



Rodgers & Hammerstein's CINDERELLA

**Directed by: Amy Spadafore
Nikolas Watford-Conrad – Assistant Director**

Auditions: Monday & Tuesday, September 18 & 19 | 7-10pm

**Pit & Balcony Community Theatre | 805 N. Hamilton St,
Saginaw, MI 48602**

Pit & Balcony Community Theatre is committed to providing a nurturing environment in which to share diverse experiences and ideas. In employment, volunteer recruitment, and casting we do not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, or military status. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community.

Welcome!

Thanks so much for your interest in auditioning for *Rodger's & Hammerstein's Cinderella* at Pit & Balcony! I'm very excited to be directing this updated script. It's everything you remember about the Cinderella story, but with a revolutionary twist. I think the updates lend themselves well to this day-and-age and it's my goal to lean into the realism while still honoring the magic that is *Cinderella*.

The most important thing to remember as you prepare for these auditions is that **anyone can be a princess**. We, as a society, have told women and girls for generations what a princess looks like, acts like, dresses like, and so we have a pretty narrow view of "a princess." I challenge all you princesses (and princes and fairy godmothers too!) out there, if you ever thought you were too much of something or not enough of something else, to throw away that assumption. Anyone can be a princess – and that means you too!

Thank you,

Amy Spadafore - Director

Audition Expectations

Please complete the online audition form: <https://forms.gle/gbgbWG6F7Gz3zj3B6>

We are auditioning actors ages 14+ of all races, ethnicities, genders, and abilities.

Auditions will consist of 3 parts: **Singing**, **Dancing**, and **Reading** which auditioners will rotate through throughout the evening.

Singing:

- Please prepare 16-32 bars of music (about 30 seconds) in the style of the show, that showcases your range.
- Please do not plan to sing acapella. An accompanist will be provided.
- Please bring sheet music for the accompanist
- *Please do not audition with a song from this show.*
- Other productions similar to *R&H Cinderella* might include: *Oklahoma!*, *Carousel*, *South Pacific*, *The Sound of Music*, *Into the Woods*, *Follies*, *Company* and other pre-contemporary musicals.

Dancing:

- You will be taught a short dance sequence to one of the songs from the show and after some rehearsal time will present the sequence to the production team.
- Please bring or wear comfortable movement clothes and shoes and a water bottle.

Reading:

- Please familiarize yourself with the sides provided at the end of this packet. These will be used for warm readings with fellow auditioners.

Character Descriptions

ELLA (female-presenting role; plays 21-35; Soprano, B3-Eb5): Opinionated, charismatic, passionate, beautiful, funny. Idealistic and hopeful; a quiet revolutionary. See the good in everyone. Flies under the radar until she doesn't. We see her blossom into a confident woman.

TOPHER (male-presenting role; plays 21-35; Baritone, C#3-A4): Brave & heroic though lonely & misguided. Charming, but not disingenuous. Thoughtful, innocent, moral, and kindhearted. We see him battle externally and internally for the good of his kingdom.

MADAME (female-presenting role; plays 45-65; Mezzo-Soprano, C4-D5): ELLA's stepmother. Selfish, scheming, social climber. Dismissive & occasionally outright cruel. Values wealth, status, and material possessions - though maybe a misguided attempt to provide the best for her two daughters?

SEBASTIAN (male-presenting role; plays 35-65; Tenor, C3-F4): The kingdom's Lord Chancellor. TOPHER's trusted advisor. Devious, selfish, dishonest, elitist. Believes he deserves to rule the kingdom. May double some ENSEMBLE roles

MARIE (female-presenting role; plays 45-80; Soprano, A3-Ab5): A friend to ELLA. "Crazy Marie" to the townsfolk. Actually a fairy godmother in disguise. Wise, warm, charming, otherworldly.

GABRIELLE (female-presenting role; plays 21-35; Soprano, C4-G5): ELLA's stepsister and MADAME's daughter. Quietly passionate, empathetic, and witty. Unenthusiastically goes along with mother and sister's dreams of wealth a social status. Prefers the company of ELLA and JEAN-MICHEL dreaming of revolution.

CHARLOTTE (female-presenting role; plays 21-35; Mezzo-Soprano (belt), B3-F5): ELLA'S stepsister and MADAME's daughter. Brash, self-centered, materialistic, snooty, loud, bratty. Never passes up an opportunity to be the center of attention.

JEAN-MICHEL (male-presenting role; plays 21-35; Baritone, C3-G4): Feisty, passionate peasant and revolutionary. Isn't taken seriously by anyone except GABRIELLE whom he courts in secret because they are from different social classes. May double some ENSEMBLE roles.

LORD PINKLETON (male-presenting role; plays 35-65; Tenor, D3-A4): SEBASTIAN's right hand man. Town crier who announces royal balls, banquets, even the weather to the villagers. May double some ENSEMBLE roles.

ENSEMBLE (any gender, any age, all vocal ranges): up to thirteen actors desired for roles such as FOX (puppet)/FOOTMAN, RACCOON (puppet)/COACHMAN, MICE/HORSES (puppets), KNIGHTS, PEASANTS, SERFS, TOWNSPEOPLE, LADIES & GENTLEMEN OF THE COURT, SERVANTS, GUESTS AT THE BALL, ETC.

Rehearsal Calendar – A tentative rehearsal calendar is below. Dates and times are subject to change after casting.

