

Le Petit Theatre 2026-2027 Casting Notice

Le Petit Theatre will be hosting full-season auditions for our 110th season of productions, including *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Glass Menagerie*, August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

Equity Principal Auditions will be held at Le Petit Theatre (616 St. Peter Street, New Orleans, LA 70116) on Wednesday, June 17th, 2026, and Thursday, June 18th, 2026, from 9 am-5 pm. An accompanist will be available on both audition dates for any actors interested in auditioning with a song (required for *The Secret Garden* and *Spelling Bee*). Actors are requested to prepare one 60-90 second monologue and one 32-bar cut of music of your choosing. Actors only interested in auditioning for non-musical productions are asked to only perform a 60-90 second monologue and may perform a second monologue should time permit.

[AEA actors may sign up for an audition slot here](#)

AEA Actors may also attend in person without a scheduled audition, though we encourage advance notice if you are able to sign up.

Video submissions from both in-town and out-of-town actors for the season are very welcome and should be uploaded to the audition form. Video auditions may be emailed to casting@lepetittheatre.com with the subject line "26-27 Season Audition - YOUR NAME" should the form pose any problems. All productions will schedule invited callbacks as needed, as determined by each director at a later date. In attendance will be Le Petit Artistic Director A.J. Allegra.

Show-specific casting details are below.

LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR by Neil Simon

Director: Scott Burrell

First Rehearsal: 9/2/26

Production Runs: Thurs-Sun 10/1/26 thru 10/18/26 with possible extension 10/22/26 thru 10/25/26

SYNOPSIS: Inspired by Neil Simon's own experiences working alongside the likes of Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, and Larry Gelbhart as a young staff writer on Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows," this hilarious and touching ensemble comedy showcases a harried staff of television writers working frantically for the famous TV star Max Prince. As they attempt to one-up each other with punch lines and gags, the very real threat of network censorship looms over them, compliments of Senator Joe McCarthy. Part "Saturday Night Live," part "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," this is classic comedy by an American icon and master of the form.

MAX PRINCE (He/Him, 40-60s) The frantic, lovable, and volatile star of the show. Based on Sid Caesar. Requires strong comedic timing and a commanding stage presence.

LUCAS BRICKMAN (He/Him, 20-30s): The narrator and new writer (based on Neil Simon), observing the chaotic world of the writers' room.

MILT FIELDS (He/Him, 30-40s): A funny, flashy dresser who often banters with others.

VAL SKOLSKY (He/Him, 40-50s): A cynical Russian writer, bringing an intellectual but weary humor to the team. Strong Russian accent required.

BRIAN DOYLE (He/Him, 30-40s): A sharp-witted Irish writer with a hot-blooded temper.

KENNY FRANKS (He/Him, 30-40s): A stylish and bookish writer. The most erudite of the bunch, though not above a low-brow gag.

CAROL WYMAN (She/Her, 30s): The only woman in the room; Tough, sharp, and able to hold her own among the men.

IRA STONE (He/Him, 30-40s): A high-energy, hypochondriac writer, prone to extreme panic.

HELEN (She/Her, 20-30s): Max's secretary, often overwhelmed by the chaos.

THE SECRET GARDEN by Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon

Director: Leslie Castay

Choreographer: Jauné Buisson

First Rehearsal: 10/27/26

Production Runs: 12/3/26-12/27/26 Thursdays-Sundays (holiday performances on 12/23, 12/26, 12/27)

SYNOPSIS: *The Secret Garden* is an enchanting classic of children's literature, reimagined for the stage in brilliant musical style by composer Lucy Simon and playwright Marsha Norman. Orphaned in India, 11-year-old Mary Lennox returns to Yorkshire, England, to live with her reclusive uncle Archibald and his son Colin. While there, Lucy discovers a locked garden, formerly kept by Archibald's beloved wife, which has been left to ruin since her untimely death. But Lucy is determined to bring life to the garden once again, and ultimately to her Uncle Archibald as well.

