**Macbeth Character Breakdown**

**The Three Witches** (Male &Female, Any Age)- Three mystical elements in human form who plot mischief against Macbeth using charms, spells, and prophecies. Their predictions prompt him to murder Duncan, to order the deaths of Banquo and his son, and to blindly believe in his own immortality.

**Macbeth** (Male, 30s-early 50s) - Macbeth is a Scottish general and the Thane of Glamis who is led to wicked thoughts by the prophecies of the three witches, and seduced by his wife into committing murder to fulfill his ambitions to the throne. Once he commits his first crime and is crowned King of Scotland, he embarks on further atrocities with increasing ease thus becoming a dreadful tyrant.

**Lady Macbeth** (Female, 30s-early 50s) - A deeply ambitious woman who lusts for power and position. Early in the play she seems to be the stronger and more ruthless of the two, as she urges her husband to kill Duncan and seize the crown. After the bloodshed begins, however, Lady Macbeth falls victim to guilt and madness to an even greater degree than her husband.

**Macduff** (Male, late 20s-40s) - A Scottish nobleman hostile to Macbeth’s kingship from the start. He eventually becomes a leader of the crusade to unseat Macbeth. The crusade’s mission is to place the rightful king, Malcolm, on the throne, but Macduff also desires vengeance for Macbeth’s murder of Macduff’s wife and young son.

**Banquo** (Male or female, late 20s-40s) - The brave, noble general whose children, according to the witches’ prophecy, will inherit the Scottish throne. Like Macbeth, Banquo thinks ambitious thoughts, but he/she does not translate those thoughts into action, and is eventually murdered by Macbeth.

**Malcolm** (Male or female, 20s-30s) - The son or daughter of Duncan, whose restoration to the throne signals Scotland’s return to order following Macbeth’s reign of terror.

**Duncan** (Male, 50s-60s) - The good King of Scotland whom Macbeth, in his ambition for the crown, murders. Duncan is the model of a virtuous, benevolent, and farsighted ruler. His death symbolizes the destruction of an order in Scotland that can be restored only when Duncan’s line, in the person of Malcolm, once more occupies the throne. May also play the role of Old Siward

**Angus** (Male or Female, Any Age) - Scottish Thane, advisor to Duncan. Will also play the role of Porter

**Lennox** (Male or female, Any Age) - Scottish Thane, advisor to Duncan

**Ross** (Male or female, Any Age) - Scottish Thane, advisor to Duncan

**Donalbain** (Female or Male, 20s-30s) - Duncan’s daughter/son and Malcolm’s younger sister/brother. Will also play Menteth

**Fleance** (Male/Female, age 11-17) - Banquo’s son/daughter, who survives Macbeth’s attempt to murder him/her.

**Seyton** (Male or Female, Any Age) - Macbeth’s servant and chief advisor. He/She is an active conspirator in Macbeth’s crimes and reign of terror.

**Siward** (Female, Any Age) - English Lord who aids the Thanes in overthrowing Macbeth. Will also play the role of one of the Witches.

**Young Siward** (Male or Female, age 14-21) - Siward’s son. He is killed by Macbeth in hand-to-hand combat.

**Lady Macduff** (Female, 30s-40s) - Macduff’s wife. She and her children are murdered by Macbeth in order to consolidate power. Will also play the role of one of the Witches.

**Young Macduff** (Young Boy, 10-12) - Macduff’s youngest son. Murdered by Macbeth.

**Captain** (Male, 20s-50s) - Scottish soldier who fights in battle first with Macbeth, then against him. Will also play the role of the Doctor

**Murderers 1 and 2** (Male, Any Age) - A group of ruffians conscripted by Macbeth to murder Banquo, Fleance, and Macduff’s wife and children. They become Macbeth’s personal guard and advisors.

**Gentlewoman/Gentleman** (Female, Any Age) - Lady Macbeth’s maid. Will also play the role of one of the Witches.

**Doctor** (Male, Any Age) - A doctor called upon to treat Lady Macbeth’s madness. Will also play the role of the Captain.