

Phoenix Theatre's 2018/2019 Mainstage Theatre Production Role Descriptions

NOTE: The show dates include rehearsal dates and run dates, and may be subject to change.

West Side Story

Rehearsals Begin: August 14, 2018. Opens: September 7, 2018. Closes: October 14, 2018.

Riff

A spritely, quick-tempered leader. He seeks to eliminate the Sharks and establish his own gang's dominance. Tony's best friend, he is eventually murdered by Bernardo.

Gender: Male

Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range top: G4

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Tony

A romantic young man and former leader of the Jets, he has found a new lifestyle now. Tony finds himself violently torn between his friendships and love. Falls in love to Maria and meets an untimely death. Genuinely sweet and sincere.

Gender: Male

Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range top: Bb4

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Bernardo

A proud, strong, handsome Puerto Rican man. Bernardo seeks to carve out territory as a sense of identity for he and his friends. Maria's brother and Anita's boyfriend. Leader of the Sharks.

Gender: Male

Age: 25 to 35

Vocal range top: Eb4

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Maria

A hopeless romantic and innocent young girl. She falls in love with Tony and finds herself at the center of the violent conflict between the two gangs. Bernardo's sister. Puerto Rican.

Gender: Female

Age: 18 to 21

Vocal range top: C6

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Anita

Feisty and assertive. She dispenses "older sister" advice to Maria and tries to shield her from the dangers of the gangs. Bernardo's girlfriend and Maria's friend. Puerto Rican.

Gender: Female

Age: 25 to 30

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: F3

Chino

An angry and, at times, naive Shark who turns murderous and vengeful. Suitor to Maria and friend of Bernardo's.

Gender: Male

Age: 20 to 25

Anybodys

A spunky tomboy who is desperate to become a member of the Jets. The other Jets mock her for her ambitions, but generally appreciate her company. Full of energy and heart.

Gender: Female

Age: 15 to 25

Doc

The owner of the candy store where the Jets hang out. He tries to guide the Jets youthful angst and provides a safe haven for Tony. Old fashioned and wise in his ways.

Gender: Male

Age: 60 to 75

Schrank

A local police detective frustrated by the ongoing violence between the Jets and Sharks. Blunt, brash, and unapologetic.

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 55

Krupke

The local beat cop. He has no patience for the gangs conflict and tries to keep tensions from erupting between them. Regularly mocked by the local gangs.

Gender: Male

Age: 30 to 60

Ensemble

Jets, Sharks, Jets Girls, Sharks Girls (16-35): strong singer/dancers.

Elf: The Musical

Rehearsals Begin: Oct. 23, 2018. Opens: Nov 17, 2018. Closes: December 31, 2018.

Santa Claus

Santa Claus has a lot on his plate during the Christmas season, and it is starting to show. He is annoyed with the Elves, tired of lying to Buddy and sad that people seem to be losing their Christmas spirit. He is still the same jolly old St. Nick underneath it all, but the job is getting to him. Character role.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Buddy

Buddy is the perfect elf! He's good-natured, he means well, and he's happy all the time. There is only one problem. He is not an elf—he is an adult human. This role is perfect for a young man who is an excellent actor and good singer who has the energetic earnestness and comedic timing that Buddy needs.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Elves

The Elves are Santa's special helpers who love their job making toys to meet their Christmas Eve deadline. These roles are great for younger performers, or for those who can embody a youthful spirit, enjoy singing, and work well together as a group.

Gender: Both

Charlie

Charlie is in charge of monitoring the other Elves, making sure every present is wrapped and every bow is tied. Cast a young performer with a good speaking voice, someone who is comfortable taking command of the stage and has authority over the rest of the Elves, but always remains friendly.

Gender: Male

Shawanda

Shawanda is a dependable and caring elf. She will do whatever she can to help out others, including Buddy, even though she accidentally reveals that he is a human. Cast a good actress with a clear speaking voice for this very important moment in the story.

Gender: Female

Sam

Sam is one of Walter's Office Staff who is in a bind at the top of the show. A young performer with a good speaking voice and strong character choices will do the trick.

Gender: Male

Walter Hobbs

Walter Hobbs, Buddy's real father, is so focused on keeping his job that he is not making time for his family. He can be stern and unemotional at times, but ultimately he learns to recommit to his family. Cast a great actor with a strong, authoritative presence, but be sure they can also show his softer side.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Deb

Deb, Walter's secretary, has the big responsibility of keeping her boss and the whole office happy. She does this by sharing her positive attitude with everyone. This is a plum role for a young woman with a pleasant demeanor, yet efficient work ethic, who is a solid actor with a good speaking voice.

Gender: Female

Emily Hobbs

Emily Hobbs is Walter's devoted wife who would prefer her husband to spend a little more time at home. She is a problem solver and an excellent mother who is doing everything she can to provide a positive family dynamic. Cast an excellent actress and singer who effortlessly conveys a sense of maturity and warmth.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Michael Hobbs

Michael Hobbs is the smarter-than-average 12-year-old son of Walter and Emily. He quickly befriends his new adult brother, Buddy, and does everything he can to make sure Buddy becomes a permanent part of the family. Look for a solid young actor and singer with an unchanged voice.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Security Guards

Security Guard #1 and Security Guard #2 are a stern duo from Walter's office, making sure everyone who enters has permission. Cast a duo that works well together and fits the bill for a tough pair.