MARY LENNOX (She/Her, age 10, Range: Young Voice, Ab3-D5) A ten-year-old girl sent to live with her uncle, Archibald, when her parents die from cholera in India. Quite the curious explorer, and often finding herself in trouble. Stubborn and always fighting for what she believes in. Must be a strong actress capable of carrying a show. British accent required.

ARCHIBALD CRAVEN (He/Him, 30s-40s, Range: Baritone, C3-A4) Mary's uncle and lord of Misselthwaite Manor. He has a hunch-back. Haunted by the past and afraid of the future, he locks himself away both physically and mentally. Mary painfully reminds him too much of his wife, Lily, who died ten years ago.

LILY (She/Her, 20s-30s, Range: Soprano, Bb3-D6) Mary's aunt and Archibald Craven's wife. Died of a tragic accident in her garden and haunts Misselthwaite Manor. A passionate woman who followed her own instincts, she reaches from beyond the grave to ensure the happiness of those she cares for.

DR. NEVILLE CRAVEN (He/Him, 30s-40s, Range: Baritone, C3-F#4) Archibald's younger brother. Trapped by the idea that he is responsible for the caretaking of his brother and young Colin. Even though his one-sided infatuated with Lily, continues after her death. Because of this he clings to Misselthwaite Manor.

MARTHA (She/Her, 20-30, Range: Mezzo-Soprano Belt, G3-D5) A young and spunky housemaid. Grew up near Yorkshire and has the accent to prove it. Although she is from a lower-class family, her wisdom is often far beyond her age.

DICKON (He/Him, 16-28, Range: Tenor, D3-G4) Martha's younger brother. Looks after the plants and animals within the Misselthwaite grounds. He is a young man who is between the world of child imagination and adult reasoning. Open, honest, and energetic. He befriends Mary and convinces her to take care of the Garden.

COLIN CRAVEN (He/Him, age 10, Range: Young Voice, A3-E5) Archibald's ten-year-old son. He's spent his life in bed due to a heart condition. He is very stubborn and throws temper tantrums to get what he wants. He believes his father hates him for causing Lily's death. Strong Falsetto appreciated.

ROSE LENNOX (She/Her, 20s-30s, Range: Soprano, A3-D6) Mary's mother. She doesn't understand how her sister Lily could truly love Archibald. She is very loyal to her husband and daughter but struggles to show affection. She dies during a cholera outbreak in India at the beginning of the story and haunts Mary until she finds her new life in the course of the story.

CAPTAIN ALBERT LENNOX (He/Him, 30-40, Range: Tenor, D3-A5) Mary's father and British officer. Caring to a fault, he, too, dies during the cholera outbreak in India and haunts Mary until she finds her new life in the course of the story

BEN WEATHERSTAFF (He/Him, Age Flexible, Range: E3-D#4) Head gardener. Secretly entrusted to take care of the garden after Lily's death. Knows a great deal about the history of the garden and the grounds it sits on. He has worked for the family for many years. He calls himself "an old man."

MRS. MEDLOCK (She/Her, Age Flexible, Range: Flexible) Archibald's housekeeper. As cold as Misselthwaite Manor.

MRS. WINTHROP (She/Her, Age Flexible, Range: Flexible) Headmistress of a private school. Prides herself on nurturing girls with tempers. Mary seems to be more than she can handle.

LIEUTENANT WRIGHT (He/Him, Age Flexible, Range: Flexible) Officer in Mary's father's unit.

MAJOR HOLMES (He/Him, Age Flexible, Range: Flexible) Fellow officer.

CHORUS (All genders, Age Flexible, Range: Flexible) They support the production vocally and physically, sometimes as supporting characters, other times as Manor staff, and other times as the very scenery itself. They appear and disappear at will, commenting on the action directly to the audience.

