

**I. Production Policies**

- A. Students must be enrolled in the **SUMMER** Session before you can be scheduled for an audition time
- Once you have auditioned, you will not be eligible for a refund or credit for your class tuition.
- B. You must be age 8-18 by August 2nd, 2019 to be eligible to audition or crew the show.
- C. You must have an appropriate crew credit.
- After two consecutive shows as a cast member, you must crew a show before you can audition again.
- D. You may not miss any performances or tech week rehearsals.
- Tech Week: July 28th 12-6p, July 29th-31st 4-10p, Aug 1st 6-10p
  - Performances:  
*Friday August 2 at 7p      Saturday August 3 at 2p      Sunday August 4 at 2p*  
*Friday August 9 at 7p      Saturday August 10 at 2p      Sunday August 11 at 2p*
- School Day shows:  
*No School Day Performances*
- E. There is a \$95 Production Fee for cast members and a \$50 fee for Crew Members. This goes towards production and lobby photos, memory books, parties and receptions, director's gifts, etc. Fee is due by close of production.
- F. Parent volunteer requirements.
- This will include backstage monitoring, concessions selling, pick-up supervision, as well as opportunities to serve on or chair production committees.

**II. Audition Process**

- A. Audition workshops are available prior to the week of auditions. Each workshop is a 20 minute, one on one session with a Junior Theatre teaching artist who will listen to your prepared audition piece and offer suggestions for improvement. The cost for this workshop is \$25. Please call the office to schedule a workshop.
- B. Audition Dates
- Auditions are by appointment only, and are held in one-half hour increments. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to check in at Room 208, and finish the necessary paperwork.  
*Monday April 29th 4-6p      Tuesday April 30th 4-6p      Wednesday May 1st 4-6p*
- C. What to prepare for auditions
- Come to auditions with the audition form filled out completely. Attach a headshot to the rear of the form. Be honest about any conflicts! Conflicts that come up after casting may disqualify students from participation.
  - Students should prepare a 1 minute song cut for their auditions. Approximately 16-32 bars. Please bring sheet music in the correct key, a pianist will be provided. No acappella singing or singing to tracks will be allowed
- D. Call Backs Date  
*Monday May 6th 5-8p*

**III. Rehearsals**

- A. First rehearsal will be held Monday June 10th from 4-6p. Everyone is called to the first rehearsal.
- B. Rehearsals will generally be Monday-Friday, 4-6p until June 17th when rehearsals move to 3:30-6:30p
- C. All actors will not be called to every rehearsal. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be handed out at first rehearsal.

**IV. Questions****V. Director's Notes**

## SHOW SYNOPSIS

### Act One

On the morning of the day of the Feast of Fools, a chorus of congregants gather for a sermon by Claude Frollo, archdeacon of Notre Dame. They begin to narrate his backstory and that of the eponymous 'hunchback of Notre Dame'. Years prior, orphaned brothers Jehan and Claude Frollo were taken in at Notre Dame. Jehan grows to be mischievous and deviant while Claude remains pious, reluctantly covering for his brother's misdeeds. After Jehan is caught with a gypsy woman in his room, he is expelled from Notre Dame. Frollo eventually becomes the archdeacon of Notre Dame, until one day, he receives a letter from Jehan. Frollo arrives, he finds Jehan dying. He explains his baby boy needs to be taken care of. Frollo notices the baby is deformed, calling it a 'monster'. Jehan dies, and as Frollo is about to kill the child, he feels the gaze of Notre Dame's saints and statues. Feeling that it is a test from God, he is compelled to save the child. He names the baby Quasimodo (meaning half-formed) and raises him in Notre Dame.

In the present day, Quasimodo, now a young man, has gone partially deaf from ringing the bells. While he daydreams about going to the Feast of Fools, Frollo complains about the Feast and expresses his hatred for Paris's gypsies. Quasimodo offers to accompany him for protection; Frollo declines and warns him that he would be shunned for his deformities if he were to step foot outside Notre Dame. Quasimodo reminisces about his 'sanctuary' and how he yearns to spend one day outside of the church.

Down below, the Feast of Fools begins, led by Clopin, the gypsy king. Meanwhile, Captain Phoebus, new Captain of Notre Dame's Cathedral Guard, arrives at the city having spent four years on a military campaign. Frollo welcomes Phoebus and tells him they must get rid of the city's gypsies. Clopin introduces the crowd to Esmeralda, an attractive gypsy who dances for the crowd- Quasimodo, Frollo, and Phoebus are all entranced. After that, Clopin and the crowd get ready to crown the King of Fools (the ugliest person in France); Quasimodo enters upon Esmeralda's encouragement, immediately winning. In the middle of the celebration, he is humiliated by the crowd after a citizen starts a riot. Frollo refuses Phoebus's request to intervene, but Esmeralda rescues the hunchback and uses a magic trick to evade arrest. Frollo finally intervenes and stops the riot, and then asks Quasimodo if he is now aware that he was right about how cruel and wicked the world is. Quasimodo tells him that he will never leave the bell tower again.

Esmeralda follows Quasimodo inside Notre Dame, and heads up to the bell tower. Quasimodo musters the courage to speak to her and the two soon befriend each other. Quasimodo rings the bells and tells them to "sing for her". Frollo runs up to the tower, angry at Quasimodo for ringing them at the wrong time - he is shocked by Esmeralda's presence. He offers her shelter at the cathedral so that he may save her soul, but she rejects his offer, saying that she sees the way Frollo looks at her. This greatly angers Frollo, who orders Phoebus to escort her from Notre Dame and to arrest her if she ever sets foot in it again.

