

# ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS    MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\*  
March 31, 2015**

## **Asolo Rep to Host Auditions for Large and Diverse Casts for 2015-16 Season**

(SARASOTA, March 31, 2015) — Asolo Repertory Theatre will host musical and dramatic auditions for Equity and Non Equity roles for its 2015-16 season on **Sunday, April 12, 2015 from 3 to 7pm** and **Monday, April 13, 2015 from 11am to 7pm** at Asolo Rep. Please note that the final two hours (5 – 7 pm) on the 13th will be a dance call for ***West Side Story***. The theatre is seeking African American and Latino actors and actresses to fill more than 25 roles. From ***West Side Story*** to ***Guess Who's Coming to Dinner***, Asolo Rep is casting for a variety of roles of all ethnicities in several different productions.

Actors must be available for callbacks in June (specific callback dates will be announced in May.) Actors auditioning for dramatic roles must prepare two contrasting monologues, no more than three minutes total. Actors auditioning for musical roles must prepare a 90-second monologue and 16 bars of a song (musical theatre, pop/rock, or gospel). An accompanist is provided. For dance auditions, auditioners will learn a brief dance routine with a choreographer.

If you are auditioning for ***West Side Story*** please keep in mind that you will need to attend the dance call on Monday, April 13th from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. You are welcome to book your singing and acting audition for any time slot on Sunday OR Monday.

Actors must bring two copies of their pictures and résumés, glued or stapled together. If singing, please bring sheet music. If dancing, please bring comfortable dance clothes.

**For an appointment**, please email [literary@asolo.org](mailto:literary@asolo.org) or call 941.351.9010 ext. 3313 with a message stating your preferred day and time, Equity/EMC/Non-Equity status, and whether or not you will be singing and/or dancing. **Email bookings are strongly preferred.** Specific room locations will be confirmed when auditions are booked.

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**Mertz Theatre (LORT B):**

**West Side Story music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim,  
book by Arthur Laurents**

Directed by Joey McKneely  
First Rehearsal: 10/13/2015  
First Preview: 11/10/2015  
Closing: 12/27/2015

[TONY] – Late Teens – Early 20s. Handsome, sandy-haired (Polish), older teenager, who has outgrown the Jets. Tenor.

[RIFF] – Late Teens – Early 20s. Glowing, driving, intelligent, slightly wacky leader of the Jets. Tenor.

[DIESEL] – Late Teens – Early 20s. Lieutenant to Riff, big, slow, steady. Baritone.

[BABY JOHN] Late Teens – Early 20s. Youngest member of the Jets, awed at everything, even being a Jet; tries to act like a big man, but is vulnerable; Baritone.

[A-RAB] Late Teens – Early 20s. Small of stature, enjoys everything, takes nothing seriously, unaware, can be explosive. Baritone.

[ACTION] Late Teens – Early 20s. Most aggressive member of the Jets, a cat-like ball of fury. Baritone.

[SNOWBOY] Late Teens – Early 20s. Bespectacled, self-styled expert. Baritone.

[BIG DEAL] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role; flexible voice parts.

[ANYBODY'S] Late Teens – Early 20s. Scrawny teen-aged girl, pathetically dressed to imitate the Jets, and wants desperately to be taken seriously by them.

[VELMA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Riff's girlfriend, young, slithery, sexy, lost in a world of jive. Flexible voice parts.

[GRAZIELLA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Girlfriend of Diesel, impressed with herself. Flexible voice parts.

[MILLIE] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role. Flexible voice parts

[BERNARDO] Late Teens – Early 20s. Handsome, proud, fluid leader of the Sharks, with a sardonic chip on his shoulder. Latino. Baritone.

[CHINO] Late Teens – Early 20s. Shy, gentle, sweet-faced young boy, the intended husband of Maria. Latino. Baritone.

## Local Auditions 15-16

### Page 3 of 9

[PEPE] Late Teens – Early 20s. Lieutenant to Bernardo, typically proud, and resentful of discrimination. Latino. Baritone.

[NIBBLES] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role; Latino. Flexible voice parts.

[ANXIOUS] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role; Latino. Flexible voice parts.

[MOOSE] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role; Latino. Flexible voice parts.

[MARIA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Lovely young and obedient girl, excited and enthusiastic about her new life in America, but with stubborn inner strength that allows her to evolve into a strong woman. Latina. Soprano.

[ANITA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Older and wiser in the ways of the world, flashy, sharp-tongued, and with a knowing sexuality. Latina. Alto/mezzo-soprano.

[CONSUELA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Tough, young girl with bleach blond hair and lots of baubles. Latina. Mezzo-soprano.

[MARGARITA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role; Latina. Flexible voice parts.

[FRANSISCA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Ensemble role; Latina. Flexible voice parts.