THE GLASS MENAGERIE by Tennessee Williams

Director: Matthew Earnest

First Rehearsal: 1/26/27

Production Runs: Thurs-Sun 2/25/27 thru 3/21/27

SYNOPSIS: This American classic by the bard of New Orleans tells the story of the Wingfield family as remembered many years later by son, Tom. Set during the Great Depression, the largely autobiographical play by Tennessee Williams asks the question if life is best lived for one's family or oneself, as Tom, ever the outsider, struggles between the pull of obligations he feels towards his mother, Amanda, and sister, Laura, and the strong urge to leave them all behind and start his life afresh.

CASTING NOTE: This production invites actors of all races and ethnicities to participate in our auditions.

AMANDA WINGFIELD (She/Hers, 40s-60s): A proud, energetic, yet obsessive mother. She is a mix of charm, pitiable delusion, and fierce love for her children, clinging to her past as a Southern belle.

TOM WINGFIELD (He/Him, 30s-60s): The present-day narrator of the memory play. Amanda's

son, a frustrated poet working in a shoe warehouse. He vacillates between a sense of duty to his family and his need to escape.

LAURA WINGFIELD (She/Her, 20s-early 30s): Amanda's daughter, painfully shy and agoraphobic. She lives in a cloistered world of old records and glass figurines.

JIM O'CONNOR (He/Him, 20s-early 30s) The gentleman caller. An old high school acquaintance of Tom and Laura, he is a friendly, confident, and average shipping clerk. He brings a brief touch of reality and hope to the apartment.

MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM by August Wilson

Director: April Louise

First Rehearsal: 3/30/27

Production Runs: Thurs-Sun 4/29/27 thru 5/16/27

Synopsis: August Wilson's American Century Cycle of ten plays spans each decade of the American twentieth century and is an artistic accomplishment without rival. In *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, his 1920's-set play in the cycle, audiences are transported to a run-down Chicago recording studio during the summer of 1927, where the famous "Mother of the Blues," Ma Rainey, is set to record her newest album. When Ma's desire to retain control of her music runs up against her cocky trumpet player and the demanding recording studio heads, dramatic fireworks erupt.

MA RAINEY - This role is pre-cast and will be played by Kadejah Onē.

LEVEE (He/Him, 30s, Black) The ambitious, temperamental trumpet player seeking his own fame.

CUTLER (He/Him, 40s-50s, Black) Guitar/trombone player, leader of the band; often the mediator.

TOLEDO (He/Him, 50s-70s, Black) Piano player. The intellectual and philosophizing band member.

SLOW DRAG (He/Him, 40s-50s, Black) Bass player; Practical and easy-going.

MEL STURDYVANT (He/Him, 40s-60s, White) Music studio owner, focused on profit above all else.

IRVIN (He/Him, 40s-60s, White) Ma's manager, mediating between her and Sturdyvant.

DUSSIE MAE (She/Her, 20s-30s, Black) Ma Rainey's young, charming lover. She is sensual and tempting towards Levee.

SYLVESTER (He/Him, early 20s, Black) Ma's nephew who has a severe stutter. Features on some vocals.

POLICEMAN (He/Him, 20s-40s, White) Involved in an early confrontation with Ma outside the studio.

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE by William Finn and Rachel Sheinkin

Director: A.J. Allegra

Music Director: TBD

First Rehearsal: 5/3/27

Production Runs: Thurs-Sun 6/3/27-6/20/27

Possible Extension: 6/24-6/27

Synopsis: It's time to prep the gymnasium for Putnam County's big Spelling Bee, and this year's champion is anyone's guess! In this lovable and subversive musical comedy, adult performers hilariously portray six awkward adolescents as they compete for the coveted spelling bee trophy. Filled with touching tales of growing up, all the awkwardness of puberty, and a dictionary's worth of definitions, this riotously funny musical will leave audiences utterly C-H-A-R-M-E-D.