Frollo instigates a citywide manhunt for Esmeralda, eventually ending up at a brothel known for hiding gypsies. When the brothel's owner refutes Frollo's accusations, Frollo orders Phoebus to burn it down; Phoebus defies him, causing Frollo to order his arrest. Esmeralda shows up and a fight breaks loose; during the commotion, Frollo stabs Phoebus and frames Esmeralda for it. Esmeralda uses a magic trick to help her and Phoebus escape.

### Act Two

Esmeralda returns to Notre Dame, asking Quasimodo to hide Phoebus, who is badly injured. She gives Quasimodo a woven band which doubles as a map to the Court of Miracles, a hiding place for gypsies in Paris, and she leaves. Frollo returns to Notre Dame later that night and asks Quasimodo about Esmeralda's whereabouts, to which Quasimodo responds that he doesn't know. A guard comes up to tell Frollo that they know where Esmeralda is. Frollo tells Quasimodo that they will now be successful in capturing her and leaves.

Using the map Esmeralda gave him, Quasimodo and Phoebus head to the court in an attempt to warn the gypsies. Initially, the gypsies attempt to kill the two, but they are saved by Esmeralda who reveals that she led them there. The two disclose that Frollo will attack at dawn, causing the gypsies to pack up and prepare to relocate. When Phoebus asks Esmeralda to go with her, they embrace and acknowledge their love for each other while Quasimodo looks on, heartbroken that his love will never be returned. Frollo interrupts and thanks Quasimodo for helping him find the Court of Miracles, having followed him, and arrests the gypsies present as well as Phoebus. Frollo then tells the guards to lock Quasimodo away in the bell tower and ensure he cannot escape.

Frollo visits Esmeralda at her prison cell and tells her that he can save her if she accepts being with him. When Esmeralda refuses, he threatens Phoebus' life as well. Esmeralda tells Phoebus that the only way to save both of their lives is for her to give herself up to Frollo. Phoebus pleads for her to do it so that she may save herself, which Esmeralda refuses. They speak about a future when life might change for the better. Meanwhile, in the bell tower, the gargoyles and saints try to encourage Quasimodo to free himself and save Esmeralda; Quasimodo angrily denounces them, refusing and declaring that he will remain stoic until the day he dies as if he too were made of stone.

At dawn, outside the cathedral, Esmeralda is tied to a pyre as Frollo reads off her crimes. He declares her sentence is death before offering her one last chance to save herself; Esmeralda answers by spitting in his face. Angered, he orders her pyre to be lit. Quasimodo swings down on a rope and unties Esmeralda before taking her back to the bell tower and invoking sanctuary. Frollo orders the Cathedral Guard to retake the church by force if necessary. In the cathedral, Esmeralda thanks Quasimodo for being a good friend before dying of smoke inhalation. Frollo comes in and asks Quasimodo if she is dead, which he broken-heartedly confirms. Relieved, Frollo tells Quasimodo that they are finally free of her poison. Spurred on by the gargoyles, the ghosts of Jehan and Florika, and his own anger, Quasimodo throws Frollo to his death.

Devastated, Quasimodo realizes that everyone he's ever loved is now dead. Phoebus arrives and discovers that Esmeralda has perished. Quasimodo carries Esmeralda's body away. The actor playing Quasimodo then tells the audience that years later, two skeletons were discovered in the crypts of Notre Dame - one with a crooked spinal column and the other, in the former's arms, with a woven band (Esmeralda's) around its neck - and that when it was attempted to detach the two the former crumbled to dust.

## CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

**Claude Frollo**- Archdeacon of Notre Dame Cathedral and the most powerful cleric in Paris, he is the reluctant caretaker of Quasimodo. He will do whatever it takes to rid the city of the gypsy "vermin," even as he lusts after Esmeralda. Calculating, manipulative, and obsessive.

**Jehan Frollo**- Claude's reckless younger brother. With the gypsy Florika, he fathers Quasimodo, who he leaves in his brother's care. Wild, passionate, and strong-willed.

**Florika**- A gypsy and Quasimodo's mother.

**Father Dupin**- A priest of Notre Dame and Claude and Jehan's guardian.

**Quasimodo**- The deformed bell-ringer of Notre Dame and Claude Frollo's charge. Lonely and staunchly obedient to Frollo, he possesses a vivid imagination that brings to life the bells and gargoyles of the cathedral. Despite his shyness and uncertainty, he quickly befriends Esmeralda. Big-hearted, and brave when need be.

**Clopin Trouillefou**- The clever and charismatic King of the Gypsies. An air of mystery surrounds Clopin, who often leaves the scene in a puff of smoke. As the master of ceremonies for the Feast of Fools, he is witty and playful, but he boasts a darker, serious nature when not performing for the crowd.

**Captain Phoebus de Martin**- Returning to Paris after serving in the war, Phoebus takes up his new position as Captain of the Cathedral Guard. Overconfident yet charming, this handsome, strong soldier makes the ladies swoon, yet his moral compass is also strong, and he openly defies the corrupted Frollo.

**Lieutenant Frederic Charlus**- Lieutenant of the Cathedral Guard and loyal friend to Phoebus.

**Esmeralda**- A beautiful and free-spirited gypsy who possesses the strong sense of justice and morality that Frollo lacks. Compassionate, she frees Quasimodo from the frenzied mob at the Feast of Fools and, against her better judgment, falls for the cocky Phoebus.

**King Louis XI**- King of France, nicknamed the Prudent.

**Tribunal**- A judicial officer.

**Madam**- Owner of a brothel and safe haven for gypsies.

**Saint Aphrodisius**- A stained-glass image that comes to life.

**Congregation**- Gypsies, gargoyles, soldiers, and citizens of Paris.

**Choir**