[ROSALIA] Late Teens – Early 20s. Young girl, more demure, not too bright. Latina. Mezzo-soprano.

[DOC] Mid 40s – Mid 60s. Drug store owner, tired and worn out. Non-singing. Also plays OFFICE KRUPKE.

[LIEUTENANT SCHRANK] – Early 40s – Mid 50s. Plainclothes policeman used to being in charge, superficially pleasant to cover his venom, fear, and bigotry. Non-singing. Also Plays GLAD HAND.

[OFFICER KRUPKE] Mid 40s – Mid 50s. A not-too-bright street cop; aggressive; hard-nosed. Non-singing. Also plays DOC.

[GLAD HAND] Early 40s – Mid 50s. Nerdy, overly cheerful and ill-equipped social director at the local gym dance. Non-singing. Also plays LIEUTENANT SCHRANK.

### **All The Way by Robert Schenkkan**

Directed by Emily Sophia Knapp

First Rehearsal: 11/28/2015

First Preview: 1/5/2016

Closing: 4/9/2016

[LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON] – Mid 50s. 36<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. Ambitious, tireless, imposing, and ruthless. Brash, powerful, persuasive, and energetic. A magnetic force to be reckoned with.

-more-

## Local Auditions 15-16

### Page 4 of 9

[MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.] – Mid 30s. African American. Civil Rights Movement leader until his assassination in 1968. Passionate, committed, grounded, with a deep belief in his cause.

[LADY BIRD JOHNSON] – Late 40s – Early 50s. First Lady of the United States. Well educated, shrewd, and capable with a good mind for business and an independent spirit. Also plays KATHARINE GRAHAM and KATHARINE ST. GEORGE.

[KATHARINE GRAHAM] – Early 40s – Late 40s. Educated, cultured, intelligent and influential. Also plays LADY BIRD and KATHARINE ST. GEORGE.

[KATHARINE ST. GEORGE] – Late 50s – Early 60s. U.S. Representative from New York. Republican. Born to privilege, fiscally conservative, determined, focused. Early supporter of fair pay for women – coined the phrase “equal pay for equal work.” Also plays LADY BIRD and KATHARINE GRAHAM.

[GEORGE WALLACE] – Early 40s – Late 40s. Governor of Alabama. Oozing with Southern charm, a bit oily. He uses this charm to get what he wants no matter the cost. Pugnacious. Segregationist. Also plays JAMES CORMAN, MIKE MANSFIELD, and WALTER REUTHER.

[JAMES CORMAN] – Late 30s – Early 40s. U.S. Representative from California. Democrat. Bright, intensely private, courtly, old-fashioned, sometimes moody. Also plays GEORGE WALLACE, MIKE MANSFIELD, and WALTER REUTHER.

[MIKE MANSFIELD] – Mid 50s – Leading Senate Democrat, and a major supporter of LBJ’s Great Society legislative program. Anti-war stance on Vietnam. Liberal, fair-minded, principled, humble. Also plays GEORGE WALLACE, JAMES CORMAN, and WALTER REUTHER.

[WALTER REUTHER] – Mid 50s. Labor union leader and major supporter of the Civil Rights Movement. Outspoken and impassioned. An aggressive go-getter. Also plays GEORGE WALLACE, JAMES CORMAN, and MIKE MANSFIELD.

[RICHARD RUSSELL] – Early/Mid 60s. Democratic Senator from Georgia, and former Georgia governor. Conservative Democrat and key opponent of the Civil Rights Movement. Also plays JIM MARTIN and EMANUEL CELLER.

[JIM MARTIN] – Mid 40s. U.S. Representative from Alabama. Republican. Former military man, and originally a conservative Democrat. Also plays RICHARD RUSSELL and EMANUEL CELLER.

[EMANUEL CELLER] – Late 60s – Mid 70s. U.S. Representative from New York. Democrat. Active, feisty, vocal about his beliefs. Also plays RICHARD RUSSELL and JIM MARTIN.

-more-

## Local Auditions 15-16

### Page 5 of 9

[STANLEY LEVISON] – Late 40s – Early 50s. Progressive, liberal, social activist. Close advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr. Suspected communist. Also plays JOHN McCORMACK and SEYMORE TRAMMELL.

[JOHN McCORMACK] – Mid 60s – Early 70s. U.S. Representative from Massachusetts. Democrat. Fair, impartial, restrained, kindly, paternal. A teetotaler, but also a warmhearted wheeler-dealer. Also plays STANLEY LEVISON and SEYMORE TRAMMELL.

[SEYMORE TRAMMELL] – Mid 40s. Political associate of George Wallace. Also plays STANLEY LEVISON and JOHN McCORMACK.

