

Character Profile #1

Actor - Paul Leblanc

Character Name: Kevin Baconator

The Excited Freshmen

Character Quirks:

- Only provides helpful and focused information when asked direct questions; anything open-ended can result in a nervous and excited ramble.
- If there is a pause during the interview, he'll fill it with rambling (UGJ - Use good judgement)
- Easily excitable.
- Excited to be interviewed, excited to be a part of SNHU, etc.
- Gets sidetracked easily.
- Rambles.
- Extremely positive energy.

Character Information:

- 18 years old, recently graduated from highschool
- Theatre is his passion. Is 100% sure he will be the next Great American Playwright
- Grew up close the SNHU campus and his older brother used to attend
- Planned on studying Gen Ed courses and courses relating to Theater, then transferring to Boston University
- Happy that SNHU is offering a theater degree, but wishes it was announced sooner
- Interested in developing his writing skills. Wants to ask about opportunities to be published in the Penmen Press and The Manatee.
- Currently employed by a local coffee joint. Loves his job.
- Hopes to get involved in Drama Club
- Hopes the degree will offer a Theatre Writing concentration
- Has two dogs, Rodgers and Hammerstein
- Prefers older theatre productions to newer ones.
- Thinks anything that's come out in the past 5 years is overrated. Will wince and/or groan if Hamilton is mentioned
- Has been involved in local Drama club productions since the 4th grade
- Has been given mostly background roles, blames favoritism
- Was the star of a single homebrew theatre production of "Star Wars"
- Offers to show everyone the play he's been writing since 4th grade

Character Profile #2

Actor - Elizabeth LeClair

Character Name: Mozart Matinée

The New Theater Professor

Character Quirks:

- Eccentric and dramatic individual
- Exaggerates their role in the development of this program and takes credit for a lot even though it isn't entirely accurate
- Loves grandiose words and arm movements
- Says "Bravo" a lot
- Constantly name drops famous performers and/producers (Feel free to improvise)
- Prefers to be called "Mo"

Character Information:

- Has a MFA in Theatre Education, and a BFA in Acting
- A three-time Tony-nominated director
- Has performed on stages across the country and currently offers Theatre Writing Workshops from home
- Worked to create the hybrid model theater degree with the National Association of Schools of Theatre
- Is currently working with Addison Straighter to adapt and localise the degrees format to SNHU
- Calls Addison Straighter "Addi" (Believes they've become close friends)
- Will be teaching "Introduction to Acting", "Theatre Design Studio", and "Stage Directing I" during the upcoming semester.
- Was working as an adjunct professor at Boston University when she was contacted by Addison Straighter to work on the Hybrid Theatre Degree.
- Openly jokes about her age, but will dodge questions that could reveal her age.
- Knows the degree will require Literature and Humanity credits as well as Theatre
- On stage experience will be mostly offered through extracurricular theatre programs, such as Drama Club
- Is a little concerned about the program with Theaters closing down across the country, but also believes there will be "Resurgence of the Arts" when the current pandemic dies down.
- Still personally adapting to teaching online
- Hasn't been in contact with Berinie Darbus (Drama Club Advisor)
- Has a kitten named Whiskers, whom she loves

Character Profile #3

Actor - Nikki Fain

Character Name: Addison Straighter
The Dean

Character Quirks:

- Wants to use this interview to promote the degree
- Friendly, but a bit uptight. Gets frustrated by questions she was unprepared for
- Extremely busy

Character Information:

- Though created by Matinee, the Hybrid Theatre Degree was Addison's idea and personal project.
- The degree was planned to be announced last semester, but was delayed due to pandemic concerns
- Budget has been cut for this program but dodges the question a lot and doesn't say much
- Also knows that the program is only temporarily accredited while the associate evaluates the success of the program after a year and again, tries to dodge it a lot
- Contacted Matinée after hearing about their excellent work at Boston University.
- Enjoys working with Professor Matinee but finds her "Extreme."
- Has been work with Melody Rest to develop the project as well, but less extensively
- Decided to move ahead with the Theater Degree plan, due to the Freshmen Full-Tuition scholarships
- Still expects high enrollment despite late announcement, due to tuition rates and increased interested in Theatre on campus
- The concentrations offered will be Musical Theater, Design and Theater Technology, and Theater Education.
- Degree will be taught through online classrooms, with "practical" and stage experience offered through extracurricular theatre programs, such as Drama Club
- Currently working with Professor Matinee to adapt the Hybrid Theatre Degree model to SNHU.
- Is in the process of reaching out towards local Theatre groups towards partnerships and internships.
- SNHU is inspecting their auditoriums to see if they will be needing renovation or a new auditorium.

