

Tips for Creating a

Readers Theatre Show on ZOOM:

Zoom is a great platform for presenting readers theatre.

Here are some tips for creating a successful online Zoom show:

- Do a rehearsal ahead of time on Zoom, and look at lighting, sound, background view, costuming, etc.
- Have all actors who are not in the current scene turn off their camera and microphone.
- In order for the Zoom camera to focus in on actors, you may need to ask them to insert a sound or short word before their lines.
- For your show, if the scene involves only 2 actors, the Zoom host can "spotlight" the 2 actors for the audience, and they will display side by side on the screen. (If there are more than 2 actors, spotlighting becomes arduous, so only try this for 2 actor scenes.)
- Instruct your audience to keep themselves on "Speaker View" and be prepared to provide them with instructions on how to do that.
- Ask the audience to turn off their camera and stay on mute until it is time to applaud.
- Assign a narrator to host your Zoom show, and give your host a noisemaker of some kind to use at the end of each scene to cue the audience to applaud.
- Ramp up the fun by encouraging your audience to turn on their camera and microphone for to applaud. Do an applause rehearsal with the audience before you start the show.
- Get ready to have a great time with readers theatre online!