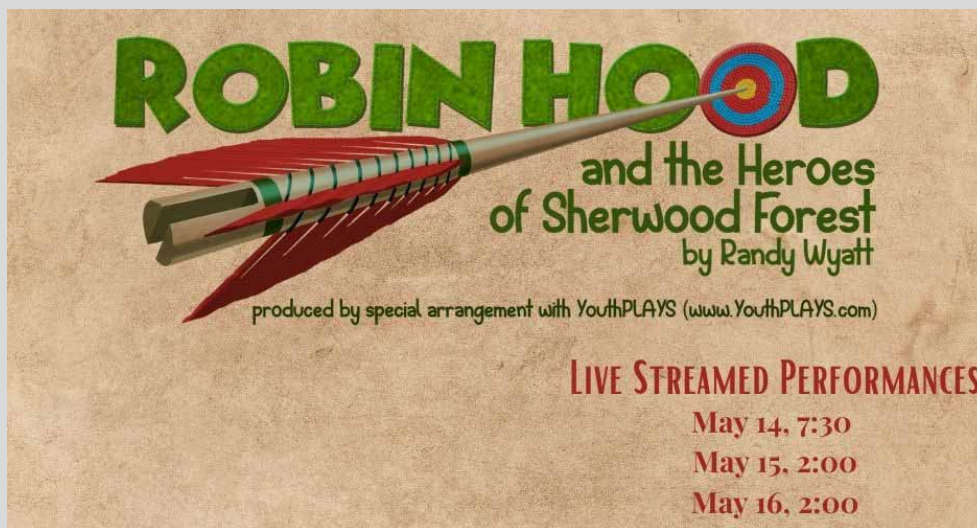


KALAMAZOO CIVIC



DRAMATURGY PACKET 2021



Prepared by Gloria Billingsley

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

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Taken from the script's character descriptions:

**Robin Hood**, our hero

**Little John**, a hulking barbarian of few words

**Alan-a-Dale**, a wandering minstrel

**Scarlet**, a female warrior in a man's world

**David of Duncaster**, an ex-soldier turned leathersmith

**Friar Tuck**, jovial and hungry

**Maid Marion**, feisty and compassionate

**Genevieve**, her teenage handmaiden

**Prince John**, a wannabe, but dangerous and cruel

**Talone**, a tax collector, shrewd and cowardly

**Sheriff of Nottingham**, the muscle, downtrodden

**Lady Nottingham**, a tiresome shrew

**Natty Nottingham**, a brat

**Rucky**, a lost peasant boy

**Flora**, his sister, protective

**King Richard**, the rightful king, often disguised

**Servants, Festival Performers, Merchants,** and

**Guards**

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## THE LEGEND OF ROBIN HOOD

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Robin Hood was a legendary English outlaw known for robbing from the rich and giving to the poor. There are five famous ballads written about him, with poems dating as far back as 1377.

Traditionally, Robin Hood has been placed during the reign of Richard I, also known as Richard the Lionheart. Robin Hood's adventures usually took place when King Richard was absent, either fighting in the Crusades or when he was taken into captivity. King Richard's brother, Prince John, is usually painted as the ruler and antagonist in Robin Hood's world.

Robin Hood and his band of merry men made their hideout in Sherwood Forest. Robin Hood's adventures usually include fighting his nemesis, the Sheriff of Nottingham, and saving his love interest, Maid Marian.



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## WAS THERE A REAL ROBIN HOOD?

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We can never really know if Robin Hood was real or not. There were definitely robbers in the past and it can be they inspired the legend of Robin Hood. Robin Hood's character and legacy also continued to grow and change throughout the centuries. The character of Robin Hood is deeply engrained in English history and mythology.

While we can never know if Robin Hood was real or not, Prince John and King Richard definitely were real. Prince John will later become King John who signed the Magna Carta.

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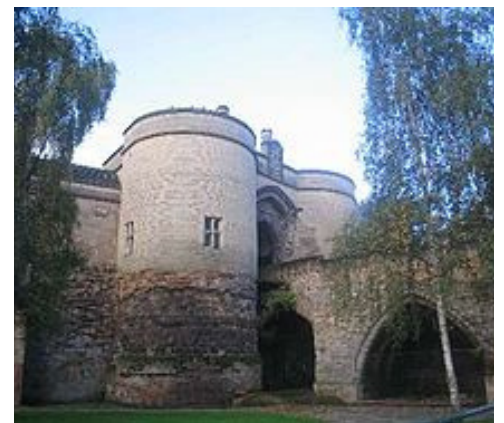
## LOCATIONS

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**Sherwood Forest** - a royal forest in Nottinghamshire, England.

**Nottingham** - A city in Nottinghamshire. Historically, supporters of Prince John, such as Sheriff of Nottingham, occupied this castle while King Richard was in the Crusades.

**Doncaster** - a market town in South Yorkshire, England



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## MAID MARIAN & THE WOMEN OF ROBIN HOOD

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Maid Marian is known for being Robin Hood's love interest, but don't think she is a stereotypical damsel in distress. In the Robin Hood folklore, Maid Marian is praised for her courage and independence. In various adaptations of the myth, Marian has been seen as strong, noble, and a defender of what's right.

Some recent adaptations of the Robin Hood myth also portray her as tomboyish and a skilled fighter.



*Olivia de Havilland as  
Maid Marian*

Maid Marion in 'Robin Hood and the Heroes of Sherwood Forest' is a noblewoman of status. She is ladylike and independent. Marion is not afraid to speak her mind, constantly mocking Prince John when his plans go awry. She also defends what is right. Marion initially doesn't like Robin Hood; not because he is a commoner, but because she has an aversion to robbing. From the original ballads and through countless adaptations, Marion proves herself to be an empowered woman and is one of the earliest strong female characters in English literature.

