

Audition notice for

Pippin

Book by Roger O. Hirson, music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Produced by Rachel Alberts
Directed by Christopher Dykton

Audition Dates:

Saturday, July 29, 2017, 10:30 am – 2:00 pm
Monday, July 31, 2017, 7:30-10 pm

Callbacks:

Wednesday, August 2, 2017, 7:30-10:00 pm. Invited actors will be given a time to arrive.

Rehearsal Dates:

August 5, 2017 – October 5, 2016. Schedule will be set accounting for actors' conflicts but all days of the week are being considered for rehearsal.

Performance Dates:

October 6, 2017 - October 21, 2017

Show Description:

CONCEPT AND SYNOPSIS: The musical *Pippin* tells the story of a young man at a crossroads in his life, asking the big question, "What is the meaning of my life?" The son of Charlemagne, Pippin is a man with choices. Does he follow in the footsteps of his father, one of the most powerful men in the land? Or does he strike out on his own to find his own way? Pursuing his journey, Pippin faces the choices that we all face when trying to find our place in the world. After trying many ways, he stumbles on love accidentally, and ultimately learns that love, however imperfect, is the key to life. *Pippin* is a play within a play. The story is told by a traveling troupe of actors (called "Players"), directed by the Leading Player. This troupe helps tell the story and help Pippin along the way to discovery, and then he eventually learns what they want him to discover....

CHARACTERS:

Male or Female:

Leading Player: The director and lead performer of an traveling theater troupe and the musical's narrator, The Leading Player is the commentator, critic, and enabler all at once, but the big question is what is his/her true interest in Pippin? Masterfully charming and manipulative, the Leading Player is a chameleon, guiding Pippin through his own story and offering him all life's choices, except the one that matters. A paradox, he looks like light but is ultimately darkness. A charismatic performer of power, either male or female. Must be able to guide us to dark side without revealing his/her intention. Must be SAD*

Gender: Male or Female, Age: Any age, Vocal Range: Db3 - Ab4 Dance: Required.

The Players: A group of 6 men and 6 women who are a fantastical ensemble of actors, singers, dancers that play multiple characters to tell Pippin's story including troubadours, warriors, farmers, lovers, and demonic presence. Heavily featured throughout. They represent the influences and voices in Pippin's head. Must be comfortable on stage stripped down to undergarments or dance attire. Must be SAD*

Gender: Male and Female, Age: 16+, Vocal Range: Musical Theater SATB, Dance: Required.

Featured Male:

Pippin: The eldest son of Charlemagne and the musical's protagonist. Despite the privilege he enjoys as heir to the throne, Pippin is unfulfilled by what life at court has to offer. He is longing to find his purpose and the meaning of his life. Naive, innocent, and discontented, Pippin eventually explores possibilities and temptations, and ultimately finds meaning in love, and the love of having a family with Catherine and Theo. Actor must be a lead who can carry the story and gain the audience's trust and interest in following him on his journey. Must be comfortable on stage stripped down to undergarments. Must be SAD*

Gender: Male, Age: 20s, Vocal Range: G2 - Ab4, Dance: Required

Charlemagne (Charles): The emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. Pippin and Lewis's demanding father, and Fastrada's husband. He is an adherent that, to maintain and run society, war is a part of everyday life and a skill that one should master. He is. He wears his years with great pride. An older character actor of power. May be part of The Players as well. Must be SAD*

Gender: Male, Age: Older than Pippin and Lewis, 40s-60s, Vocal Range: G2 - E4, Dance: Recommended

Lewis: The youngest son of Emperor Charlemagne and Pippin's half-brother. A strong, brash and dim-witted soldier, Lewis loves his mother almost as much as he loves himself. He is next in line (after Pippin) to inherit the throne. Addicted to the physical, Lewis loves weight lifting, Lewis loves wrestling, but most of all, Lewis loves Lewis. Requires good physicality. A young character actor who plays the antagonist. May be part of The Players as well. Must be SAD*

Gender: Male, Age: 20, Dance: Required.

Featured Female:

Berthe: Pippin's saucy grandmother and Charlemagne's mother. Berthe was exiled to the countryside after disagreeing with her daughter-in-law, Fastrada. A brassy woman full of wisdom, grace, sass and presence, Berthe advises Pippin to live his life to the fullest by seeking fulfillment through sensuality. Demands a character actress of musical theater presence. Has the musical theater "It" factor.

Gender: Female, Eligible Age: late 40s to 70s, Vocal Range: E3 - C5, Dance: Not required but is a plus

Catherine: A widow who has been left with a large estate, which she can hardly manage on her own. She meets Pippin at a low point in his journey and welcomes him into her home. They ultimately fall in love. Theo is her son. She is a beautiful and a hopeless romantic and one who possesses graceful elegance. A classic musical theater leading lady. Must be comfortable on stage in under garments. May be part of The Players as well. Must be SAD*

Gender: Female, Eligible Age: 20s - 30s, Range: F#3 - Db5, Dance: Required.

Fastrada: Lewis's mother and Pippin's stepmother, Fastrada is entirely devoted to Lewis's happiness and her own power. She wants to put Lewis on the throne at all costs, even if it means defying her husband, Charlemagne. She is both beautiful, devious, crafty, cunning, and untrustworthy. A character actress of power who plays the antagonist. May be part of The Players as well. Must be SAD*

Gender: Female, Age: Older than Lewis, 30-50, Vocal Range: A3 - F5 Dance: Required.

Juvenile:

Theo: Catherine's son. A kind boy whose best friend is a pet duck. Theo awakens Pippin's sense of self, responsibility, sacrifice, and love. A strong male actor of youth who sings. Must be comfortable on stage stripped down to undergarments.

Gender: Male, Age: 6-12 yrs,

*SAD = Sing/Act/Dance

Audition Notes:

The cast consists of 20-21 actors: 10 females, 10 males, and 1 juvenile male. Those auditioning should note:

- Prepare a musical theater song not from *Pippin* that best shows off your voice. Bring the sheet music in your key; an accompanist will be provided.
- Bring your resume.
- Bring head shot, if available.
- Bring an accurate list of conflicts that you have for the dates between July 29 and October 22, 2017.
- There will be a dance combination at the audition. This dance audition is expected to be done by everyone auditioning, regardless of the amount of dance the performer will do in the show.
- Reading from the script at auditions will be at the director's discretion.

Auditions are first come, first served. No appointments are necessary. If you have a black and white headshot, you may bring it with you; all auditionees, however, will be asked to have their picture taken by the TAP. All actors cast are required to become members of TAP. If you would like to help with this production or if you have questions, contact the producer, Rachel Alberts, at rachelaclu@gmail.com.