



OPEN CALL AUDITION

School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play

as a part of

Diaspora Dreams: Celebrating Black & African Stories

Monday, November 13th, 2023 at 6:30PM

Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at 6:30PM

Callbacks – Wednesday, November 15th, 2023 at 6:30PM

Location: Auditions and Callbacks will take place at The Selma Arts Center-

1935 High Street Selma, CA 93662

Auditions: Please submit an online Audition Form before signing up for an audition appointment. Performers are welcomed to make an appointment via [Sign Up Genius](#) Those without an appointment will be seen as time permits. *Please come prepared* with a memorized 1-2 minute monologue.

Ratings:

School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play is rated PG-13

CDC Guidelines: There is no current mask mandate, but you are welcome to be masked for your own safety. Masks may be enforced throughout the rehearsal process. ***Guidelines subject to change.***

Video Auditions: If you are unable to make the general auditions (we strongly recommend an in person audition), a video recorded audition that should not exceed 2 minutes may be submitted **by Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at 6:30PM** to selmaartscenter@gmail.com. Please send via unlisted YouTube link. However, you **MUST** attend the mandatory callback (*should you be called back*) on Wednesday, November 15th at 6:30 PM in order to be considered for a role. If this is not possible, please email selmaartscenter@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

Callbacks: Callbacks will consist of readings from selected scenes of the script and group work. Comfortable clothes are recommended as there will be movement involved.

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

- Audition Form, Audition Packet and tentative schedule are available online and will be available at the audition.
- Due to the tight rehearsal schedule, all conflicts must be presented during your auditions.
- Conflicts presented after the first rehearsal will not be honored. Please note that excessive conflicts will affect casting decisions.
- PERFORMANCE CONFLICTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
- Casting notification will occur no later than November 22nd.
- Rehearsals for this production will be held Sunday (5:30 pm - 9:30 pm) through Wednesday (6:30 pm - 9:30 pm).
- There will be a joint cast and company meeting/orientation for *Diaspora Dreams - Celebrating Black & African Stories* on **November 27th** at 6:30pm.
- There will be a joint table read for *Diaspora Dreams - Celebrating Black & African Stories* on **November 28th** at 6:30pm.
- Communication will be done through phone, email and Discord - please list a valid email address on the audition form.
- Performances: February 23 to March 2nd 2024 (2 weekends) for a total of 8 performances. See exact performance dates in the Production Schedule below.

If you have any additional questions about auditions or the production, please call Nicolette C. Andersen (559) 891-2238 or contact via email.

Production & Design Team:

This production is sponsored by the Selma Arts Council

Directed by – Nwachukwu Oputa
Assistant Director - I Adeficha
Producer – Camille Gaston
Stage Manager – Sofia James
Costume Designer – Tamrah Sales
Set Designer – Tamrah Sales
Lighting Designer – Glenda Stewart

Sound Designer – Kimmy Kaur
Props Master - I Adeficha
Dialect Coach - TBA
Dramaturg - D'Aungilique Jackson

Locations:

THE SELMA ARTS CENTER
1935 High St.
Selma, CA 93662
(559) 891-2238
Selmaartscenter.com
nicolettea@cityofselma.com

PIONEER VILLAGE
1880 Art Gonzales Pkwy
Selma CA 93662

Series Introduction:

Diaspora Dreams - Celebrating Black & African Stories is a first-of-its-kind series for the Selma Arts Center. Together, the two plays in the series (*School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play* and *The Brothers Size*) explore varied intersections of the black diasporic experience. The series will be brought to the Central Valley during Black History Month.

For more information on auditions for *The Brothers Size*, visit [The Brothers Size Audition Packet](#)

Synopsis:

Paulina, the reigning queen bee at Ghana's most exclusive boarding school, has her sights set on the Miss Global Universe pageant. But the arrival of Ericka, a new student with undeniable talent and beauty, captures the attention of the pageant recruiter—and Paulina's hive-minded friends. This buoyant and biting comedy explores the universal similarities (and glaring differences) facing teenage girls across the globe.

Roles:

All characters in the show are female. The production team understands that femininity is not homogenous. You do not need to identify as a woman or girl to audition for this show. If you see yourself in this production and/or identify with the identities and experiences of the characters, we welcome you to come audition.