Gender: Both

Saleswoman

The Saleswoman is the first person to greet Buddy as he enters Macy's. She's the consummate sales person: smiling, overfriendly, and always trying to sell something. This is a great ensemble role for a young woman with little stage experience.

Gender: Female

Manager

The manager is a terrific featured acting role for a performer with good comedic timing. As the manager of Macy's, he is doing everything he can to make sure all the employees stay in line.

Gender: Male

Jovie

Jovie works as a store elf at Macy's, but don't be mistaken—she doesn't quite exude the Christmas spirit. She's kind of cynical, a bit tough around the edges, and now the target of Buddy's complete adoration. This is a fantastic role for a young woman with a strong singing voice and acting chops.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: Db5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Santa's Helper

Santa's Helper works as a Macy's employee and announces when each kid gets to visit with Santa. This is a good ensemble role for a performer with a loud voice.

Gender: Both

Fake Santa

Fake Santa is a poor replacement for the real Santa. He's an employee of Macy's who is a bit rough around the edges. Fake Santa should be played by a performer who is unafraid of being a little over-the-top and has good physical control of his body.

Gender: Male

Policemen

Policeman #1 and Policeman #2 are a friendly pair of cops who return Buddy to the Hobbs household. These are perfect featured roles for two ensemble members.

Gender: Both

Sarah

Sarah is a staff member at Walter's office. This is a nice role for a less experienced actor with a good singing voice.

Gender: Female

Mr. Greenway

Mr. Greenway is one of the crankiest businessmen around. He is the big boss, so look for someone with a commanding presence to tackle this acting role.

Gender: Male

Chadwick and Matthews

Chadwick and Matthews are staff members at Walter's office who are doing everything they can think of to save the day and make their boss happy. Cast a pair of good character actors who work well with each other and are able to drive the action of scenes.

Gender: Male

Charlotte Dennon

Charlotte Dennon is a TV reporter with a big personality. She does her best to keep her professional persona in public and doesn't like being shown up. This is a great role for a young woman with professional charisma and someone who can make strong acting choices.

Gender: Female

Darlene Lambert and Emma Van Brocklin

Darlene Lambert and Emma Van Brocklin are on the scene in Central Park and are convinced of Santa's magic after Buddy reveals their past Christmas gifts. Look for two young ladies with nice singing voices and some acting experience to take on these small, but featured roles.

Gender: Female

Ensemble

The Ensemble, including New Yorkers, Comforting New Yorker, Macy's Employees, Macy's Employee #1, Members of the Rockefeller Crowd, Office Staff, Business Woman, Flyer Guys, Teenager, Jogger, Carolers, Passerby, Children and Parents are all important roles for creating the distinct worlds of the North Pole and New York City. These roles can all be double cast from your ensemble, and it's important to remind your young performers that the stronger and more specific their character choices, the richer and more vivid the story becomes.

Gender: Both

Jersey Boys

Rehearsals Begin: January 1, 2019. Opens: January 25, 2019. Closes: March 10, 2019.

Frankie

20s-early 30s. Must be 5'9" or shorter. Must have a strong tenor with sweet and strong falsetto and be able to sing in the style of Frankie Valli. Strong tenor to high A or Bb plus strong falsetto up to treble G. Charismatic and charming. Must be a very strong actor (comfortable with narrative text) and have a gritty side as well as a polished veneer. Must be very comfortable with traditional four-part harmonies. Principal role.

Bob

20s-early 30s. Strong tenor/baritenor voice. Must be very comfortable with traditional four-part harmonies. Also needs to be comfortable with narrative text. Ability to play piano a plus, but not necessary. An intelligent, sensitive, and introspective musical prodigy. Principal role.

Tommy

30s. Strong tenor/baritenor voice. Must be very comfortable with traditional four-part harmonies. Also needs to be comfortable with narrative text. Ability to play guitar a very strong plus. A natural-born leader with an appealing, bad-boy quality. Principal role.

Nicky

30s. Strong bass/baritone voice. Must be very comfortable with traditional four-part harmonies. Also needs to be comfortable with narrative text. Ability to play bass a plus, but not necessary. A quiet dreamer who longs for life after The Four Seasons. Principal role.

Gyp DeCarlo

45-65. Tough, Mafioso type. Must be a good actor and strong singer. Ability to play guitar a plus, but not required. Principal role.

Bob Crewe

35-45. Intelligent and flamboyant – genius music producer and lyricist. An integral part of creating the magic of the Four Seasons. Principal role.

Joe Pesci

20s-early 30s. Must be 5'9" or shorter. Young, energetic. Must be a good actor and a strong singer. Ability to play guitar a plus, but not required. Ensemble role. Featured ensemble role.

Mary

20s-30s. Frankie's wife; Tough, 'Seen It All', Italian, Jersey girl. She has a killer sense of humor. Actor also plays a variety of other roles, including member of a 60s style girl group. Strong belt useful. Good Dancer. High straight tone soprano also useful but not required. Featured ensemble role.

