

PLAY PROPOSAL

“RADIUM GIRLS”

GENERAL INFORMATION

- I. The true story of the Radium Girls- a group of factory workers who successfully sued the U.S Radium Corporation after being poisoned by the luminous radium-based paint they worked with.

- II. Proposal submitted by Penelope Chan
 - Caltech community
 - Penelope_chan@comcast.net
 - 245 S Holliston Ave, Pasadena CA 91106

- III. Preference: 3 of 3

- IV. Project description
 - “Radium Girls”
 - Genre: Drama, historical, science-based
 - Number of characters: Can be performed with 5 F, 4 M with double-casting, but cast can be expanded to up to 30 or more (numbers of board members, members of the public, press are unspecified).
 - General description of the show – plot: After its discovery by Polish scientist Marie Curie, radium was considered a miracle cure for cancer. Its luminous property was also exploited, although the dangerous effects of radioactivity was still little known and not well understood. The young women of the U.S. Radium Corporation employed to paint clock faces with radium-based paint were given no health warnings or protective gear, and even sharpened their paintbrush bristles using their mouths. When the girls become ill with cancer necrosis of the jaw, dial painter Grace Fryer takes U.S. Radium to court to demand justice and recompense for herself and the other workers who became known as the Radium Girls.
 - Themes: Drama, science, history, law and justice

DETAILED INFORMATION

- I. Reasons for the proposed show: Great ensemble show that passes the Bechdel test.
 - **Technical Aspects:** costumes for men and women ranging from 1917 to 1926, unit set with simple props. props important- brushes, blank paper clock faces.