Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play, by Anne Washburn
Directed by Casey Sams
Musical Direction by Terry Silver-Alford

Rehearsals: September 15-October 29, 2015
Performances: October 30 – November 15, 2015
Lab Theatre

Description of the Play
Anne Washburn’s imaginative dark comedy propels us forward nearly a century, following a new civilization stumbling into its future.
After the collapse of civilization, a group of survivors share a campfire and begin to piece together the plot of "The Simpsons" episode "Cape Feare" entirely from memory. 7 years later, this and other snippets of pop culture (sitcom plots, commercials, jingles, and pop songs) have become the live entertainment of a post-apocalyptic society, sincerely trying to hold onto its past. 75 years later, these are the myths and legends from which new forms of performance are created.
A paean to live theater, and the resilience of Bart Simpson through the ages, Mr. Burns is an animated exploration of how the pop culture of one era might evolve into the mythology of another.

Casting Breakdown
Cast Size: 8 actors, either 4 male/4 female, or 3 male/5 female, dependent upon double casting
- All the named characters from Acts 1 and 2 double as Simpson’s characters in Act 3
- 6 people appear in Act 1, 7 in Act 2, and 8 in Act 3

Character Descriptions: (age ranges may vary)
Matt: (appears in Acts 1 and 2) male, late 20s/early 30s
Biggest Simpsons fan
A talker
Married (wife does not appear in play)
New Yorker

Sam: (appears in Acts 1 and 2) male, late 20s/early 30s
A problem-solver
A small town guy
More of a listener than a talker – a natural leader

Gibson: (appears in Acts 1 and 2) male, early 30s
Newcomer in act 1
Gentle spirit
Member of a Gilbert and Sullivan society
From Massachusetts

Colleen: (appears in Acts 1 and 2) female, late 30s
Mother (daughter does not appear in play)
Something of a loner
An Organizer
A Hot head
**Maria:** (appears in Acts 1 and 2) female, late 20s/early 30s  
   From rural New Jersey (1st Act takes place in her home town)  
   Concerned for others  
   Less of a pop-culture maven than Matt or Jenny, but she tries

**Jenny:** (appears in Acts 1 and 2) female, early 20s  
   2nd biggest Simpsons fan  
   From Baltimore  
   Energetic

**Quincy:** (appears in Act 2) female, early 20’s  
   Brought in to perform in the troupe  
   Focused on the play they are creating, less concerned about the other people in the group

**Homer Simpson:** (Act 3) Archetypal bumbling father  
**Marge Simpson:** (Act 3) Archetypal concerned mother  
**Lisa Simpson:** (Act 3) Archetypal smarty-pants sister  
**Bart Simpson:** (Act 3) Archetypal trouble making brother and survivor  
**Mr. Burns:** (Act 3) Archetypal evil villain  
**Itchy:** (Act 3) joyfully violent henchman (or woman)  
**Scratchy:** (Act 3) another joyfully violent henchman (or woman)  
**Edna Krabapple:** (Act 3) leader of the chorus, storyteller

**Audition requirements**
Please prepare a contemporary monologue and 16-32 bars of an upbeat song. Callbacks will include reading from the script and improvisational singing in small groups.