



## Casting Opportunities 2017-2018 Season

In an effort to let folks know of the landscape of the roles for this season, here's an overview of the casting by show. These are NOT descriptions created by the directors, but snapshots. WATCH FOR FULL INFORMATION coming soon in the Company Newsletters and on the website at [www.livearts.org/companymember/](http://www.livearts.org/companymember/)

### **A DELICATE BALANCE**

Directed by Fran Smith

Performance Dates: October 13<sup>th</sup>-November 11<sup>th</sup>

Audition Dates: July 16<sup>th</sup> & July 17<sup>th</sup>. Callbacks: July 20<sup>th</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of July 30<sup>th</sup>

This Pulitzer Prize winner enjoyed a stunning Broadway revival in 1996 with George Gizzard, Rosemary Harris and Elaine Stritch. Wealthy middle-aged couple, Agnes and Tobias have their complacency shattered when Harry and Edna, longtime friends appear at their doorstep. Claiming an encroaching, nameless "fear" has forced them from their own home, these neighbors bring a firestorm of doubt, recrimination and ultimately solace, upsetting the "delicate balance" of Agnes and Tobias' household.

"Powerful... A beautiful play filled with humor and compassion, and touched with poetry... [with] the stature and eloquence of a classic." - *The New York Daily News* "A brilliant play." - *The New York Post* "An evening of theatrical fireworks." - *The New York Times*

CAST BREAKDOWN: *4 Females, 2 Males*

- **AGNES:** A woman in her fifties, well off, and married to Tobias.
- **TOBIAS:** Agnes's husband and the father of Julia. He is a well-to-do, retired businessman.
- **JULIA:** Julia is the thirty-six-year-old daughter of Agnes and Tobias
- **CLAIRE:** Agnes's younger sister. She claims that she is not an alcoholic but rather a willful drinker
- **HARRY:** Harry is Edna's husband and Tobias's best friend
- **EDNA:** Edna is Harry's wife.



## Casting Opportunities 2017-2018 Season

### TEEN WORKSHOP

Directed by Miller Murray Susen

Performance Dates: November 15<sup>th</sup> – November 18<sup>th</sup>

Audition Dates: September 12<sup>th</sup> & September 13<sup>th</sup> Callbacks: September 14<sup>th</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of September 17<sup>th</sup>

Are you a creative kid who likes to do a little bit of a lot of things; for example, a writer-actor-director? And have you ever watched a sketch comedy show or a funny one act, and thought, "I could make that!" Well, you totally can. Come join Miller Susen, whose name is not backwards, no for real Miller is the first name, for the *2016 Live Arts Teen-ish Theater Workshop!* The Teen Workshop is an evening of original works written and performed by the actors involved in the workshop. The show will be completely original and made up entirely of your ideas. Auditions will involve playing some games, answering questions, exchanging ideas, and getting to know each other. Please feel free to contact Education Director Mike at [mike@livearts.org](mailto:mike@livearts.org) with questions, or for more specifics.

#### CAST BREAKDOWN

6-15 actors aged 11 and up.

We encourage everyone to audition and participate. It will be most fun and truthful if we have a nice mix of actors of different backgrounds, ages, and ethnicities.



## Casting Opportunities 2017-2018 Season

### SWEET CHARITY

Directed by Marija Reiff

Performance Dates: December 1<sup>st</sup>-January 6<sup>th</sup> (Possible Extension through January 13<sup>th</sup>)

Audition Dates: September 9<sup>th</sup> & September 10<sup>th</sup>. Callbacks: September 13<sup>th</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of September 17<sup>th</sup>

Charity Valentine is the eternal optimist. While working at the seedy Fan-Dango Ballroom, she is often exploited by men, and has been strung along in a series of bad relationships. Nonetheless, she always holds out hope -- and she seems to have finally met a decent fellow in Oscar. Concerned that he will reject her if he discovers her true profession, Charity lies to Oscar tells him that she works in a bank. Soon, Oscar asks Charity to marry him. Unfortunately, when Oscar discovers Charity's real profession, he backs out of the marriage. Based on Federico Fellini's screenplay for *Nights of Cabiria*, *Sweet Charity* follows Charity's romantic ups and downs as she remains ever-hopeful that, despite her work as a dancer-for-hire she will ultimately find love.

