The Auditions Open Call for How I Learned to Drive By Paula Vogel Directed by Rivendell Theatre Ensemble Artistic Director Tara Mallen

Paula Vogel's 1998 Pulitzer Prize winning play is a compassionate and gently humorous look at a heart-rending and all-too-common tragedy. Pedophilia, sexual predation, alcoholism, family dysfunction are issues rarely discussed in any setting, let alone on the stage. At the heart of *How I Learned to Drive* is a coming of age story of a bright girl who matures from a lonely 11-year-old into an 18-year-old who can stand up to her oppressor. It is also the story of her emotionally stunted Uncle Peck who preys on her need for affirmation, affection, and approval.

ROLES:

Lil Bit: Female lead, plays the character from age 11 to 40. In part due to a traumatic event at age 11, in some ways she has grown up much quicker than she should have, but at the same time often portrays a typical teenager. Should be versed in performing both comedic and dramatic moments.

Uncle Peck: Male lead, plays the character from age 38 to 45. A good-looking and charismatic man. A former alcoholic and Marine veteran who will not open up about his troubles.

Greek Chorus one: (Male aged 20-30) Plays multiple roles. Comedic timing is essential, as well as the ability to seamlessly transform from one character to another.

Teenage Greek Chorus two: (Female aged 17-25) Plays multiple roles. Her roles can be both incredibly vulgar and brightly innocent.

Greek Chorus three: (Female aged 25-35) Plays multiple roles. Must be able to be able to transition from bluntly hilarious to painfully serious.

AUDITIONS: February 21 and 22, 6 - 9 p.m., Studio One, Des Plaines (enter from Parking Lot A)

Performance dates: April 6 - 15

