



Audition Notice

Sunday, January 21, 2018 at the Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills

Note: We may have callbacks on 1/22/17 in the evening, depending on the turnout.

Registration: Begins at 12:00pm. Auditions begin at 1:00pm.

Note: You must be 18 to audition for this musical.

Show dates: April 27, 28, 29, May 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19.

Mandatory Rehearsal Dates:

- First Tech on April 15th
- Second Tech on April 21st
- Sitzprobe on April 22nd (in the afternoon)
- First Dress Rehearsal on April 23rd
- Second Dress Rehearsal on April 24th
- Final Dress Rehearsal (with audience) on April 25th

Rehearsal Schedule: One read thru for the cast the week of January 21st. The final rehearsal schedule will be planned after casting, but expect to rehearse three times per week in the evenings.

Director: Kristi Schwartz email: intothewoods@farmingtonplayers.org

Music Director: Steve Kosinski

Assistant Directors: Paige Osgood and Mary Ann Tweedie

Producers: Dave Gilkes and Marilyn Zerlak

Stage Manager: Dave Reinke

NOTES ABOUT THE MUSICAL: This Sondheim /LaPine musical intertwines the plots of several Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault fairy tales, exploring the

consequences of the characters' wishes and dreams. When a childless baker and his wife embark on a quest to begin a family, they interact with storybook characters from "Little Red Riding Hood", "Jack and the Beanstalk", "Rapunzel", and "Cinderella", during their journey. Will their wishes come true? And do they really want them to?

Preparing for Auditions

There will be two parts to the audition process for *Into the Woods*. You will be asked to sing and read.

SINGING:

This musical has some very difficult vocal pieces in the score. Your singing audition will be an important part of the casting process. Please see the musical measures our musical director would like you to sing for the different characters towards the end of this notice. If you are looking for a part that is speaking only (of which there are not many), you will only have to do the reading portion. You will most likely only sing once in that the directors can determine your talent for more than one part with the one song. However, there are times the directors may ask you to sing another part to see how it "fits".

READING:

You are asked to prepare a monologue for your reading portion. Please prepare a short monologue of 30 seconds to 1 minute. You are welcome to prepare (or write) your own monologue that will showcase your talent. There are some monologues and more details about reading towards the end of this audition notice.

After everyone has both sang and read, there will be some cuts made. The remaining people may be asked to read part from the script to match characters and further dive into characterization.

Character Descriptions



Baker (Baritone A to High G): Male Age 25-45

This man is scared by past abandonment and is just trying to get by in life. Because of the lack of a male's influence, he can't grasp the reality of being a man, a husband, or a father. As we progress through the show, he learns life is messy and no one is truly alone. An innocent idealist who is warm-hearted. (21 musical numbers, 345 speeches)

Baker's Wife (Mezzo-Soprano G to High F): Female Age 25-45

A midwestern, housewife type desperately seeking for her life to be different. I'm not sure if she knows what she wants. Her wishes vary between children to a more glamorous life of royalty. A dreamer and romantic at heart, but can be materialistic and determined. (19 musical numbers, 275 speeches)

Cinderella (Soprano G to High G): Female Age 18-30

She too wishes her life were different. However upon getting her wish, she realizes it's not what she thought it would be. She is pretty, warm-hearted, and hopeful. She is honorable, a survivor, and trying to find her place in this world. (23 musical numbers, 214 speeches)

Jack (Tenor A to High G): Male Age 18-28

(Must be at least 18, but be able to portray a child.)

Feeling he has no friends in the world, he finds solace in the family's cow. Unable to read his surroundings, he lives his life in dream land. His quest up a beanstalk teaches him lessons he never thought he would learn. He is eager to please and strives to be a man. He is slow to learn the ways of the world. (17 musical numbers, 188 speeches)

Little Red Riding Hood (Mezzo Soprano B to High F): Female Age 18-28

(Must be at least 18, but be able to portray a child.)

Coming from a life of privilege, this little one must learn to be more cautious. Her carefree lifestyle comes in contact with dangers beyond her imagination. She is spoiled, careless, and a know-it-all. (17 musical numbers, 163 speeches)

The Witch (Mezzo-Soprano Low F to High F-good belt): Female Age 25-55

After losing her mother's magic beans, she is cursed with "ugliness". She believes that if she can reverse this curse she will be able to secure a lasting life with a child she has kidnapped and kept in a tower. She is outwardly sarcastic, self-serving, and vain; yet, inwardly, she is insecure and lonely. (14 musical numbers, 149 speeches)

Cinderella's Prince (Baritone B to High F): Male Age 18-40

Men and Women all want to either be or be with him and he knows it. This playboy is use to all the accolades without deserving one of them. He is self-centered, shallow, gorgeous, and arrogant. (10 musical numbers, 137 speeches)

Please note: It is the director's vision to cast "Cinderella's Prince" and "The Wolf" as the same actor if at all possible.

