CLARENCE BROWN THEATRE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

INFO SHEET – *INDOOR CATS*, Lab Theatre, Spring '27

***Indoor Cats: A Play for Humans* by Mora V. Harris**
Lab Theatre, Jan-Mar 2027
Directed by Daniel Bird Tobin

KEY PRODUCTION DATES

Rehearsals: Jan 19-Feb 16
NOTE: Rehearsals begin on the first day of classes
Tech: Feb 17-24
Performances: Feb 25-Mar 7

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Breathe. Find the joy. Find the heart. And maybe a little ounce of rage. And then breathe again.

TO REQUEST AN AUDITION APPOINTMENT

- Follow all instructions on casting notice on CBT website (where you found this document!)

BREAKDOWNS & SCRIPT INFORMATION

- Continue reading this document to review the **Casting Breakdown** and a **Violence, Intimacy, & Special Activity Breakdown** for this production.

- The Casting Breakdown **(see below)** offers information about available roles; basic information about each character; and how the identities of actors and those of characters will interact in this world. The Violence, Intimacy, & Special Activity Breakdown **(see below)** includes a list of moments in the play that you may wish to be aware of when auditioning. **Please do not hesitate to ask questions if further clarification is needed.**

- Though breakdowns offer important insights into the characters and content of the script, **it is highly recommended that you read the play in its entirety before your first audition. Scripts are available to borrow in hard copy from the Theatre Department Office (McClung 206).**

DIALECT

- Pete is described as a "Philly-accented free-spirit." If you would like to try a Philly accent for the audition, you are welcome to (but keep it subtle). The accent is not necessary for auditions or callbacks though. We would rather see you making bold acting choices than focusing on an accent.

- No other characters require a specific accent or dialect.

FOR AUDITIONS

- Prepare 1 of the available **sides** for a role that interests you.
    - Each of these sides is a monologue. Some are delivered to another character, some to the audience, and some to a camera. There will not be a reader or scene partner in the room, so please pick a point (or several for the audience) and imagine them. Please do not use us as your scene partner.
    - Be familiar enough with the language that you can comfortably look up.
    - Sides will be posted on the CBT audition website by 1 week prior to auditions. Printed copies will be available.

FOR CALLBACKS

- You will be assigned a role or roles for individual sessions and given sides to prepare to read with other actors. (Or with a reader). The director will likely work with you on your side, and you will read it more than once.
- Those called back for Panda will be doing a movement callback as well.
- Cast lists will be posted on CBT audition site within two weeks of the final callback. All auditioners will receive email notification when lists are available to view.

CASTING BREAKDOWN

AVAILABLE ROLES

All roles are open to actors of any ethnicity, gender identity/expression, and disability/ability

JULES – She/her/hers. Mid 20s. Multi-media stop motion video artist with a prickly exterior and marshmallowy center. Don't call her cute.

PANDA – Gender irrelevant. Like 5 in human years. A black and white cat. Very cure, but this is also irrelevant.

WILLA – She/her/hers. Early 30s. Jules' older sister, 6 months pregnant at the start of the play, a teacher ready for summer vacation, genuinely doing her best all the damn time and it's exhausting.

PETE – He/him/his. Late 30s. Nature photographer/videographer, community college instructor, and Philly-accented free-spirit.

VIOLENCE, INTIMACY, & SPECIAL ACTIVITY

The production team for *Indoor Cats* **will** include a fight/intimacy director, who is available to look at moments in addition to those listed if rehearsal reveals an unexpected need.

All page numbers refer to 2026 script.

Page	Character(s)	What	Notes
37-38	Pete, Jules	Kissing	Stage direction: "Jules drops the backpack, grabs him and kisses him. It's magic." "They kiss again." "They kiss again. They go into the house."
All	All	Mature content	At various points, all the characters discuss sex, pregnancy, birth, drug-use, and/or mental illness. Some characters also use profanity.
All	Panda	Is a cat	We will be exploring cat-like movement and physicality throughout the show.
All	Willa	Pregnancy	Willa is progressing through pregnancy over the course of the play. At the end, we see her begin labor, but the birth happens off stage. We then see her with the baby. We will be using costuming to track this pregnancy progression.
2	Willa, Jules	Sisterly closeness and physical touch	SD: "Willa leans over and scrunches Jules' hair, lightly massaging her scalp with her fingers, a casual intimacy." Willa and Jules are sisters and throughout the play demonstrate a close sisterly bond, including moments of physical touch. Other specific moments from the script are noted below. We may find more moments in the rehearsal process.
16	Panda	Yoga Stretching	SD: "Each item on Panda's list is accompanied by its own impressive yoga-adjacent stretch. Panda takes their time luxuriously forming each pose."
17-18	Pete, Jules, Panda	Discussion of body	SD: "Pete walks by with a leaf blower or something. Sweaty. Jules glares silently. Is she annoyed or turned on?" Panda: "If you make a video for cats with your hot neighbor and it's hot out, he might take his shirt off." Production note – he does not actually take his shirt off.
18	Panda, Jules	Cat/Cat Mom	SD: "Panda tenderly brushes against Jules. Jules absently scratches behind Panda's ears…Panda attempts and fails to escape her clutches."

			During rehearsal we may find more moments of Jules and Panda interacting like cat and cat mom.
39	Panda, Willa	Cat Scratch	SD: “Willa tries to shoo Panda back into the house. She goes to pick her up and Panda scratches her wrist.”
40	Panda, Willa	Comfort with a pet	SD: “Panda cuddles up to Willa who ignores her.
54	Jules, Willa	Hand slap	SD: “Willa smacks her hand away.”
62	Jules, Willa	Sisterly hand hold	SD: “They hold hands for a moment. When was the last time they held hands.”
64-65	Willa, Panda	Embrace	SD: “Panda enthusiastically embraces Willa.”
67	Willa	Panic attack	Willa has a panic attack. Jules talks her through breathing through it.
70	Willa, Jules	Pregnancy moment	SD: “Willa puts Jules’ hand on her belly. They feel the baby kick.”
72	Willa, Panda	Labor	SD: “Willa moves to open the door for Panda but pauses suddenly, feeling a contraction.” “Panda rubs against Willa”
81	Willa, Panda, Jules	Familial closeness	SD: “Panda curls up on the step near Jules and the baby. Willa comes back onto the porch. She runs her fingers through Jules’ hair, the way she did at the beginning. And you just get this feeling like, this is a good family of cats.”

Thank you for reading this info sheet!

If you still have questions, please visit CBT audition site (clarencebrowntheatre.com/auditions-employment/) or email cbt_auditions@utk.edu.