

**ABC PLAYERS PLAY PROPOSAL FORM
2019-2020 Season**

Play: Radium Girls _____

Author: D. W. Gregory _____

Director: Celeste Parsons _____

Circle Preferred Time(s): Fall Xmas Winter Spring Summer Other

Cast Requirements: 4 Men, 5 Women, ___ Boys, ___ Girls, ___ Any
(These numbers are the minimum for doubling a number of roles; final selection is flexible.)

Set Requirements:

No built set other than platforms arranged to provide several different levels. Tables, chairs, and other minimal furniture. Set changes occur while the play action continues.

Other Technical Aspects (costuming, lighting, dialect, etc.):

The time period is 1918 to 1928 in Orange, New Jersey. The period and formality of the various settings are reflected by costume. Characters age during the play.

Plot Synopsis:

Radium dials for watches and other instruments were first used during World War I. In the U.S. Radium plant, teenage girls were hired to paint the dials, and were told to “tip” their brushes (give them a sharp point) by putting them in their mouths. By 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie was an international celebrity, and luminous watches were the latest rage. However, the dialpainters had begun falling ill and dying at an alarming rate. This play centers on Grace Fryer, who hired on with the company at age 15, and her attempts to get compensation for her and her fellow workers’ medical condition from U.S. Radium. The workers, company management, family and friends, advocates for the dialpainters, scientists, press representatives, and witnesses in the trial display a wide range of motives, including corporate greed, faith in humanity, faith in science, quackery, love, family crises, support of workers’ rights, and self-promotion.

Other Comments:

A serious drama, although with lighter moments, this play raises questions appropriate for today, or, indeed, for any age.

Budget Estimates:

Costumes	\$100.00	Royalties	\$ 500.00
Lights	\$600.00	Scripts	\$ 230.00
Programs	\$ 75.00	Set	\$ 20.00
Props	\$ 25.00	Sound Effects/Video	\$
Publicity	\$650.00		
Rehearsal Space	\$	TOTAL	\$2,200.00