

Audition Information for Gypsy

Regarded by many Theatre professionals as the finest musical ever created, Gypsy is the ultimate tale of an ambitious stage mother fighting for her daughter's success – while secretly yearning for her own success! Set across America in the 1920s and 1930s, when vaudeville was dying and burlesque was born.

The show will take place October 14, 15 & 16 at the Savannah Center. There will be 5 to 6 performances with the possibility of matinee and evening performances each day. **You MUST be available for all performances and on October 11th & 12th, which are considered tech/dress rehearsal. All roles are open and the adult cast will be comprised of residents of The Villages.** The show is performed with a live band.

Producer: Susan Feinberg

Director: Bob Stehman

Musical Director: Mary Ann Rockenbach

Choreographer: Barbara Byers

Rehearsals will begin in late May 2025 and continue throughout the summer to showtime.

SMASH rehearses on the following days and times:

- Monday afternoons from 12:30pm to 4:50pm,
- Tuesday evening from 6pm to 9pm,
- Thursday evening from 5pm to 8:30pm and
- Saturday mornings from 9am to 1pm or 10am – 12noon.

Auditions will include singing, dancing/movement and script readings. However, there are non-singing roles in the show. For lead and supporting roles, you may be asked to sing character-specific songs and script readings. **Character-specific music and excerpts of the script are available upon request (contact Alex Rae at c.alexandra.rae@gmail.com) and will be provided at the auditions.** Everyone auditioning for singing roles will sing a portion of “Let Me Entertain You” and participate in dance movement.

BEFORE THE AUDITION

Double check the performance schedule before you audition. It’s disappointing to audition, get a part and then find that the rehearsals interfere with other commitments or that you will be out of town during the show dates.

Auditions for Adult Lead Roles (listed below in characters section):

LEAD AUDITION SLOTS – MONDAY, JANUARY 27TH AND TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH

Please contact Alex Rae at c.alexandra.rae@gmail.com with 3 potential slot options. We will notify you of your appointment time one week before auditions.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27TH – 12:30PM – 2:30PM (Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your call time. For planning purposes, allot up to one hour for your audition.)

12:30PM 1:30PM

12:45PM 1:45PM

1:00PM 2:00PM

1:15PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH – 7:30PM - 9:00PM (Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your call time. For planning purposes, allot up to one hour for your audition.)

7:30PM 8:15PM

7:45PM 8:30PM

8:00PM

Audition Dates for Adult Ensemble / Supporting roles and Children auditions –
Please come at designated times listed below.

Tuesday, January 28th from 6:00pm – 7:30 pm

- **Adult Ensemble / Supporting Roles Auditions** – arrive for a 6pm start

Thursday, January 30th from 5:30pm – 8:30pm

- **Kids Auditions** – 5:30pm – 7pm
- **Adult Ensemble / Supporting Roles Auditions** – 7pm – 8:30pm
- **Possible callbacks**

Saturday, February 1st from 9:45am – 2pm

- **Kids Auditions** – 9:45am – 11:00am
- **Callbacks** – 11am – 2pm

CAST OF CHARACTERS

ADULT LEAD ROLES

Mama Rose – Alto range

The ultimate stage mother. Lives her life vicariously through her two daughters, whom she's put into show business. She is loud, brash, pushy and single-minded, but at times, can be doting and charming. She is holding down demons of her own that she is afraid to face. Her voice is the ultimate powerful Broadway belt. Minimal dancing but must move well. Strong acting and comedic timing.

Louise / Gypsy Rose Lee

Louise as an adult, who becomes Gypsy Rose Lee. Still pushed aside by Madam Rose in favor of June, until she herself becomes her mother's new pet project. Should be able to move well. Minimum actual dance but must have very strong movement skills, strong acting skills needed. Must be able to portray both the awkward young adult and a sophisticated woman we now know as Gypsy Rose Lee. Must dance inside a dancing cow costume, must be comfortable with the character's profession – stripping. The character is very scantily clad but never actually appears in the nude. (Mezzo Soprano) – needs light sound for “Little Lamb” and belt for “Let Me Entertain You”.