Jack's Mother (Soprano B to High F sharp): Female Age 35-60

A single mother left by a deadbeat husband to raise a clueless son whose imaginary friend is a cow. This is a woman who loves her son but wishes he would grow up. She has been beaten down by a life of poverty until her son finds a golden hen. She is jaded, but determined to make a life for her son. (9 musical numbers, 102 speeches)

The Narrator (Baritone G to High E): Male Age 18-64

A librarian who discovers a hidden book and eventually loses himself in the story. He is charismatic and a good storyteller who relates well with the audience. He is educated, engaging, and pleasant. He does sing a few lines, but this is mainly a spoken role. (3 musical numbers, 90 speeches)

Please note: It is the director's vision to cast "The Narrator" and "The Mysterious Man" as the same actor if at all possible.

Stepmother (Mezzo Sop. A Sharp to High F): Female Age 30-60 (12 mus. #s, 69 speeches)

Florinda-Stepsister (Mezzo Sop. C to High E): Female Age 18-40 (9 mus. #s, 62 speeches)

Lucinda-Stepsister (Mezzo Sop. C to High E): Female Age 18-40 (9 mus. #s, 61 speeches)

They are all mean-spirited, greedy, and demanding. These three women are always pursuing a glamorous lifestyle to save them from their current situation. They wear the best that they have in order to mask their poverty. Fake and flighty are words to describe them all. They are like vultures in that they find joy feeding off others. The stepsisters are loud and energetic.

Rapunzel (High Soprano C to High A sharp): Female Age 18-30

How would you feel if your whole life you'd been trapped in a tower with only a crazy witch to talk to? Here we find a girl who wishes to see the outside world. However her lack of human contact or knowledge of the world proves to be a challenge for her. She is loopy, but lovely, and drifts innocently through life. (9 musical numbers, 50 speeches)

Rapunzel's Prince (Baritone C sharp to High E): Male Age 18-40

After having to live in his brother's shadow for so long, this handsome young lad sets out to seek his own adventures. Upon falling in love with a dreamlike maiden, he is pierced with the realities of life. He is just as attractive and vain as his older brother, but not as tall. He is always trying to beat his older brother in everything. (7 musical numbers, 87 speeches)

The Mysterious Man (Baritone G to High E): Male Age 18-64 (older if possible)

Is he a beggar or a hermit or father to half of our characters? We know at least he is the father of the Baker and Rapunzel. He is mischievous, weathered, and withdrawn. He mostly speaks, but has one musical number and must be a physical actor. (See note next to the "Narrator".) (5 musical numbers, 44 speeches)

Cinderella's Mother (Soprano): Female Age 35-50 (Offstage)

Her projection of reality is heavenly. She appears in times of trouble to guide her child and help fulfill her wishes. She is heavenly nurturing and wise; there for her daughter in times of need. (5 musical numbers, 26 speeches)

Cinderella's Father (Open Vocal Range): Male Age 35-50

He is a drinker who is completely out of touch with his family. He means well, but does nothing to help Cinderella. He is harmless. No solo singing. (6 musical numbers, 41 speeches)

Granny (Open Vocal Range) Female 40-65

This is a woman who has been calloused by life. The fire in her eyes is only out shined by the love in her heart for her granddaughter. She is feisty, savage, and vindictive. No solo singing, but plenty of humor. (5 musical numbers, 42 speeches)

The Wolf (Baritone B to High G): Male Age 18-45

This creature is always on the lookout for his next meal. He entices his victims with flowers and fun until they willingly succumb to his desires. He is resourceful, ruthless, and seductive. (4 musical numbers, 13 speeches)

Steward (Open Vocal Range): Male-any age (could be played by a female)

A man servant who is used to doing whatever he has to solve a problem. His only care is to please his master or the strongest personality in the room. No solo singing, but has many speaking parts. He is a surly coward who can be conniving. (4 musical numbers, 63 speeches)

Giant (no singing): Female-any age (could be doubled with another part)

The giant is a woman who is loud and angry. This is a part done offstage. (14 speeches)

Snow White (no solo singing): Female Age 18-35 (could be doubled with another part)

This is a small cameo part. (2 musical numbers, 1 speech)

Sleeping Beauty (no solo singing): Female Age 18-35 (could be doubled with another part)

This is a small cameo part. (2 musical numbers, 1 speech)

Preparing for Singing

Into the Woods - Singing Audition Cuts

**ALL Women (Including Ensemble) be prepared to sing
#39, Act I Finale, Part 4, Pick ups Bar 104-End!!**

Baker's Wife	#58 - Moments in the Woods, Pick ups Bar 74-End
The Witch	#61 - Last Midnight, Bar 138-End #4 - Act I Opening, Part 4, Bars 23-37
Cinderella	#33 - On the Steps of the Palace, Pick ups Bar 87-End
Little Red Riding Hood	#18 - I Know Things Now, Pick ups Bar 27-46
Rapunzel	#15 - Rapunzel, Bars 7-10
Jack's Mother	#5 - Act I Opening, Part 5, Bars 12-31
Cinderella's Stepmother	#37 - Act I Finale, Part 2, Bars 6-9
Lucinda/Florinda	#3 - Act I Opening, Part 3, Bars 7-14
Cinderella's Mother	#37 - Act I Finale, Bars 19-23