In 'Robin Hood and the Heroes of Sherwood Forest,' Maid Marion is not the only strong female character. There is Scarlet, inspired by the mythological Will Scarlet, who holds her own as a skilled archer and fighter for the Merry Men. She protects Flora and helps her find a home among the Merry Men in Sherwood Forest. Flora is a young girl but she is protective of her brother; she bravely defends Rucky from the Sheriff of Nottingham. Flora has the strength to take care of herself and Rucky after being separated from their sister. While some people may see Marion's friend, Genevieve, as demure or scared, she has the courage to fight for what's right. Even when facing off Prince John, Genevieve refuses to abandon Marion in her time of need.

Robin Hood isn't just a story of a band of brothers - the women of Robin Hood prove they can hold their own in the Forest of Sherwood.

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## TERMS TO KNOW

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- Farthing - a quarter of an old English penny; the least amount
- Minstrel - a medieval singer or musician

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## TECH WEEK AND PERFORMANCES

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We will be rehearsing and performing through Google Meets. Tech week is when we will practice livestreaming before we premiere, as well as add in our sound cues and digital backgrounds and effects. Everyone will also have their costumes, props, and necessary light and set equipment with them at home. You will start incorporating all of our technical elements together during tech week.

### **TECH DATES**

We will practice what a livestream in-person performance will look like during tech week.

Tech will take place from May 10 - 13th with a 4:30pm call time.

### **PERFORMANCES**

Audiences can purchase a ticket online or call the Box Office. Your family and friends in the United States can stream your performance from the comfort of their homes!

Performance dates are May 14th, Friday, at 7:30pm and May 15-16th, Saturday and Sunday, at 2pm.

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## HOW TO GET A TICKET?

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These shows are Live Streamed, meaning you have to watch them during the specific show time. Tickets can be ordered on the website under the "production" tab. The audience will not be emailed a password or link. To view the content, simply go to [My.KazooCivic.com](https://www.kazoocivic.com), log in and choose digital content. This content can only be streamed within the US.

Need more help? Check out the video on our home page:  
<https://www.kazoocivic.com/home>



# AUDITION INFO

Auditions will be held over Google Meets. When you sign up for an audition slot on our SignUp Genius link, we will ask for information such as your email, phone number, any conflicts with rehearsal and performances, and what roles you are interested in. A few days prior to auditions, the stage manager will email you a Google Meets link to the audition. We have included some Virtual Audition Tips and Tricks on the next page to talk about how to get audition ready with your technology. Most importantly, remember to have fun!

## **WHAT TO EXPECT IN AN AUDITION**

- You will be let in around 3 at a time. Depending on what times people sign up, you may be in the room with 1 to 2 other volunteers auditioning. The director, stage manager, and assistant stage manager will also be in the Google Meets.
- Please state your name loud and clear
- You will be asked to prepare a scene from our audition packet. These do not need to be memorized, but please familiarize yourself with the text prior to auditions. We might ask you to read from the script.
- The director may or may not give you directing notes to see if you can apply them to your performance. Don't worry, they're really fun exercises to help engage with the character more. Think of it more as a fun free masterclass than an audition.
- We will release you once you complete your scene. If you are called back for a callback, we will let you know in an email the next day. A callback is when we would like to see more from certain people to see what roles they could be for. Receiving or not receiving a callback does not mean you are or are not cast. A callback just means we wanted to try something. So whether you are called back or not, make sure you check when our cast list is posted!

## **AUDITION PREPARATION**

- We recommend reading the whole script. It will help you understand the context of your monologue and also what we may be looking for in someone auditioning.
- When practicing your monologues, think about what the character wants. What do they want? How are they going to get it? And how badly do they need this? When you think about these questions and apply it to your monologue, you'll be surprised how many options are opened up to you as a performer vocally, physically, and emotionally.
- Warm up. It's always a good idea to do some tongue twisters, stretching, and breathing exercises before performing.

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## VIRTUAL AUDITION TIPS AND TRICKS

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The following are only suggestions, not requirements, to help make your audition process smoother. At the end of the day, you can decide what helps you feel confident and ready for audition!

### Camera Setup

- Make sure you can securely set up your camera where it will not fall or lean
- It is suggested to use a laptop or computer camera for stability, but if you are using a phone or tablet, make sure to set up a secure spot for it
- The camera should frame the mid-chest to the top of the head
- The camera should be facing you flat out instead of being tilted upwards or downwards
- Make sure to wipe your camera lens so it's clean
- For eyeline, it is recommended to look at the camera instead of the screen or down at a script. If you still need your script, it is recommended to either print the sides and tape them above the camera or to pull up a digital copy on your screen to follow along.

### Mic Setup

- If you have an external mic that can be plugged into your device and set up outside the frame, this is suggested so we can hear you clearer. If not, many phone headsets have a mic built in.
- If you do not have or decide to not use an external mic, locate where the mic is situated on your device. Make sure during set up that the mic is not blocked or covered. Also make sure to clearly project to the mic.

### Background

- You will want to choose a well lit area so we can clearly see your facial expressions. If you own a ring light, it would be a good idea to use it.
- It is recommended to set up your space in front of a blank wall. You would want your background to be clean and not distracting.
- You would want to set up your audition in a space where background noise would be limited, people would not be able to accidentally interrupt, and you feel confident and ready!

Helpful Tip: Make sure all of your devices are ready to go at least 10 minutes before your audition. If you experience any tech issues, feel free to contact us and we can walk you through it. Break a leg!