Lorraine

20's-30s. Frankie's girlfriend; Educated, NOT from Jersey, a real career girl – young Diane Sawyer; Actor also plays a variety of other roles, including member of a 60s style girl group and tough-as-nails Jersey Girl. Strong high belt

useful, belt to high F EXTREMELY useful. High, straight tone soprano also useful but not required. Good Dancer. Featured ensemble role.

Francine

20s-30s. Frankie's daughter; Named for, doted on and deeply loved by Frankie. She's a Jersey girl – vulnerable, lost and acts out to make up for lack of attention from her Dad. Actor also plays a variety of other roles including member of a 60s style girl group and a tough-as-nails Jersey Girl. Strong, high belt useful. Belt to high F EXTREMELY useful, high straight tone soprano also useful but not required. Good Dancer. Featured ensemble role.

Barry & Others

20s-30s. Strong character actor/singer/dancer (urban, hip-hop, et al.) to play various roles (DJ, cops, music executives, producers, etc) Must have voice of steel, tenor belt up to A, then strong and edgy falsetto up to G-above-high-C. Featured ensemble role.

Three Men

20s-40s. Strong actor/singers to play various roles (friends, producers, etc). One track requires a baritone or baritenor voice down to a strong low G. A second track includes playing guitar. And a third track includes playing drums or possibly both guitar AND drums. Featured ensemble roles.

Once

Rehearsals Begin: April 30, 2019. Opens: May 24, 2019. Closes: June 16, 2019.

Girl

Female, 20-35: Direct, intelligent, no nonsense and witty. Should have something 'other' about her. Has had to work hard at life but doesn't think she deserves any sympathy. Must play the piano and sing extremely well. Must have a strong Czech (Eastern European) accent.

Guy

Male, 20-35: A struggling Irish musician. Lost and a bit sad, but extremely appealing. Works with his Da in a vacuum repair shop. Must sing and play guitar extremely well. Must have a strong Irish accent.

Billy

Male, 30-49: A large Irish man. Owner of the music store where Girl plays piano. Loud, funny and protective of Girl but also has a vulnerability. Must sing and play guitar well. Must have a strong Irish accent.

Reza

Female, 25-29: A sexy, funny, smart Czech girl. Often a bit larger than life. Must sing and play violin/fiddle extremely well. Must have a strong Czech (Eastern European) accent.

Baruska

Female, 45+: Mother of Girl. A cool but caring Czech mother who likes a full house and full stomachs. Not many inhibitions. Must sing and play the accordion/piano well. Must have a strong Czech (Eastern European) accent.

Bank Manager

Males & Females, 30-49: Seems quite prim and proper but has a secret passion for music. Must sing and play guitar & cello well. Must have a strong Irish (Cork) accent.

Da

Male, 50+: Guy's dad. A man of few words, but a lovely and caring father. Must play guitar, ukulele/mandolin well. Must have a strong Irish accent.

Svec

Male, 20-39: A real odd ball. Loves television and coffee. Must play guitar & drum kit extremely well. Must have a strong Czech (Eastern European) accent.

Andrej

Male, 20-29: Earnest and kind. It works well if he has a slight build, made slighter by his oversized interview suit. An employee at a fast food chain, but has big dreams. Must play guitar & bass guitar extremely well. Must have a strong Czech (Eastern European) accent.

Eamon

Male, 20-49: The music studio manager where Guy and Girl record their album. A tough nut to crack but eventually gives into the musician's talents. Must sing and play guitar (& piano) well. Must have a strong Irish accent.

Emcee

Male, 20-49: The emcee at a bar. A good-natured ball buster. Must sing and play guitar (& piano) extremely well. Must have a strong Irish accent.

Ex-Girlfriend

Female, 20-39: Guy's ex-girlfriend who now lives in New York. Kind, lovely and likeable. Must play violin extremely well. Must have a strong Irish accent.

Ivanka

Female, 6-8: The sweet-natured daughter of Girl, should be comfortable on stage and have the ability to sing. Note: Must be between 40 and 45 inches tall.

Phoenix Theatre's 2018/2019 Hormel Theatre Production Role Descriptions

NOTE: The show dates include rehearsal dates and run dates, and may be subject to change.

Fun Home

Rehearsals Begin: September 18, 2018. Opens: October 12, 2018. Closes: December 2, 2018.

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

Airness

Rehearsals Begin: February 2, 2019. Opens: March 8, 2019. Closes: March 31, 2019.

Ed “Shreddy Eddy” Leary: Male, 20-40: Artistic Merit.
Gabe “Golden Thunder” Partridge: Male, 20-40: Originality
Mark “Facebender” Lender: Male, 20-40: Feeling
Astrid “Cannibal Queen” Anderson: Female, 20-40: Technical Ability
Nina “The Nina” O’Neal: Female, 20-40: Airness
David “D Vicious” Cooper: Male, 20-40: Charisma/Stage Presence.
Announcer/Sprite Exec/Hooded Figure: Male, 20-40