



**Casting Opportunities**  
**CRUMBS FROM THE TABLE OF JOY**  
2022/23 Transformations Season

**CRUMBS FROM THE TABLE OF JOY** by Lynn Nottage

Directed by Ti Ames

**Performances:** March 3-19, 2023 (Gibson Theater at Live Arts)

**Auditions:** Saturday, December 3 (11am-12:30pm and 1-5pm)  
Sunday, December 4 (10am-1pm)

**Callbacks:** Sunday, December 4 (7-10pm)

**Rehearsals Begin:** Sunday, December 11 (Holiday Break: December 16-January 7)  
Rehearsals Sunday-Thursday evenings  
*Please bring a list of schedule conflicts to your audition*

**Show Description:** Recently widowed Godfrey and his daughters Ernestine and Ermina move from Florida to Brooklyn for a better life. Not knowing how to parent, Godfrey turns to religion, and especially to Father Divine, for answers. The girls absorb their new surroundings, but not necessarily religion. Lily, Godfrey's sister-in-law, shows up from Harlem, having promised her sister that if anything ever happened, she'd look out for the girls. Lily, while fascinating to her nieces, stands for everything Godfrey dislikes: communism, sexual freedom, and the fight against racial discrimination. As the racial and social issues of the late 1950s escalate, personal issues between Godfrey and Lily explode, prompting him to walk out. A few days later, he returns, with a new wife—a white German immigrant, Gerte. With Godfrey immersed in religion, Lily claiming to be a part of the new revolution, and quiet, stoic Gerte coming from the horrors of Germany, life in the household gets heated.

*We encourage color-conscious casting and are striving to be an inclusive theater. The idea behind conscious casting is that the casting decisions are made with intent. Productions actively seek to create a more diverse cast while respecting the playwright's specific character descriptions.*

**To Audition:** Please email [volunteer@livearts.org](mailto:volunteer@livearts.org) with any questions or if you are interested in auditioning! We encourage you to read the script before auditioning. Please contact Nick Hagy ([nick@livearts.org](mailto:nick@livearts.org)) and Susan E. Evans ([susan@livearts.org](mailto:susan@livearts.org)) if you need assistance.

Please visit [livearts.org/covid](https://livearts.org/covid) for updated COVID policies, including our full list of protocols.

**What to Prepare:** Please prepare a 1-2 minute monologue from a modern play. Please bring in a 60-second song to sing a cappella in addition to your monologue. For actors of color, please choose a monologue from a show written by a playwright of color.



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**Character Breakdown**

**ERNESTINE CRUMP** | 17, African American. The play is told through the eyes of Ernestine, the older daughter of Godfrey Crump. Ernestine breaks the fourth wall throughout the show to spin the stories of her daily life, and about the Crump family. Mature for her age, nostalgic, shy.

**ERMINA CRUMP** | 15, African American. Ermina is the younger sister of Ernestine and the second daughter of Godfrey Crump. Sharp, smart-alecky, anxious.

**GODFREY CRUMP** | 35, African American. The family patriarch who, overcome by grief for his recently dead wife, has just moved to Brooklyn with his two daughters. Loving, religious, often stoic and awkward.

**LILY ANN GREEN** | 35, African American. Lily is the sister of Godfrey's Crump's deceased wife. Lily is a Communist, a free thinker from Harlem. Bold, sexually-liberated, troubled.

**GERTE CRUMP** | 30, White, German. Gerte is an immigrant who has just moved to America. Sweet, impressionable, longing for acceptance.

**Please Note**

As a Mentor/Apprentice production, CRUMBS FROM THE TABLE OF JOY will have minors in the cast and on the production team. All cast members, designers, and production team members over 18 years old will be required to sign a "Working with Minors Code of Ethics" agreement for the safety of everyone involved in the show.

**Content Warnings**

- References to the American racial climate of the mid 20th century and German relations in America post-World War II
- Allusions to sexual situations
- Conversations around death
- Mild language
- Use of racial slurs