

Duluth--- How do you play the role of a butterfly, or a beetle, or an ant, or a snail?

Twenty students attending the UMD High School Theater Workshop are enthusiastically rehearsing to take such parts for the play "The World We Live in."

Written in the 1920s by Josef and Karel Copek, the play will be performed in Old Main Auditorium at 8:15 p.m. July 14-16 and July 21-23. Ranging in tone from farce comedy to serious drama, the production offers students a chance to play a wide variety of characters---insect or human.

Workshop Director Daniel Alkofer, UMD instructor in speech, said the costuming represents an exciting challenge to the students. "It is no easy task to make people resemble wasps or butterflies, but we can try. This seems to be the year for bright colors and gaudy patterns, so we expect to have a really eye-opening display of color."

The students will construct not only the insect costumes but the props and sets as well.

"A play of this kind, with so much demand for imaginative and creative work as well as for ordinary sweat and grime, will give them a first-hand lesson in how challenging the theater can be," Alkofer declared.

"Besides these things, simply getting to know students from other schools and working with them and with a new stage director offers a challenge that no single high school can provide."

The workshop replaces the regular UMD Summer Theater productions this year and is the first project of its type attempted at UMD.

Duluth high school students in the play are: John Hall, Don Gilleland, Judith DeLawyer, Terri Monaghan, Steve Fedo, John Dolezilek, Len Gillen, Signe Benson, Sandra Peterson, Terry Hanson, Mike Burke, Matt Bullock, Mike Meier, Wendy Eckman. Students from Hermantown in the play are: Chris Peterson, Sandra Peterson and Mary Peterson.