**ALL Men (Including Ensemble) be prepared to sing
#39, Act I Finale, Part 4, Pick ups Bar 104-End!!**

Baker	#63 - No More, Bar 79-End
Jack	#23 - Giants in the Sky, Pick ups Bar 56-End
Wolf/Cinderella's Prince	#11 - Hello, Little Girl, Bars 65-77 #56 - Any Moment, Part 1, Bar 40-End
Narrator/Myst. Man	#63 - No More, Bars 41-76
Rapunzel's Prince	#25 - Agony, Bar 50-71

*Cinderella, Baker, Jack, #66 - No One Is Alone, Part 2, Bars 55-End
Little Red Riding Hood

Preparing for Reading

1. Please prepare a monologue for your reading portion that is 30 seconds to 1 minute in length. Find something (or write something) that showcases your talent. Please do not feel that you have to memorize this; however, think about projection, pitch, facial expressions, and how you will get into character. We should be able to see what your character is thinking beyond just what he or she is saying.
2. We will be stopping the monologues at the 1-minute mark so that everyone will have a chance to read.
3. If you want to use any of these monologues from the show, you are more than welcome to do so. You don't have to read a monologue for the character you are auditioning for in the show. For example, someone auditioning for Little Red could read the Baker's Wife, etc.

Monologues

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD : (To the Wolf) *Good day, Grandmother. My, Grandmother, you're looking very strange. What big ears you have. But Grandmother, what big eyes you have! Oh, Grandmother - what a terrible, big, wet mouth you have! (After being rescued from the Wolf's stomach.) What a fright! How dark and dank it was inside that wolf! Mr. Baker, you saved our lives. Here is my cape. You may have it. Maybe Granny will make me another with the skins of that wolf.*

WOLF: *So today I walked around trying once again to find something to eat. And to my surprise a girl came walking through the woods with her red hood and basket, which seemed to have an intoxicating aroma. So I decided to chat with her before I ate her. "Hello there." , "Oh hello." said Little Red. "I am just going to bring these cookies to my dear old grandma." "Well isn't that nice, how sweet of you. And where does your grandma live may I ask, you're going on quite a trip just to bring her cookies?" "Well my grandma is sick and she needs these cookies to feel better, "I'll leave you to it then, don't want to keep her waiting now." I thought "what a dumb little girl today I'm going to have a feast. I better hurry if I want to reach grandma's house before her."*

WITCH : *In the past, when your mother was with child, she developed an unusual appetite. She took one look at my beautiful garden and told you father what she wanted more than anything in the world...Greens, greens, and nothing but greens: He said, "All right," but it wasn't quite, 'cause I caught him in the autumn in my garden one night! He was robbing me! I should have laid a spell on him right there, could have turned him into stone or a dog. But, I let him have the rampion-I'd lots to spare. In return, however, I said, "Fair is fair: You can let me have the baby that your wife will bear. And we'll call it square."*

BAKER: Look what I found in Father's hunting jacket. Six beans. I wonder if they are the... Witch's beans? I'll take them with me. Now what am I to return with? The cow as white as corn...the cape as red as blood...the hair as yellow as gold...the slipper as pure as milk- No...No...NO! Arghh... The cow as white as milk...the cape as red as blood...the hair as yellow as corn...the slipper as pure as gold.

JACK: (Softly, but intense) There are giants in the sky! There are big, tall, terrible giants in the sky! When you're way up high and you look below at the world you left and the things you know, little more than a glance is enough to show you just how small you are.

CINDERELLA: He's a very smart prince, he's a prince who prepares. Knowing this time I'd run from him, he spread pitch on the stairs. I was caught unawares. And I thought: well he cares - this is more than just malice. Better stop and take stock while you're standing here stuck on the steps of the palace.

JACK'S MOTHER: I wish my son were not a fool. I wish my house was not a mess. I wish the cow was full of milk. I wish the walls were full of gold-I wish a lot of things...Look at this cow...There are bugs on her dugs. There are flies in her eyes. There's a lump on her rump big enough to be a hump-and Jack says she's his friend...No one keeps a cow for a friend! Jack, fetch the best price you can. Take no less than five pounds. Are you listening to me?

BAKER'S WIFE: I've never lied to royalty before. I've never anything to royalty before! What a beautiful gown you're wearing. Were you at the King's Festival? Aren't you the lucky one.If a Prince were pursuing me, I certainly wouldn't hide. Tell me about the ball. Perhaps? Oh, to be pursued by a prince. All that pursues me is tomorrow's bread. What I wouldn't give to be in your shoes! ...I mean slippers. As pure as gold! Wait!...I need your shoes!...Hey!...Come back here!

CINDERELLA'S PRINCE: A maiden running from a Prince? Does that make sense? None would run from us. Yet one has. . . So you too, brother, have found a lovely maiden that lives in the top of a tall tower that has no door or stairs. How do you manage a visit? You stand beneath her tower and say, " Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me." And then she lowers the longest, most beautiful head of hair - yellow as corn - which you climb to her? Rapunzel, What kind of a name is that? You jest!