

Holiday Celebrities: Criminal Justice

By Bryan Starchman

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Dedicated to Noel

STORY OF THE PLAY

“Attention all units. Be on the look out for a man with pink wings and a bag full of human teeth. He’s considered unarmed and hilarious.”

What if the holiday celebrities that we all know and love lived among us? Would they still be welcomed with open arms or would their actions be considered criminal? In *Holiday Celebrities: Criminal Justice* we enter the dark underbelly of the holiday celebrity world. A world where Santa’s been dodging his taxes, the Easter Bunny gets caught breaking and entering, and the Thanksgiving Turkey is wanted for grand theft auto after stealing a poultry truck and driving straight for the border. The police will be working overtime tonight as they deport leprechauns, arrest Cupid for assault with a deadly weapon, and shoot down Witches flying over restricted areas. Call your lawyer and make bail in time to see this satirical play based on all of your favorite traditions.

Original Cast

Act 1

Bad Poet: Chandra Brenner

Max the Elf: Sam Brooks

Easter Bunny: Amanda Von Raeder

Officer Hammerstein: Wendy Burr

Thanksgiving Turkey: Ryan Delgado

The Tooth Fairy: Sam Brooks

Santa Claus: Michael Beaudoin

Harry from the IRS: Boomer Mayo

Jessica: Nasheena Chavez

Detective Gilbert: Tiffany Shaw

Detective Sullivan: Emily Bodfish

Gretel: Bri Summerlin

Act 2

Cupid: Chad Baker

Maude: Megan Fitzhenry

Stupid Questioner: Tenaya Bookout

Bailiff: Amanda Moczygemba

Father Time: David Gregory

Leprechaun: Wesley Riddle

INS Agent: Amanda Moczygemba

Kenny: Pierce Peterson

Bald Eagle: Michael Beaudoin

Billy: Ryan Delgado

Billy and Mary’s Mother: Anna Currier

Frank: Jordan Ashton

Madison Baker: Anna Currier

Judge: Misty Pettis-Humphrey

Mother Nature: Bri Pasley

New Year’s Baby: Eddie Bragg

Guard: Wendy Burr

Witch: Alycia Eichman

Kenny’s Mom: Jordan Ashton

Officer Rodgers: Sam Brooks

Mary: Jessica Furlan

Mrs. Campbell: Tenaya Bookout

CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(Widely flexible cast, approx. 12 m, 9 w, 13 flexible.
Much doubling possible. See page 5 for suggestions.)*

*BAD POET: Narrator (M/F) who sings and plays harmonica.
*SANTA CLAUS: Male.
MAX (or Maxine): A disgruntled elf.
HARRY (or Harriet): An auditor from the IRS.
*EASTER BUNNY: Female.
JESSICA: A rich woman, mid-30s, living in Beverly Hills.
OFFICER RODGERS: Male or female.
OFFICER HAMMERSTEIN: Male or female.
*THANKSGIVING TURKEY: Male.
DETECTIVE GILBERT: Good cop.
DETECTIVE SULLIVAN: Bad cop.
*TOOTH FAIRY: Male.
GRETEL: Girl, played by a teenager or adult with pigtails.
*CUPID: Male.
FRANK: Middle-aged, unhappily married to Maude.
MAUDE: The reason for Frank's misery.
MADISON (or Mark) BAKER: Flashy attorney, male or female.
*STUPID QUESTIONER: A stupid attorney, male or female.
JUDGE: Male or female.
BAILIFF: Male or female.
*MOTHER NATURE: Female.
*FATHER TIME: Male.
*NEW YEAR'S BABY: Male.
*LEPRECHAUN: Male.
GUARD: Male or female.
INS AGENT: Male or female, hard to fool.
*WITCH: Female.
KENNY: A creepy middle-aged man.
KENNY'S MOM: An overly protective mother.
*BALD EAGLE: Male. Unusual officer of the law.
BILLY: A young boy.
MARY: Billy's bratty sister
FATHER: Billy and Mary's father.
OLD MRS. CAMPBELL: Their cranky neighbor.
EXTRAS: Various extra prisoners and court observers.