[RALPH ABERNATHY] – Late 30s – Early 40s. African American. Minister and close associate of Martin Luther King, Jr. Pragmatic, shrewd, an excellent strategist. Calculated, careful, self-contained, and cautious.

[ROY WILKINS] – Late 50s – Early 60s. African American. Civil rights activist and director of the NAACP. Principled, focused, and strong-willed. Also plays AARON HENRY.

[AARON HENRY] – Late 30s – Early 40s. African American. Head of the Mississippi branch of the NAACP. A Civil Rights activist, veteran, early proponent of voting rights and co-founder of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. Also plays ROY WILKINS.

[JAMES EASTLAND] – Late 50s – Early 60s. U.S. Senator from Mississippi. Conservative Democrat and opponent of the Civil Rights Movement. Also plays WILLIAM MOORE McCULLOCH.

[WILLIAM MOORE McCULLOCH] – Late 50s – Early 60s. U.S. Representative from Ohio. Republican. Conservative, but a staunch supporter of the Civil Rights Movement – braving rejection from his party to support the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Also plays JAMES EASTLAND.

[STOKELY CARMICHAEL] – Late Teens – Early 20s. African American. Civil rights activist. Gradually develops more radical political stances and abandons his allegiance to nonviolent protest, becoming a leader in the Black Power movement.

The roles of Hubert Humphrey, Strom Thurmond, J. Edgar Hoover, Robert Byrd, Fannie Lou Hamer, Coretta Scott King, Cartha DeLoach, Howard Smith, Everett Dirksen, Carl Sanders, Edwin King, Walter Jenkins, William Colmer, Bob Moses, David Dennis, Robert McNamara, Karl Mundt, Lurleen Wallace, and Muriel Humphrey Have Been Cast.

***Living on Love* by Joe DiPietro, adapted from *Peccadillo* by Garson Kanin**

Directed by Peter Amster

First Rehearsal: 12/3/2015

First Preview: 1/13/2016

Closing: 2/25/2016

-more-

## Local Auditions 15-16

### Page 6 of 9

[RAQUEL DE ANGELIS] – Late 40s – Mid 50s. One of the greatest opera singers on the planet, she couldn't be more beguiling. When Raquel De Angelis enters a room, everyone in the room knows it. Must be able to credibly sing operatic material.

[VITO DE ANGELIS] – Late 40s – Mid 50s. Her husband. One of the greatest conductors on the planet. His Italian accent is thick. His temper is legendary. He has Einstein hair.

[BRUCE] – Early 50s – Late 50s. A steadfast, loyal servant and ex-opera singer, nearly identical to Eric. Must be able to credibly sing operatic material. Must play the piano.

[ERIC] – Early 50s – Late 50s. A steadfast, loyal servant and ex-opera singer, nearly identical to Bruce. Must be able to credibly sing operatic material. Must play the piano.

The roles of Robert Samson and Iris Peabody Have Been Cast

### ***Ah, Wilderness!* by Eugene O'Neill**

Directed by Greg Leaming

First Rehearsal: 12/15/2015

First Preview: 1/20/2016

Closing: 4/10/2016

[NAT MILLER] – Early 50s – Late 50s. Tall, spare, stoop-shouldered, an old New England type. A shrewd lifelong journalist who attempts an air of sober respectability, but whose temper and sense of humor often flare up, poking holes in his otherwise calm outward appearance.

[ESSIE MILLER] – Early 50s. Short, stout, maternal and soft. Has a bustling, no-nonsense manner and though she is older now, she retains some of the wide-eyed, excitable nature of the pretty girl she was.

[MURIEL McCOMBER] – Mid-Teens. Pretty, graceful, sweet-natured and somewhat naïve. Filled with a sense of wonder and awe about life, yet nervous and easily frightened of her impending womanhood.

[TOMMY MILLER] 10-12. Energetic and good natured, restless. A young boy bursting with life and enthusiasm.

The roles of Sid Davis, David McComber, the Bartender, Lily Miller, Wint Selby, the Salesman, Richard Miller, Arthur Miller, Mildred Miller, Norah, and Belle Have Been Cast

-more-

**Local Auditions 15-16**  
**Page 7 of 9**

***Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* by Todd Kreidler, based on the screenplay by William Rose**

Directed by Frank Galati  
First Rehearsal: 1/26/2016  
First Preview: 3/9/2016  
Closing: 4/17/2016

[MATT DRAYTON] – Early 60s – Late 60s. Liberal, intellectual, workaholic publisher of San Francisco's newspaper *The Guardian*.

[JOHN PRENTICE] – Late 30s. Quiet, warm, level-headed. A brilliant medical research doctor. Must be African American.

[MATILDA "TILLIE" BINKS] – Early 50s – Late 50s. Reserved, and a bit set in her ways. Hardworking and loyal, with an earnest gravitas born of real-life experience. She has worked for 27 years as a domestic for the Draytons. Must be African American. Must be able to sing.

