



HAMILTON-GIBSON PRODUCTIONS' NEW YEAR'S EVE MURDER MYSTERY FUNDRAISER

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Do I need reservations?

YES! Advanced, paid reservations are required by Nov 29th, 2022 for the New Year's Eve Murder Mystery. However, due to space limitations, the event is limited to 60 guests. Reservations will close once the maximum is reached!

What is included in the \$65 per person cost?

The per person price includes your opportunity to be an active character in the mystery, be it suspect, inspector, culprit, or victim. Also included are assorted hors d'oeuvres and snacks throughout the evening, New Year's Eve party hats and favors, over four hours of sleuthing, mingling and meeting new friends and old, music and dancing, a champagne toast at midnight, and a night that promises to be a whole lot more entertaining on a New Year's Eve than watching a ball drop! ***NOTE: Drinks, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, will be available at additional cost. We will offer an assortment of wines, beer, and several Mardi Gras inspired specialty cocktails, as well as sodas, water, and coffee. Please enjoy responsibly.***

Is there an age limit?

Due to the subject matter, HG requests that all guests be a minimum of 18 years old. Please bring appropriate ID for the purchase of alcoholic beverages. Must be 21 to purchase.

How does the game work?

Once the reservation deadline passes (or we sell out before the date), guests will receive character assignments by e-mail prior to December 10th, 2022. The character information will include your role and a short sentence or two defining your backstory for the event. Do not worry – NO memorization is required! The idea is let you start to form a picture of your character. There might also be some costume hints or ideas. Costumes are in no way mandatory but most people do make an effort to dress their part. Have fun with it!

On New Year's Eve arrive at The Governor's Mansion (a.k.a. The Gallery @ The Warehouse Theater) at 8PM in costume and in character! Once you sign in and receive your participant packet, feel free to, mingle, admire the costumes, or have a cocktail.

The game starts with a brief welcome from your host and more details about how the night will proceed. You will be given a short set of notes for your character...things that perhaps only you will know and maybe a few bits of information you'd prefer that others not know about you. You might also be given a hint, such as "talk to _____ and let her know about...." There will be several rounds of play that involve sharing, bribing, or withholding pertinent information. Try to chat with as many guests as possible and find out their stories.

Sometime during the evening, a murder will occur! After that, based on what you've already learned, you will probably have several suspects in mind. Another set of character specific clues are provided and now you work even more diligently to protect your own good name and deduce the culprit. You will be introduced to evidence uncovered in the case. Consider what you see, what you've learned, and what your "gut" tells you.

About 11:00 PM guests will have the opportunity to record the results of their detective work. Your deductions will be tabulated and the true culprit(s) will be identified. Awards will be given for successful sleuthing, best character portrayals, best costumes, and maybe a few surprises!

What if I am not an actor?

No thespian skills required! You are provided a brief background, some hints, maybe a personal secret. All you do is chat with other guests. If you want to "act" by all means, go for it! If not, just have a conversation with as many people as you can and see what they know. Easy-peasy!

Do I have to play a part?

Within minutes of arriving, you WILL want to play! Fun is infectious and this party is about fun. There's something about being "someone else" that let's most people really come alive. If you think you'll struggle approaching people then hang out at the bar or around a group. Others will come to you!

What if I can't be there for the entire evening?

Because this is an interactive game, we ask that you be available from the beginning of the game 8PM through the solution at approximately 11:00PM. If you are a physician, EMS, or on call for some other profession that might call you away, PLEASE, let us know that fact when you reserve your space. We will try to have the character written in such a way that would allow for such an eventuality.

What is an “interactive murder mystery party”?

Unlike many murder mysteries where the audience merely observes then tries, as a group, to deduce the guilty party, the HG mystery puts YOU squarely in the middle of the action! YOU might be cast as the victim, a suspect, a culprit(s), or even an inspector. The victim and culprit(s) don't know their ultimate fate until part way through the party. There is no real acting here but more of a "Let's pretend" mind set. Even if you're a shy wallflower you'll do fine! Your back story gives you an opening point for conversations and since all guests will want to mingle, if you can't approach them, they will approach you for a chat. Interactive games are a wonderful way to meet new people.

Are costumes provided?

HG doesn't provide costumes but there are MANY links online for costume supply sites or DIY ideas. Creating a MARDI GRAS look is relatively easy. It's colorful (predominantly Gold, Green, and Purple) and wild. Have fun – be creative – do a quick search for Mardi Gras and you'll see that just about anything works! If you'd really rather rent a costume we may have a local connection for you...just ask and we'll see if we can hook you up!

Can I reveal my character to others?

Your character name and basic background story will be very generalized so sharing who you are with others wouldn't be a problem. The real "goods" about everyone won't be exposed until the night of the party. Then again...the game may be more fun if you remain a mystery until you arrive and surprise your friends!