** Indicates a Holiday Celebrity, 13 total.*

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Scene 1: The Big Three

Santa, Bunny, Turkey, Bad Poet

Scene 2: Revenge of the Disgruntled Elf or “Elf You!”

Max, Harry, Santa

Scene 3: Breaking and Eastering

Bunny, Jessica, Officers Rodgers and Hammerstein

Scene 4: Poultry in Motion

Turkey, Officer Hammerstein

Scene 5: To Tell the Tooth

Bad Poet, Tooth Fairy, Detectives Gilbert and Sullivan,
Gretel

Scene 6: Take My Wife ... Please!

Bad Poet, Officer Hammerstein, Cupid, Frank, Maude,
Judge, Bailiff, Baker, Stupid Questioner

Scene 7: The Odd Couple: Mother Nature and Father Time

Officer Hammerstein, Judge, Bailiff, Madison Baker, Stupid
Questioner, Mother Nature, Father Time

Scene 8: The Really Odd Couple

Leprechaun, New Year's Eve Baby, Guard, INS Agent

Scene 9: Witch Upon a Star

Witch, Kenny, Kenny's Mom

Scene 10: Good versus Eagle

Eagle, Officer Rodgers, Mary, Billy, Dad, Mrs. Campbell

Scene 11: Plea Bargain

Santa, Turkey, Easter Bunny, Cupid, Tooth Fairy,
Leprechaun, Mother Nature, Father Time, Bad Poet, Baby,
Witch, Bald Eagle, Stupid Questioner

DOUBLING

Much doubling is possible with this play and almost all extra roles (and even some of the 13 holiday celebrities) can be played as male or female. Below is just a sample of how you could use doubling to cut down the non-holiday celebrity roles so that they could all be played by just six actors. There are many other possibilities to suit almost all sizes of casts.

Actor 1: Max (Sc. 2), Hammerstein (Sc. 3,4,6), Guard (Sc. 8)

Actor 2: Harry (Sc. 2), Rodgers (Sc. 3.10), Bailiff (Sc. 6,7)

Actor 3: Jessica (Sc. 3), Maude (Sc. 6), INS Agent (Sc. 8)

Kenny's Mom (Sc. 9), Mrs. Campbell (Sc. 10)

Actor 4: Gretel (Sc. 5), Judge (Sc. 6,7), Mary (Sc. 10)

*Actor 5: Det. Gilbert (Sc. 5), Frank (Sc. 6), Kenny (Sc. 9),
Father (Sc. 10)*

Actor 6: Det. Sullivan (Sc. 5), Baker (Sc. 7), Billy (Sc. 10)

PROPS

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 stools | Harmonica |
| Handcuffs | Easter basket |
| Baseball bat | Chairs |
| Chicken puppet | Gun or nightstick |
| Police radio handset | Lollipop |
| Stun gun | Quiver and bow |
| Gavel | Briefcase |
| Legal pad | Glasses |
| Dark glasses | Dollar bill |
| Broom | String |
| Foil hat | Tray of instruments |
| Badge | Cage |
| Stuffed toy cat | Plate of cheese sandwiches |

COSTUMES

TURKEY, SANTA, and EASTER BUNNY: Black and white-striped prison shirts in addition to their normal costumes.

MAX: Elf costume with a funny hat with a bell on the end, tights, and soft shoes with curled-up toes.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN: Suits.

CUPID: Leisure suit with wings.

MOTHER NATURE: Floral apparel with leaves and birds in her hair.

FATHER TIME: A scraggly-looking old man with a very long beard and tinted sunglasses looking something like Jerry Garcia.

LEPRECHAUN: Dressed like all leprechauns, green tights, beard, and a big green hat with a gold shamrock on it.

BABY: Unitard overlaid with a bib, and a giant diaper, optional bonnet.

End of Freeview

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