[JOHN PRENTICE, SR.] – Late 50s – Early 60s. Strong, opinionated, a well-educated schoolteacher and self-made man. Must be African American.

[HILARY ST. GEORGE] – Late 30s – Early 40s. Sleek and sophisticated, well-dressed. Her highly polished exterior conceals a brittle quality and inner prejudices.

The roles of Mary Prentice, Monsignor Ryan, Christina Drayton, and Joanna Drayton Have Been Cast

***Josephine: A New Musical* music by Steve Dorff, lyrics by John Bettis, book by Ellen Weston & Mark Hampton from a story by Kenneth Weissman**

Directed by Joey McKneely  
First Rehearsal: 3/29/2016  
First Preview: 4/27/2016  
Closing: 5/29/2016

[JOUJOU] – Early 20s – Mid 30s. Flamboyant, over the top, eager, and willing to help whenever he is needed; bitter that he never had a successful stage career, but tries to be cheery whenever he can. Josephine's clandestine confidante, he has unexpected strength.

[JO BOUILLON] – Mid 30s – Early 50s. Playful, yet with a determined edge; always tries to see the good in people and help them in any way he can. A bit world-weary.

[PRINCE GUSTAV VI] Early 30s – Early 40s. Debonair and charismatic, regal. Scandinavian in appearance. Genuinely has feelings for Josephine, but cannot abandon his royal duties for her.

## Local Auditions 15-16

### Page 8 of 9

[BRICKTOP] Early 30s – Early 40s. African American. Saucy, sassy bartender that is jealous of Josephine and what she has; easily enraged. No-nonsense, pulls no punches.

[YOUNG JOSEPHINE] – 10 – 14. African American. Feisty, energetic. A spitfire with lots of talent and big ambition.

[MAMA] – Mid 40s – Early 60s. African American. Josephine's mother. Stern, takes no excuses. Doesn't have time to listen to Josephine's dreams.

[SVEN] – Early 20s – Mid 30s. Scandinavian in appearance, charming, funny, vivacious. Knows when to give advice and when to be discreet.

[BERT] – Mid 30s – Mid 40s. African American. Long-time Vaudevillian. Funny and charismatic, but he's been on the road a long time. Nothing is new to him.

[BENNY] – Mid 30s – Mid 40s. African American. Long-time Vaudevillian. Funny and charismatic, but he's been on the road a long time. Nothing is new to him.

[BESSIE SMITH] – Mid 20s – Mid 30s. African American. Outgoing, vivacious, a bold personality and an outstanding jazz vocalist. A bit of a diva.

[SERAFINA] – Teens – Early 20s. African American. Young, talented singer, sweet and naïve. A great beauty.

[HERMANN GÖRING] – Mid 30s – Mid 40s. Cruel, ruthless, single-minded, obsessive. One of the leaders of the Nazi party and commander-in-chief of the Luftwaffe.

[ENSEMBLE] – Any age, plays multiple roles. Flexible voice part.

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The role of Josephine Baker Has Been Cast

### Historic A Solo Theater (LORT D):

#### ***Disgraced by Ayad Akhtar***

Directed by Michael Donald Edwards

First Rehearsal: 3/8/2016

First Preview: 3/30/2016

Closing: 4/24/2016

[EMILY] – Early/Mid 30s. Lithe and lovely, ethereal yet with an inner strength and conviction of purpose. An artist, sensitive and perceptive.

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## Local Auditions 15-16

### Page 9 of 9

[AMIR] – Late 30s – Early 40s. Of South-Asian origin. Smart, driven, and determined. Sharp-edged and tenacious. A lawyer with a keen intellect, a fiery temper, and an ability for compartmentalizing his feelings.

[JORY] – Mid/Late 30s – African American. Commanding, forthright, intelligent, brash, and acerbically funny. Beautiful but in a severe, almost masculine, way.

[ABE] – Early 20s. Of South-Asian origin. Has been totally Americanized in terms of outward appearance. Vibrant, endearing, with an underlying sweetness.

The role of Isaac Has Been Cast

*Asolo Rep is also seeking mature men and women, young men and women, and children to fill understudy roles throughout the 2015-2016 season.*

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### **Casting Statement by Asolo Repertory Theatre**

“Most Equity roles for the 2015-2016 season have been cast from our resident company. Auditioning performers will be considered as possible replacements, should any become necessary. All roles except bit parts are understudied. Asolo Repertory Theatre is committed to equal opportunity employment and a flexible, non-traditional casting policy. "Non-traditional casting" is defined as the casting of ethnic minorities, senior actors, female actors, or actors with disabilities in roles where race, ethnicity, age, sex or ability is not germane.”

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