SWEET CHARITY CAST BREAKDOWN: *5 males, 6 females plus ensemble*

- **Charity Hope Valentine:** The girl who wanted to be loved. *Alto*
- **Oscar Lindquist:** A man whom Charity befriends and eventually falls in love with. *Baritone*
- **Charlie:** Charity's boyfriend in the opening of the show, and the name on her tattoo
- **Nickie:** One of Charity's closest friends and a taxi dancer at the Fandango Ballroom. *Alto*
- **Helene:** One of Charity's closest friends and a taxi dancer at the Fandango Ballroom. *Alto*
- **Herman:** The authoritarian owner of the Fandango Ballroom; Charity's boss. *Tenor*
- **Vittorio Vidal:** A famous Italian movie star. *Baritone/ Tenor*
- **Ursula March:** Vittorio's girlfriend
- **Daddy Johann Sebastian Brubeck:** The enigmatic leader of the Rhythm of Life Church. *Baritone*
- **Carmen:** a dancer at the Fandango Ballroom who is friends with Nickie, Helene, and Charity
- **Rosie:** The new dancer at the Fandango Ballroom. *Soprano*
- **Suzanne, Frenchie, Betsy, and Elaine,** dancers at the Fandango Ballroom
- **Ensemble:** Various dancers and patrons of the Fandango Ballroom



## Casting Opportunities 2017-2018 Season

### TOP GIRLS

Directed by Betsy Tucker

Performance Dates: February 2<sup>nd</sup> -February 24<sup>th</sup>

Audition Dates: November 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Callbacks: November 21<sup>st</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of December 31<sup>st</sup>

Marlene has been promoted to managing director of a London employment agency and is celebrating. The symbolic luncheon is attended by women in legend or history who offer perspectives on maternity and ambition. In a time warp, these ladies are also her co-workers, clients, and relatives. Marlene, like her famous guests, has had to pay a price to ascend from proletarian roots to the executive suite: she has become, figuratively speaking, a male oppressor, and even coaches female clients on adopting odious male traits. Marlene has also abandoned her illegitimate and dull-witted daughter. Her emotional and sexual life has become as barren as Lady Macbeth's.

"A blistering yet sympathetic look at women who achieve success by adopting the worst traits of self-made men [...] Truly original." - *The New York Times*

"Very funny and provocative [...] A mind lifting experience." - *The New York Post*

CAST BREAKDOWN: 7 females (Actors play multiple roles)

- **MARLENE:** The central protagonist of *Top Girls*, who has just been promoted to managing director at the employment agency where she works.
- **ISABELLA BIRD:** An English woman who lived from 1831-1904. She was an avid explorer and travelled all around the world between the ages of 40 and 70.
- **LADY NIJO:** A concubine to the Emperor of Japan in the 13th Century, and later, a Buddhist nun. She had 4 children, all of whom were taken away from her.
- **DULL GRET:** The subject of Brueghel's famous painting called Dulle Griet, which depicts a woman in an apron and armor leading an army of women in battle against a horde of demons in Hell.
- **POPE JOAN:** A legendary Englishwoman believed to have disguised herself as a man and served as the Pope from 854-856.
- **PATIENT GRISELDA:** She is based on the character of the obedient wife in the "Clerk's Tale" from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*.
- **JEANINE:** A twenty-year-old woman who Marlene interviews at Top Girls.
- **JOYCE:** Angie's adoptive mother and Marlene's sister.
- **ANGIE:** Marlene's 16-year-old biological daughter who was adopted by Marlene's sister, Joyce.
- **KIT:** Angie's younger next-door neighbor and closest friend. Kit is a bright girl with academic ambitions.
- **WIN:** One of the female employees at Top Girls. She is focused on her career.
- **NELL:** One of the female employees at Top Girls. She is also career-driven and is jealous of Marlene's promotion.



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- **LOUISE:** A forty-six year old woman interviewing at Top Girls.
- **MRS. KIDD:** The wife of Howard Kidd, Marlene's co-worker.
- **SHONA:** A young girl who interviews with Nell.
- **GWORTH:** A witty, clever, and flirtatious flirt



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### **FUN HOME**

Directed by Miller Murray Susen

A Mentor/Apprentice Production

Performance Dates: March 9<sup>th</sup> – March 25<sup>th</sup> (Possible Extension through March 31<sup>st</sup>)

Audition Dates: December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup> Callbacks: December 5<sup>th</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

*Fun Home* is a refreshingly honest, wholly original musical about seeing your parents through grown-up eyes.