- In talks about offering students scholarship incentives.
- Has yet to reach out to Bernie Darbus (Drama Club Advisor)

Character Profile #4

Actor - David Humpreys

Character Name: Jason Brown

The Disillusioned Senior

Character Quirks:

- Nervous to be interviewed, hides it behind disinterest and sense of irony
- Says "It's all bullshit" a lot.
- Takes a little bit for him to open up and specify in his answers *what* is "all bullshit" (UGJ - Use good judgement)
- Gets sidetracked and backpedals a lot in conversation
- (Feel free to wear a band shirt if you can)

Character Information:

- Finishing his bachelors in Creative Writing and English Screenwriting (graduating in the fall)
- Thinks adding a hybrid theatre course in the midst of big changes and an ongoing pandemic is irresponsible and a waste of limited resources
- Doesn't actually know much about how the degree will work
- Thinks there won't be enough available professors to adequately provide needed courses to students
- Thinks the whole thing seems pretty rushed
- Used to be a member of Drama Club and thinks Bernie Darbus (Drama Advisor) is pretty cool, but doesn't think the Drama Club is very good
- Took a course by Bernie Darbus on writing for the stage and found it interesting
- Would have liked to check the Theatre degree out more, but is more interested in graduating
- Failed a course taught by Melody Rest and thinks badly of her because of it
- Wanted to double major in Creative Writing and Music Education but ended up just doing Creative Writing
- Likes to quote studies that don't exist, then backpedals (Feel free to improvise)
- Really excited about *insert new band album*
- Favorite musician/writer is Leonard Cohen
- Plays Bass
- Is totally in a band (He isn't)

Character Profile #5

Actor - Andrea Bard

Character Name: Melody Rest
The Former Music Ed Professor

Character Quirks:

- A soft-spoken professor who has trouble with confrontation
- Prefers short statements
- Needs encouragement to speak her mind and tell the full story
- Questions based on her emotions are more likely to make her feel comfortable opening up, like how is she feeling about x,y,z

Character Information:

- Used to teach Music Education but shifted over to Humanities when Music Ed was "Taught-out."
- Was approached by Addison Straighter to be a consultant for the new Theatre Program
- Feels purposely left out of the loop regarding the current state of the program
- Knows that the Hybrid Theatre Degree is on a probationary period and if it isn't received well this academic year it will no longer be accredited.
- Has suspicions that funding promised for the hybrid Theatre program has been cut drastically.
- Knows there will be large focus on musical theatre, including a Musical Theater Concentration
- Is excited to be teaching music oriented classes and musical theory again.
- Honestly doesn't think music oriented classes can be taught well in an online/hybrid model
- Will be teaching Musicianship for Actors and Musical Theatre History I, as well as Humanities 101
- Is an accomplished professor, singer, and musician
- Prefers playing the violin, likes to play to relax
- Happy to discuss any style of music and likes encouraging students to discover their musical talents

Character Profile # 6

Actor - Jay Tifone

Character Name: Bernie Darbus

The Drama Club Advisor

Character Quirks:

- A veteran professor who loves his students
- Careful with his words but honest
- Takes long dramatic pauses
- Has a sarcastic and dry sense of humor
- Still in their mid-life crisis; thinks about the meaning of life a lot, usually from the top of a mountain or their boat that was an impulse buy
- Is more likely to clearly answer questions after being asked about his passions or engaging in any conversation about his passions, especially if reporters make small talk at all, makes him trust the reporters more
- Encourages students to ask questions, especially the quieter ones

Character Info:

- Teaches "Writing for the Stage"
- In his retirement job
- Probably is going to retire soon, especially if offered an early retirement package so more inclined to be critical of SNHU if asked how he feels about x,y,z.
- Has been at SNHU for 11 years and has accepted the way they operate, disillusioned, a bit cynical
- Usually doesn't care what SNHU does, just focus on their job, being the Club Advisor is a passion project though more than their job
- Worried about if this is the best option for students, cares about students more than anything
- Is worried for students because the Drama Club hasn't been asked to be involved
- Interested in developing a partnership between the drama club and the theatre department that is inclusive of students not in the theatre program
- Is unsure if SNHU's culture and community really have a renewed interest in the arts or if SNHU is just trying to add more majors for the sake of adding majors
- Students really like this professor because they find him to down-to-earth and enjoy his cynical humor
- Knows that theatre companies have been hesitant to offer internships, is unsure why
- Has been told to advise Theatre students to focus on Gen Ed courses
- His main work priority is revamping the drama club, increasing budget, increasing production quality

- Is a performer himself, has a very secretive and very private side hustle as a saxophone player in a jazz quartet