



# Audition Notice

## One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

**Genre: Drama**

**Director** – Carey Nicholson

**Producer** – Liz Pask

**Stage Manager** – Amanda Klein

### Performance Dates:

February 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11\*, 15, 16, 17\*\* (2018)

All shows begin at 7:30 pm

\* means the show is a 2:00pm Sunday Matinee

\*\* means the show is a 2:00pm Saturday Matinee

Cast must be available for **all** performances.

Cast members must agree to become members of Oshawa Little Theatre. Membership forms will be available at the first rehearsal.

### Show Synopsis

Time: Contemporary, 1960s

Place: The Day Room in a ward of a State Mental Hospital somewhere in the Pacific Northwest.

Randle Patrick McMurphy is a larger-than-life, fun-loving, charming rogue who contrives to serve a short sentence in an airy mental institution rather than in a prison. This, he learns, was a mistake. He clashes with head nurse, Nurse Ratched who is a fierce martinet. Quickly, he takes over the yard and accomplishes what the medical profession has been unable to do for twelve years; he makes a presumed deaf and dumb Native American talk. He leads others out of introversion, stages a revolt so that they can see the World Series on television, and arranges a rollicking midnight party with liquor and chippies. For one offense, the Nurse Ratched has him submit to shock treatment. The party is too horrid for her and she forces him to submit to a final correction a frontal lobotomy.

### Audition Location, Dates and Times

Auditions will be held at Oshawa Little Theatre, 62 Russett Avenue, Oshawa, ON on:

Sunday, September 10 and Tuesday, September 12 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Callbacks will also be at the theatre on:

Thursday, September 14 also from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

You must register by booking your audition date and time online at [www.oshawalittletheatre.com](http://www.oshawalittletheatre.com) under the Shows / Auditions tab. You must download the audition form to complete and bring with you to your audition. It is also recommended that you book your audition as early as possible.

For further information or questions, please contact the producer, Liz Pask at [l\\_pask@sympatico.ca](mailto:l_pask@sympatico.ca).

### **Audition Requirements**

1. All people auditioning must prepare a short (under two minutes) dramatic monologue which must be memorized and not from the play itself.
2. There will also be cold readings.
3. No props or costumes during auditions.
4. Please remember to bring your completed audition form as well as a head shot of yourself.

**Note:** Auditions are closed. No visitors or family members will be allowed in the audition room.

### **Rehearsal Information**

1. Rehearsals will take place at Oshawa Little Theatre in the rehearsal hall on:
  - Sundays 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
  - Mondays 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
  - Wednesdays 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
2. A read through will be held on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> in the Boardroom at the theatre.
3. Regular rehearsals begin on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.
4. There is the possibility of rehearsals being held over the Christmas holiday period for specific roles such as the leads. This will be discussed in advance with cast members involved.
5. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled during the 2 weeks prior to the run of the show.
6. Rehearsals are closed and for cast members only. No visitors will be allowed in the rehearsal hall or theatre.

### **Casting Information**

#### **Major Characters:**

**Randle Patrick McMurphy:** In his mid-thirties, he is a manual laborer, gambler, carnival barker, Korean War hero with a dishonorable discharge, and con man admitted to the ward from a prison farm, diagnosed as a psychotic. Really not insane, he transforms the ward by teaching the other inmates to question arbitrary and repressive authority. Eventually lobotomized after attacking Nurse Ratched, he is killed in his sleep by Chief Bromden.

**Nurse Ratched:** The "Big Nurse", she is a former Army nurse of indeterminate age. She maintains order by exercising absolute authority over the hospital staff and its patients. McMurphy compares her techniques with Communist "brainwashing".

**Chief Bromden:** A towering man of mixed Native American and white heritage. He is diagnosed as an incurable paranoid-schizophrenic, and pretends to be deaf and mute in order to protect himself from the forces of the Combine, which he believes is a mechanized society intent on usurping freedom and individuality. The Chief is gradually rehabilitated by McMurphy and emerges as the real protagonist at the conclusion of the play. He suffocates McMurphy after Nurse Ratched has him lobotomized and escapes from the hospital.

**Dale Harding:** In his late thirties, he is a college-educated and effeminate man, who is psychologically "castrated" by his sexy wife and Nurse Ratched. Harding is an acute patient, one who has voluntarily committed himself to the hospital. The last of McMurphy's followers left on the ward, he assists in the Chief's escape after McMurphy's death.

**Billy Bibbit:** A 31-year-old man dominated by his mother to the extent that he is still unmarried and a virgin. Bibbit is also a voluntarily committed Acute, despite the fact that his wrists reveal a previous suicide attempt.

**Ruckly:** An Acute turned to Chronic after receiving too much electroshock. He often stands in a posture of a crucifixion against the ward walls.

**Martini:** An Acute patient in the ward. Prone to hallucinations.

**Scanlon:** An Acute patient in the ward. Fantasizes about blowing things up.

**Cheswick:** An Acute patient in the ward. His manner is alternately truculent and cringing.

**Doctor Spivey:** The resident psychiatrist. Nurse Ratched exploits his weakness and vulnerability. He nevertheless begins to assert himself after continued exposure to McMurphy's behavior.

**Nurse Flinn:** A perpetually frightened and young nurse. She defends herself from perceived threats by McMurphy by protesting that she is a Catholic, indicating her sense of guilt and fear of sex.

**Williams & Warren:** Nurse Ratched's preferred ward orderlies because of their hostility and strength. They keep order on the ward mainly by threatening the patients and each other.

**Mr. Turkle:** A night watchman who smokes marijuana. McMurphy bribes him to help arrange the novel's final party.

**Candy Starr:** A prostitute from Portland with a "heart of gold." She relieves Billy Bibbit of his virginity during the illicit party on the ward.

**Sandra:** Candy's friend; comes with her to the party on the ward.

**All questions and inquiries should be directed to:  
Liz Pask ([l\\_pask@sympatico.ca](mailto:l_pask@sympatico.ca))**