In her groundbreaking, bestselling graphic memoir, Alison Bechdel charts her fraught relationship with her late father. In her hands, personal history becomes a work of amazing subtlety and power, written with controlled force and enlivened with humor, rich literary allusion, and heartbreaking detail.

Distant and exacting, Bruce Bechdel was an English teacher and director of the town funeral home, which Alison and her family referred to as the "Fun Home." It was not until college that Alison, who had recently come out as a lesbian, discovered that her father was also gay. A few weeks after this revelation, he was dead, leaving a legacy of mystery for his daughter to resolve.

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2 Males, 4 Females, 2 Boys, 1 Girl

- ALISON** – 43 years old, a cartoonist
- MEDIUM ALISON** – 19 years old, a college freshman
- SMALL ALISON** – around 9 years old
- BRUCE BECHDEL** – Alison's father
- HELEN BECHDEL** – Alison's mother
- CHRISTIAN BECHDEL** – Alison's brother, around 10 years old
- JOHN BECHDEL** – Alison's brother, around 6 years old
- ROY** – a young man Bruce hires to do yard work
- MARK** – a high school junior
- JOAN** – a college student
- PETE** – a mourner



## Casting Opportunities 2017-2018 Season

### HAND TO GOD

Directed by Cristan Keighley

Performance Dates: April 13<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup>

Audition Dates: January 14<sup>th</sup> and January 15<sup>th</sup> Callbacks: January 18<sup>th</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

After the death of his father, meek Jason finds an outlet for his anxiety at the Christian Puppet Ministry, in the devoutly religious, relatively quiet small town of Cypress, Texas. Jason's complicated relationships with the town pastor, the school bully, the girl next door, and—most especially—his mother are thrown into upheaval when Jason's puppet, Tyrone, takes on a shocking and dangerously irreverent personality all its own. *Hand To God* explores the startlingly fragile nature of faith, morality, and the ties that bind us.

"The fearsome critter [Tyrone], who takes possession of a troubled teenager's left arm in Robert Askins' darkly delightful play really inspires goose bumps as he unleashes a reign of terror...But he's also flat-out hilarious, spewing forth acid comedy that will turn those goose bumps into guffaws." —The New York Times.

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3 men, 2 women (All roles will be played by actors 18+)

- Jason/Tyrone:** A young man and his psychotic puppet
- Margery:** Jason's mother and head of the church's Puppet Club
- Timmy:** The neighborhood troublemaker
- Jessica:** The girl next door
- Pastor Greg:** Head of a Fundamentalist Church in Cypress, Texas



## Casting Opportunities 2017-2018 Season

### THE LIAR

Directed by Mike Long

Performance Dates: May 18<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup> (Possible Extension through June 9<sup>th</sup>)

Audition Dates: February 18<sup>th</sup> and February 19<sup>th</sup> Callbacks: February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Rehearsals Start: Week of March 4<sup>th</sup>

Paris, 1643. Dorante is a charming young man newly arrived in the capital, and he has but a single flaw: He cannot tell the truth. In quick succession he meets Cliton, a manservant who cannot tell a lie, and falls in love with Clarice, a charming young woman whom he unfortunately mistakes for her friend Lucrece. What our hero regrettably does not know is that Clarice is secretly engaged to his best friend Alcippe. Nor is he aware that his father is trying to get him married to Clarice, whom he thinks is Lucrece, who actually is in love with him. From all these misunderstandings and a series of breathtakingly intricate lies springs one of the Western world's greatest comedies, a sparkling urban romance as fresh as the day Pierre Corneille wrote it, brilliantly adapted for today by *All in the Timing's* David Ives.

"THE LIAR and its mischievous adapter, David Ives, want you to savor every meticulously groomed conceit, every stylishly turned-out couplet, every assiduously manicured joke...Ives is an inveterate jester, a trait that serves him well on an evening that is all jest." —Washington Post.

#### CAST BREAKDOWN: 5 men, 3 women

- Dorante:** A young student who has recently arrived in Paris to get a social education. A brazen liar.
- Géronte:** Dorante's father, who comes to Paris to arrange a marriage for his son.
- Lucrece:** A shy and virtuous girl
- Clarice:** A young girl betrothed to Alcippe, and a friend of Lucrece.
- Alcippe:** Dorante's friend and the jealous lover of Clarice
- Cliton:** Dorante's valet and mentor in Paris, who is hired because of his military and amatory connections.
- Philiste:** A friend of Dorante and Alcippe.
- Sabine:** Lucrece's maid and Dorante's fellow liar.