



Birmingham Village Players Audition Notice

Open Auditions for **ACT ONE** by James Lapine, from the Autobiography by Moss Hart

Audition Dates: Sunday, **January 7th** (6 pm- Registration at 5:30 pm) and Monday, **January 8th** (7 pm- Registration at 6:30 pm) at **Northbrook Presbyterian Church**, 22055 W. 14 Mile Road (located at the corner of 14 Mile and Lahser Roads), in Beverly Hills.

Performance Dates: Friday-Sunday, March 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 2018

Growing up in an impoverished family in the Bronx, Moss Hart dreamed of being part of the glamorous and exciting world of the theatre. Forced to drop out of school at age 13, Hart's famous memoir *Act One* is a classic Horatio Alger story that plots Hart's unlikely collaboration with legendary playwright George S. Kaufman on the play *Once In A Lifetime*. Adapted for the stage by James Lapine's *Act One* is both a love letter to the theatre and a tale that celebrates the hard work, sweat, and sometimes heartbreak that goes into realizing your dreams.

Note: There are 51 speaking roles in the play- 30 men and 21 women. For our production, 12 actors will play several parts. We are looking for 12 versatile, energetic, and creative actors for this production. We are also very much committed to racial and ethnic diversity in casting. Acting is acting!

Note: Of the twelve actors

Actor One will play Moss Hart (age 18-26) who appears throughout the play.

Actor Two will play older Hart (age 55) as well as his father Barnett Hart, George S. Kaufman, and Vail, a character in *Once In A Lifetime*.

Actor Three will play Mossy (young Moss Hart at age 10-12) as well as his younger brother Bernie (age 10-12).

Actress One will play the characters Aunt Kate, Beatrice Kaufman and Frieda Fishbein

The remaining actors (8) will play all the other characters in the play.

For auditions we will have readings from various scenes from the show. A pdf is available of the script by contacting **Jay Kaplan** at Kaplan@aclumich.org.

It is strongly suggested that in preparation for the show that you check out the PBS screening of the Broadway production of Act One which can be accessed online at <http://www.pbs.org/video/lincoln-center-act-one/>. Our set won't be nearly as elaborate as the one used at Lincoln Center, but the taping will give you a good idea about the rhythm and pace of the show and how the actors played several different parts.

Contact

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Producers: Susie Gardiner, Susie.gardiner@icloud.com, 248-730-4642

Kevin Cristbrook, kevin@shainpark.com, 248-417-7682