



2011

SARASOTA
Medieval Fair

NOVEMBER

Press Release

2011 OPEN AUDITIONS

The 8th Annual Sarasota Medieval Fair invites you to their open auditions on Saturday and Sunday, August 20 & 21st, 2011. *You only need to come one day, not both. We encourage amateur and festival enthusiasts to come out and have fun! This audition is relaxed and casual and we want to get to know YOU! Have no fear, we all started out somewhere. Be ready to introduce yourself and be silly.

Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes (as you will be outdoors) and perhaps water and a blanket/chair to sit on. Costumes are welcome; however they are NOT required at this time (however, for Independent Performers auditioning, you must be wearing a costume). All ages are welcome, but children 12 and under must have a parent present at the time of auditioning.

The schedule will be as follows:

INDEPENDENT PERFORMERS – 9:00a – 11am: If you have a unique talent, lane act or theme specific act to audition for the festival, please arrive ready to perform and demonstrate. For performances considered, this will be a “for hat only” payment, as entertainment contracts have already been finalized for 2011.

GENERAL CAST – 11:30a – 1:30p: This is the audition to be part of the festival, written into the scenario, learn improv, history and play in the lanes!

HUMAN COMBAT CHESSBOARD CAST (You must audition for General Cast to be considered for Chessboard Cast) – **2:00p – 3:30p:** *Only a max of 40 people will be accepted for Chessboard Cast.* Here you will learn the basics of stage combat (sword fighting, rolls, hits, falls, etc...) through the style and teachings of Dean Bowden. This performance is very physical and you must be able to attend both Saturday and Sunday rehearsals from 9a – 3p, beginning Sept. 3rd.

Rehearsals

General Cast: **All** cast are required to attend 1 weekly rehearsal (week night TBD) from 7p – 10pm where you will learn the basics of improv, the history of the scenario, costuming and theater games. If you have small children, please make appropriate arrangements as we cannot risk the distraction of others.

Human Combat Chessboard Cast: Along with the General Cast rehearsals, combatants will be rehearsing both Saturday & Sunday from 9a – 3p. It's encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and footwear (no sandals or flip flops) and to bring water and pack a lunch (we will break for 1 hour in the middle and there are fast food restaurants nearby). If you have small children, please make appropriate arrangements as we cannot risk the distraction.

Commitment & Conflicts: This year, all rehearsal conflicts will be considered before casting. It's very important for all those involved (especially if you're on the chessboard cast) to be present for all rehearsals. Tardiness and unexpected absences not pre-cleared can result in being dropped from the cast.

The performance dates will be Nov. 12-13 & Nov. 18-20, 2011 from 10a – 6p, rain or shine. All those cast in the festival will be notified by phone or email, so please write legibly! We look forward to meeting new faces and encourage veterans to return.

AUDITIONS will be held at the Sarasota Fair Grounds (the festival site):
3000 Ringling Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34237

Fair Site is left of the Robarts Arena and across from the DMV.

For questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Dean Bowden at
ArtisticDirector@sarasotamediievalfair.com .