Herbie

Agent for Rose's children and Rose's boyfriend and a possible husband number 4. He has a heart of gold but also has the power to defend the people he loves with strength. Minimum dance. A Baritone, sings in one group number, two duets and trio with Rose and Louise. Strong acting role.

Dainty June

Dainty June, vocal range alto / mezzo soprano. An adult caricature of Baby June. The older she gets, the less she enjoys being her mother's trained monkey. Must be able to belt a song and have solid dancing skills. The ability to do cartwheels, splits and twirl a baton a big plus, but not a requirement. Must dance very well, tap, or tap potential and sing.

Tulsa (play Adult Newsboy – High Baritone / Tenor)

Boy next door type. Strives to break out of the troupe with an act of his own. Runs away with June. Sings and dances “All I Need is the Girl”. Extremely strong dance/ movement in all styles of show dance. Good singer/actor, charming.

Tessie Tura

A stripper just past her prime. Big Broadway voice (Mezzo Belt), strong movement / dance, ballet training helpful. A burlesque dancer that shares her dressing room with Louise. She was once a ballerina and still has some of the moves. A course broad who's been around the block. Very funny.

Mazeppa

A stripper just past her prime. Big Broadway belt (Alto), strong movement / dance, powerful character. A burlesque dancer who's tough and physically intimidating. Trumpet playing skills would be outstanding but not required.

Electra

A stripper just past her prime. Big Broadway belt (Mezzo) strong movement / dance. Quieter than her counterparts, but her costume is wired with lights, allowing her to "shine" without working up a sweat. Ditzzy and sweet.

CHILDREN LEAD ROLES

Baby June (8 – 12 yrs old)

A Shirley Temple-like up-and-coming vaudeville star, and Madam Rose's youngest daughter. Her onstage demeanor is sugary-sweet, cute, precocious and adorable to the nth degree. An adorable character – Mama Rose's shining star. Strong child singer, strong movement / dancer, tap dance a plus.

Young Louise (10 – 14 yrs old)

She should look a couple years older than Baby June. She is Madam Rose's brow-beaten oldest daughter, and has always played second fiddle to her baby sister. She is shy, awkward, a little sad and subdued; she doesn't have the confidence of her sister. Strong acting skills needed. The character always dances slightly out of step but the actress playing this part must be able to dance/move and sing.

ADULT SUPPORTING ROLES

Miss Cratchitt

Production Assistant for the Grantzinger Theater, NYC. Strong **comedic** non-singing role.

Agnes

One of the women's dancing chorus, strong comic skills required & group singing

Mr. Goldstone

Booking agent for the Orpheum Theater Circuit - (can double for role in Act 2)

Kringelein (Adult Male or Female character – non-singing role)

The put upon manager of a hotel – (can double for role in Act 2)

Uncle Jocko – non-singing role

Oily, surly MC of a weekly kiddie talent show - (can double for role in Act 2)

Weber – non-singing role

Surly theater manager in Los Angeles - (can double for role in Act 2)

Pop - non-singing role

Gruff, unsupportive father of Rose - (can double for role in Act 2)

Cigar

Rather aggressive owner of a burlesque theater. Classic character part. (can double role in Act 1)

Pastey

Cigar's stage manager and a little rough around the edges. (Can double for a role in ACT 1)

ENSEMBLE

Children's Ensemble (ages 8-14)

Three young boys and one to three young girls. Baby June's back up dancers and singers; Ability of one child to play accordion, clarinet, violin or any instrument a plus. Must sing and display good movement/ dance. Children are only in the first five scenes of Act 1.

Adult Women's Ensemble

Singer / dancers who act as both the back-up dancers for Louise / Gypsy Rose Lee. Strong dancers. Some comedic skills very helpful. Minimal singing. A few have minor expanded roles. (Marjorie May, Dolores, and Agnes). (4) to (6) Toreadorables – can double in other ensemble parts, such as stage mothers.

Adult Men's Ensemble

Six men sing and dance backup for Adult June, plus join in the number "Have an Eggroll, Mr. Goldstone". Must have strong movement/ dance and are singers. Possibly double in small parts in Act 1 and Act 2.

Relax, give it your best shot and HAVE FUN!

If you have any questions, please contact the Director, Bob Stehman at: rbs1019@gmail.com