

ACT I

- 1 Arsenal, Springfield, MA, January, 1787
- 2 Various states, late winter, 1787
- 3 Madison home, Hamilton home, Payne home, March, 1787
- 4 Street, Philadelphia, May, 1787
- 5 Independence Hall, May 25
- 6 Independence Hall, next day
- 7 Independence Hall, next day
- 8 Independence Hall, another day
- 9 Independence Hall, July 3
- 10 Indian Queen Tavern, that evening (interior)
- 11 Ruminations on the future

ACT II

- 1 Independence Hall, following the holiday
- 2 Independence Hall, later
- 3 Independence Hall, later
- 4 Independence Hall, July 23
- 5 Hamilton home, early September
- 6 Independence Hall, later
- 7 Independence Hall, later
- 8 Independence Hall, September 16
- 9 Independence Hall, next day
- 10 Various states, during the following year
- 11 The future

*Run time for ACT I and II is about 148:00 including 8:00 cushion allowance per act for applause plus some scene change dead time, which should be minimized. See also details and options in **APPENDIX 3**.*

CHARACTERS

See also **APPENDIX 1** for further notes on characterization and casting

Minimum 32 players: 25 delegates + 2 Jacksons + 5 female roles.

Low-voiced females may be cast in male roles if played believably as male. Females may be added for vocal balance in Company choruses.

SHAYS' REBELLION

- DANIEL SHAYS (39) leader of rebellion *
- JASON PARMENTER (51) "Captain of the insurgents" *
- MOLLY PITCHER (late 30's) farm wife, historical composite
- MARCHERS 1-7 *
- Ensemble chorus * *suggested names in Appendix 1*
- VOICE at the Arsenal *

OTHER NON-DELEGATES 3-5 men, 4-5 women

- SECRETARY WILLIAM JACKSON (28) professional attitude
- JACKSON, THE SLAVE (mature) Washington's trusted valet, watchful and aware **
- HENRY (any age) Madison's comic servant *
- ELIZA HAMILTON (29) beautiful newlywed
- DOLLEY PAYNE (19) future First Lady
- PENELOPE (Philadelphia street and Tavern scenes)
- KATIE (Philadelphia street and Tavern scenes)
- JACOB GOOD – Independence Hall servant * *role and part may be replaced by Jackson, the Slave*
- JACOB ADAMS – Tavern proprietor, *optional* *
- JENNY ADAMS – Tavern waitress, *optional* *

* Henry, Shays, Parmenter, Marchers 1-7, Voice at the Arsenal, and ensemble are planned as doubled with other roles.

** With limited historical documentation of Jackson, Washington's valet and slave, the character here is modeled on William Lee. Having been at Washington's side for most of his life, Lee was unable to travel to Philadelphia.

CHARACTERS

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DELEGATES *

VA	YL	JAMES MADISON (36) studious, well prepared, quiet type, “father of the Constitution”
VA	OP	GEORGE WASHINGTON (55) Revolutionary War General, hero revered by all, prefers to remain retired to his plantation
VA	YL	EDMUND RANDOLPH (34) governor of Virginia
VA	OP	GEORGE WYTHE (61) respected law professor
VA	OP, Grmbl	GEORGE MASON (62) principled statesman
MD	Grmbl	LUTHER MARTIN (39) unkempt, leader of the most successful law practice in the country
MD		DANIEL ST. THOMAS JENIFER (64) wears 18 th /century style silks, frills, and a powdered wig
DE	Grmbl	GUNNING BEDFORD, JR. (40) a large man
DE	OP, Grmbl	JOHN DICKINSON (55) respected “penman of the Revolution,” in ill health
NJ	Grmbl	WILLIAM PATERSON (41) short and feisty delegate, a college friend of Madison
NH		JOHN LANGDON (46) latecomer, focused upon his own importance
NY	Grmbl	JOHN LANSING, JR. (32) handsome naysayer, likely already involved in corrupt politics of New York state
NY	Grmbl	ROBERT YATES (49) Lansing’s mentor and cohort in self-serving endeavors, and a distant relative by marriage
NY	YL	ALEXANDER HAMILTON (30) handsome, brash
CT	OP	ROGER SHERMAN (66) covert politician
PA	OP	DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (81) in failing health
PA	YL	GOUVERNEUR MORRIS (35) one-legged ladies’ man known as “the tall boy”
PA	OP	“JUDGE” JAMES WILSON (45) esteemed legal authority
MA	OP	NATHANIEL GORHAM (49) President of the Continental Congress
MA	Grmbl	ELBRIDGE GERRY (43) argumentative friend of John Adams
MA	YL	RUFUS KING (32) small of stature
NC		WILLIAM BLOUNT (43) chronically late naysayer
SC	OP	“DICTATOR JOHN” RUTLEDGE (48) blustering
SC	YL	CHARLES PINCKNEY (29) effete aristocrat
GA		ABRAHAM BALDWIN (33) good-natured

* Historically accurate, the nicknames given Young Lions (YL), Old Patriots (OP), and Grumbletonians (Grmbl) were applied in 1787 to describe delegates having similar interests. These were neither mutually exclusive groups nor automatically assigned by age; not all Old Patriots were averse to change, as were the Grumbletonians.

There were 55 delegates representing the 12 states participating, but those are limited here to a stage roster of 25, combining selected deeds of those not appearing into politically related roles. Similarly, **Molly Pitcher** is a composite, legendary character, based upon the acts of first one, then several real women. Some events and chronology are changed for time constraints, but the gist of the history remains.

SET REQUIREMENTS

The only set requirements are a suggestion of Independence Hall with the tables and chairs for the delegates attending and a working door. Shays Rebellion, tavern scene, “Books” scene, and others can be played on the forestage. Drops can be used but are not necessary. The initial production had a framework set with a working door for Independence Hall, a drop for the Tavern, and small home interiors.