The Spellers

OLIVE OSTROVSKY: (She/Her, Depicting age: 11, Vocal Range: Mezzo/Belt B3-F5) A young newcomer to competitive spelling. Her mother is in an ashram in India, and her father is working late, as usual, but he is trying to come sometime during the bee. Having found comfort in its words and vastness, Olive made friends with her dictionary at a very young age, helping her to make it to the competition. She starts off enormously shy, but slowly blossoms. Olive is generous, optimistic and full of love for everyone she meets.

WILLIAM BARFÉE: (He/Him, Depicting age: 12, Vocal Range: Tenor E2-B4) A finalist in last year's Putnam County Spelling Bee, he was eliminated due to an allergic reaction to peanuts and is back for vindication. His famous "Magic Foot" method of spelling has propelled him to spelling glory, despite having only one working nostril and a touchy, bullying personality. Barfée is pompous and determined to win but has a soft heart.

CHIP TOLENTINO: (He/Him, Depicting age: 13, Vocal Range: Tenor C3-B4) An athletic, social, boy scout and champion of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, he returns to defend his title but finds puberty hitting at an inopportune moment. Chip is practical and resourceful but can be easily distracted—often at the worst times.

LOGAINNE "SCHWARTZY" SCHWARTZANDGRUBENNIERE: (She/Her, Depicting age: 10, Vocal Range: Mezzo/Belt A3-F5) Logainne is the youngest and most politically aware speller, frequently making comments about current political figures. She is driven by both internal and external pressure, but above all, by her desire to win and make her two fathers proud. A bit of a

neat freak, she speaks with a lisp and is determined to return next year. Logainne is enthusiastic, hard-working, and prone to overthinking.

LEAF CONEYBEAR (He/Him, Depicting age: 11, Vocal Range: Tenor A2-A4) The second runner-up in his district, Leaf enters the competition on a whim and finds everything about the bee incredibly amusing. He is home-schooled and comes from a large family of former hippies. Leaf has severe Attention Deficit Disorder and often spells words correctly while in a trance. He is imaginative, passionate about spelling, and simply happy to be there.

MARCY PARK (She/Her, Depicting age: 13, Vocal Range: Mezzo/Belt C4-E5) The ultimate overachiever, Marcy has never been given another option. Coming from a family where excellence is expected, she produces it effortlessly. A parochial school student, she assumes God also expects perfection. Though she sees herself as a bundle of problems, she keeps them to herself. Having moved frequently due to her parents' work, Marcy knows she can outshine the local competition. Her many talents include piano, dance, martial arts, and baton twirling. Marcy is ambitious, intellectual, and determined to win.

The Adults

RONA LISA PERETTI (She/Her, Age: 30s-40s Vocal Range: Mezzo/Belt B3-F5) The number-one realtor in Putnam County, a former Putnam County Spelling Bee champion herself, and the returning moderator, she is a sweet woman who loves children. However, she can be stern when dealing with Vice Principal Panch and his feelings for her. Her unflagging interest in the competition keeps it moving forward. Rona is a warm and loving presence in an otherwise cold, stiff competition. She will also double as Olive's mom.

MITCH MAHONEY (Male presenting, Age: 20s-40s, Vocal Range: Tenor E3-A4) The official Comfort Counselor, Mitch is an ex-convict performing his community service with the Bee, handing out juice boxes to losing students. Though he has no idea how to offer comfort, he often wishes he could find a way to make the kids feel better. While Mitch may have a tough exterior, he is soft and kind-hearted underneath. He will also double as Olive's dad.

DOUGLASS PANCH (He/Him, 40s-50s, Non-singing) The vice principal, frustrated with his life, finds the drive of the young spellers alien to him. After a five-year absence from the Bee, Panch returns as a judge. There was an "incident" at the Twentieth Annual Bee, but he claims to be in "a better place" now, thanks to a high-fiber diet and Jungian analysis. He is infatuated with Rona Lisa Peretti, though she does not return his affections.

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