

Things You Might Not Know About Alice in Wonderland

By Sarah Kiser, Staff Writer

Part of the excitement of Alice in Wonderland is that it is a complete secret from students, and only occurs every four years. Alas, that gives us so little time to enjoy it, so for one last hurrah for Alice and Co. we contacted many faculty and staff involved with the tradition to ask what interesting facts or secrets they could share. In keeping with the Alice tradition they will remain anonymous with only their stories to be known.

-Some cast members keep their roles for life. Dr. Jack Huber, retired head of the Psychology department, played the White Rabbit from 1976 until 2012. "This past Alice was the first one in almost forty years that didn't have him

in it!"

-Roles in Alice must be handed down from the previous performer to the next generation.

-Most of the leading Alice roles begin rehearsing a couple of weeks prior to the first show. Everyone begins to earnest the week before and comes together every night the week of the run.

-The cast members of Alice put a great deal of effort towards changing the original script to suit the times. Some prefer to adlib, and others plan thoughtfully. During the week many changes were made because something they found funny (i.e. the

Cat "photobombed" a "selfie" with the Duchess and Alice) didn't work out timing wise and had to be cut. The Duchess said "Some characters, like Donald Trump, were perfect given the current political climate!"

-Characters like the cards and fairies, with many dances to choreograph, have complicated rehearsals, which are more challenging to keep secret.

-Some actors switch roles over the years. A main character from this year's Alice used to play the Gardener with her two children.

-Now, with social media it is increasingly more challenging to keep

the secret. The White Knight said "I understand there were pics and stories everywhere on social media once the first performances happened this past week. And I don't see any way to prevent that development."

Alice herself said "keeping the performance a secret from students is part of the fun. I think students enjoy making guesses about the performers and seeing if they are right. Of course, as the performance gets closer, sometimes people slip up in hallway conversations and call each other by their characters' names, but on the whole I think we do a pretty good job of saying "Shhh!" and keeping our secrets."

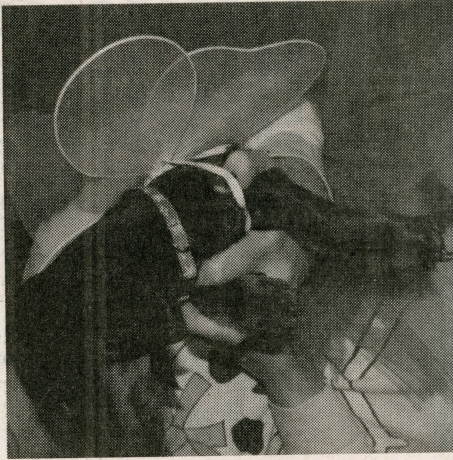


Photo Credits Dr. Rebecca Duncan, Herald Instagram, Herald Website
To see more pictures from Alice check out our website at meredithherald.wordpress.com