All characters are of West African descent and are to be played by African and/or Black Actors.
Thank you.

PAULINA SARPONG (Paul-LEE-nah SAAR-pong)

18 years old; the most popular girl in school and knows it. She is beautiful, talented, vindictive, yet somehow loveable.

ERICKA BOAFO (BWAH-fok)

18 years old; Light/fair skin. She is a transfer student and is new to school. She is enchanting, sweet, elusive. (NOTE: Should be Played by a fair-skinned biracial [Black and White] woman.)

AMA (Ahh-mah)

18 years old; the sensible, smart one of Paulina's pack and has the honor of being her best friend. Her loyalty to Paulina is starting to fray, and she has to work up towards being the girl who is not afraid to say it like she means it.

NANA (Nah-nah)

16 years old; the quiet, simple, and sensitive one of Paulina's pack. She never means any harm and strives to do the right thing. She struggles with her love of food and snacks.

MERCY

16 years old; the witty sidekick to Gifty and will do and say anything to stay a member of Paulina's pack.

GIFTY

16 years old; the "Frick" to Mercy's "Frack"; loves being part of Paulina's pack and will do anything to be considered cool,

HEADMISTRESS FRANCIS

40s; the Headmistress of Aburi Girls Boarding School; loves her students and will do whatever she can to both uplift and protect them.

ELOISE AMPONSAH (Eil-oh-eez Amm-pohn-saah)

40s; Extremely poised and well-mannered former Miss Ghana 1966. She is now a recruiter for the Miss Ghana pageant. She speaks with a slightly affected British accent and prides herself in always being a lady.

Production Schedule: *School Girls*

*Dates with an asterisk will be in an alternate location, to be determined.

There will be a joint cast dinner after *The Brothers Size*'s closing night on February 17th and a joint cast party after *School Girls*' closing night on March 2nd.

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7 Election Day	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12	13 AUDITIONS 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	14 AUDITIONS 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	15 CALLBACKS 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26	27 JOINT COMPANY MEETING 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	28 JOINT TABLE READ 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	29	30		
NOTES						

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	4 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	5 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	6 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	7	8 Hanukkah Begins	9
10 REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE*	11 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	12 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE*	13 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	14	15	16
17 REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE*	18 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	19 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE*	20 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	21 Winter Solstice	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve	NOTES * POSSIBLE ALTERNATE LOCATION					

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	New Year's Day		TBD REHEARSAL (ACTORS CHOICE)	TBD REHEARSAL (ACTORS CHOICE)		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, TBD	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, TBD	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, TBD	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, TBD			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE*	Martin Luther King Jr Day, REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE*	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE			
28	29	30	31			
REHEARSALS 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE	REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER & PIONEER VILLAGE			
NOTES						

* POSSIBLE ALTERNATE LOCATION						
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FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
					Groundhog Day	
4 REHEARSAL 5:30-9:30PM, PIONEER VILLAGE	5 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, PIONEER VILLAGE	6 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, PIONEER VILLAGE	7 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, PIONEER VILLAGE	8	9 OPENING NIGHT FOR Brothers SIZE!	10
11 REHEARSAL 5:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	12 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	13 REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	14 <i>Valentine's Day,</i> REHEARSAL 6:30-9:30PM, ARTS CENTER	15	16	17
18 DRY TECH CALL: 6PM	19 <i>President's Day, WET</i> TECH CALL: 6PM	20 DRESS CALL: 6PM	21 DRESS CALL: 6PM	22 FINAL DRESS CALL: 6PM	23 OPENING NIGHT FOR SCHOOL GIRLS! CALL: 6PM	24 MATINEE PERFORMANCE: CALL @ 12:30 PM, EVENING PERFORMANCE: CALL @ 6PM
25 PERFORMANCE CALL @ 12:30PM	26	27	28	29 PERFORMANCE CALL @ 6PM		
NOTES						

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MARCH

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
					PERFORMAN CE CALL @ 6PM	MATINEE PERFORMAN CE: CALL @ 12:30 PM, CLOSING PERFORMAN CE: CALL @ 6PM
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight Savings Time						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
St. Patrick's Day						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					Good Friday	
31	NOTES					

Easter

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