



Bright Star

Auditions Information for 2024 Production

AUDITIONS: Saturday, March 23: 9:00 am-4:30 pm
Sign up for one of the 1-hour time slots at HawthornePlayers.com

CALLBACKS: Monday, March 25 6:30 pm
To be seriously considered, those asked to callbacks should attend.

LOCATION: Florissant Performing Arts Center at the Florissant Civic Center
#1 James J. Eagan Dr. – corner of Parker Rd. and Waterford Dr., Florissant 63033

2024 PRODUCTION DATES:

- Fridays, July 26 & August 2 and Saturday, August 3 at 7:30 pm
- Saturday, July 27 and Sunday, August 4 at 2:00 pm
- Theater Move-in is Saturday, July 13
- Tech Week begins Sunday, July 21

AUDITION DETAILS:

- Please sign up for a 1-hour audition time slot. Plan to attend the entire hour although you may be excused earlier.
- Auditioners should download and complete the Audition Form and bring it to auditions with a current headshot (a selfie is acceptable)
- Please come prepared to sing 16-32 measures of a song not from the show. Bring sheet music in the key you will be singing. An accompanist will be provided.
- Cold readings from the script will be part of the audition.
- No accents necessary.
- Dance movement will be at callbacks only for selected roles.
- All people being considered for the cast will not necessarily be asked to callbacks.

Auditions are open to non-union actors of all races, sexes, creeds, orientations and abilities, ages 16 and older. Hawthorne Players encourages performers of diverse backgrounds and abilities to audition for our productions. Hawthorne Players is a community theatre and, as such, all roles are volunteer, unpaid positions.

Only actors available for production dates, tech week and rehearsals will be cast. Actors will be asked to help with move-in, set build and strike in some capacity.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The casting committee is looking for multi-talented individuals, ages 16 and older, who can sing, act and move well, who will make the commitment to be on time to all rehearsals, when they are needed, to create a superlative production.

Callbacks will only be for lead or featured roles and are mandatory for anyone being seriously considered for those roles. Individuals who are not called back may still be cast.

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals will begin Sunday, May 19 at North Hills UMC in Ferguson and are currently planned for Sunday afternoons/evenings beginning at 2:00 PM and Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 7:00-10:00 PM.

SCHEDULE AND CONFLICTS: Conflicts will not necessarily eliminate you from being cast. However, excessive additional conflicts after being cast may result in a role being recast. Please do not audition if you are not available for all rehearsals during tech week and all performances.

HAWTHORNE DUES: Those cast are expected to become a paid member of Hawthorne Players to cover insurance, photos of show and eligibility for Hawthorne's Best Performance Awards. The cost to join Hawthorne Players is \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family, per calendar year.

For additional questions, please contact Director Lori Renna at lori.renna1@gmail.com.

SHOW SYNOPSIS

Inspired by a true story and featuring the Tony®-nominated score by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, Broadway's BRIGHT STAR tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and '40s. When literary editor Alice Murphy meets a young soldier just home from World War II, he awakens her longing for the child she once lost. Haunted by their unique connection, Alice sets out on a journey to understand her past—and what she finds has the power to transform both of their lives. With beautiful melodies and powerfully moving characters, the story unfolds as a rich tapestry of deep emotion. An uplifting theatrical journey that holds you tightly in its grasp, BRIGHT STAR is as refreshingly genuine as it is daringly hopeful.

AVAILABLE ROLES

Alice Murphy: Plays both 16-17 and 36-37. Alice at age 36-37 is an editor of a southern literary magazine; intelligent, attractive, professional – but with an air of melancholy. Young Alice at age 16-17 is rebellious, high-spirited, adventurous – looking to break out of small-town life and experience the world. She must be a very strong singer and comfortable in folk and bluegrass styles.

Billy Cane: A young soldier returning home from WWII; an aspiring young writer; fresh, open, optimistic, charming, and a little naïve.

Daddy Cane: Billy's father. A widower. Spry, good looking. Kindhearted, if a bit lonely.

Margo Crawford: A small-town bookstore owner; a childhood friend of Billy's who now harbors romantic feelings towards him; a natural beauty with a keen intellect.

Max: A customer at Margo's bookstore, at first, he has a crush on Margo, but later becomes Edna's beau.

Florence: An employee at Margo's bookstore and a childhood friend of both Billy and Margo.

Edna: An employee at Margo's bookstore.

Daryl Ames: An assistant at a literary magazine. Funny, with a dry and officious sense of humor. Insecure, and perhaps a bit socially awkward, but endearing and innately likeable.

Lucy Grant: A junior editor at a literary magazine. An ambitious, professional young "modern" career woman of the 1940's. Strong, forthright and provocative with a sharp sense of humor.

Mama Murphy: Alice's mother. A caretaker to her family and her rural community. A warm, loving, sensible woman. Hardworking, with great inner strength and compassion.

Daddy Murphy: Alice's father; an authoritative and stern disciplinarian; devoutly religious, hard-working, a poor, but proud farmer.

Mayor Josiah Dobbs: The Mayor of Zebulon; a political and financial powerbroker – distinguished, an imposing and controlling presence; has a genuine interest in protecting his son's future and his family name, but in doing so, is ultimately pushed to a point of extreme and irrevocable cruelty.

Jimmy Ray Dobbs: Plays both age 18-20 and 38-40. Jimmy Ray in his early 20s in flashbacks is Mayor Dobbs' son and young Alice's beau; handsome, boyishly charming, well-built and intelligent; from a family of wealth and power and is being groomed by his father for a similar future in the family business; an independent thinker who is not afraid to stand up to his father for what he believes in; he has a sense of personal responsibility and morality as well as a deep reserve of passion and emotion. The same actor will also play an adult Jimmy Ray at age 38-40.

Stanford: Loyal assistant to Mayor Josiah Dobbs.

Dr. Norquist: The local family doctor in Zebulon.

Government Clerk: A clerk at the Office of Records in Raleigh.

Well-Dressed Woman: A woman (38-40) living in Raleigh.

Ensemble: Talented men and women who sing, dance and play several roles, such as some listed above.