<p style="text-align: center;">PLEASE NOTE ANY CONFLICTS YOU HAVE. CONFLICTS DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY ELIMINATE YOU FROM CONSIDERATION BUT ALLOW US TO PLAN REHEARSALS AS CONVENIENTLY AS POSSIBLE. NO CONFLICTS ARE ACCEPTED AFTER OCTOBER 31, 2023. PLEASE NOTE: MORNING SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2023</p>						
SEPTEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	18 AUDITIONS	19 AUDITIONS	20	21	22	23
24	25 6:30-9:30PM – READ THRU	26 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	27 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	28 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	29 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	30
OCTOBER						
1	2 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	3 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	4	5 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	6 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	7
8	9 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	10 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	11 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	12 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	13 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	14
15	16 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	17 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	18	19 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	20 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	21
22	23 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	24 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	25 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	26 6:30-9:30PM REHEARSAL	27	28 10AM-8PM TECH REHEARSAL
29 1-5PM SITZPROBE	30	31 6:30-9:30 TBD REHEARSAL				
NOVEMBER						
			1 6-10PM TECH REHEARSAL	2 6-10PM TECH REHEARSAL	3 6-10PM TECH REHEARSAL	4
5 1:30 CALL 3:00 DRESS	6 6:00 CALL 7:30 DRESS	7 6:00 CALL 7:30 DRESS	8 6:00 CALL 7:30 FINAL DRESS	9 DARK NIGHT	10 6:00 CALL 7:30 OPENING NIGHT	11 6:00 CALL 7:30 SHOW
12 1:30 CALL 3:00 SHOW	13	14	15	16 7:30AM SCHOOL SHOW	17 6:00 CALL 7:30 SHOW	18 6:00 CALL 7:30 SHOW
19 1:30 CALL 3:00 SHOW STRIKE						

COVID-19 POLICY

Pit & Balcony is committed to the health, safety, and privacy of all of its employees and volunteers. To this end we keep a close eye on all regulations and recommendations set forth by the Federal and State governments as well as local, state, and national health organizations.

At the time of compiling this packet, Pit & Balcony does not *require* masking or vaccination in order to take part in its productions and safety protocols may differ from person to person based on their vaccination status. Vaccination status may or may not impact castability. All volunteers and employees are encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and all booster shots as soon as they are able. All policies and protocols are subject to change without warning based on recommendations set forth by governing bodies and health agencies.

Sides

Please familiarize yourself with the readings on the following pages. There is no need to memorize any of them. In fact, please *don't* attempt to memorize any of these sides. You may be asked to read any role in any one of these sides and will be considered for all available roles whether you actually read for them at auditions or not.

SIDE 1 – TOPHER, SEBASTIAN, JEAN-MICHEL

JEAN-MICHEL: (*offstage*) Prince Topher, listen!

TOPHER: What was that?

JEAN-MICHEL: You must take responsibility for your actions!

TOPHER: Who's that yelling from the other side of the moat?

JEAN-MICHEL: The people are being treated unfairly by your government!

TOPHER: He seems upset.

SEBASTIAN: Rabble-rouser! Ignore him.

TOPHER: Shouldn't we listen to what he has to say? People were never upset with Mom and Dad. Were they?

SEBASTIAN: Your parents had the good fortune to be royalty in a time of plenty. But since their unfortunate demise, I have done my best to run this country. I've done my best to raise you in the finest schools.

JEAN-MICHEL: Hello, I'm talking here!

TOPHER: We should invite him up for a talk.

SEBASTIAN: Ignore him.

JEAN-MICHEL: I will not give up! If you won't listen, I'll shout this to the town square.

SEBASTIAN: Shout this to the town square – perhaps it's time for a distraction.

TOPHER: What kind of distraction?

SEBASTIAN: A royal wedding.

TOPHER: But who will get married?

SEBASTIAN: Well...you.

TOPHER: That's just silly. I don't know any girls. I went to an all-boys school off in the woods. And then attended an all-male university, on an island. Why did you do that to me?

SEBASTIAN: For this happy day – I am going to find you a bride – oh, happy the day!

TOPHER: This is nonsense. How will you find me a bride?

SEBASTIAN: We shall have a magnificent ball. Dancing!

TOPHER: What?

SEBASTIAN: Every eligible young woman who can afford a gown will attend. That is a wonderful selection process right there. If you can't afford a nice dress, you don't have any business marrying a prince. Now. All the guests will be in masks. You will dance with every girl. At the stroke of midnight, everyone will remove their masks and you will have found your bride.

TOPHER: That's fast.

SEBASTIAN: King and Queen on the throne. I am there to guide you through all your decisions. It's really a win-win.

TOPHER: How would any woman fall in love with me so quickly?

SEBASTIAN: A valid question, which we will answer sometime soon.

SIDE 2 – MADAME, GABRIELLE, CHARLOTTE, (ELLA)

MADAME: Cinderella! When you've finished tightening delicate Charlotte's corset –

CHARLOTTE: Uuhhh. I can taste my lunch.

MADAME: - we must move on to Gabrielle's hair. It is beginning to look, I fear, like a Bavarian pretzel.

Cinderella! Cinderell-

(Stops and chuckles)

Cinderella, it is a most amusing name. I crack myself up. She sits by the cinders of the fire, and her name is Ella. So, I call her Cinder-ella.

(Becomes overcome with laughter then:)

Why don't I have any friends?

CHARLOTTE: Face it, Mama, you are well-versed in the art of Ridicule.

MADAME: I do have a flair for it, don't I, actual daughters? Watch and learn!

Cinderella, hurry, get dressed, get ready for the ball, you're going to find a husband!

ELLA: Am I?

MADAME: Ridicule – who caught it?

CHARLOTTE: I did

GABRIELLE: That's terrible.

MADAME: Come daughters, come! Oh Gabrielle, my Gabrielle, just look at you. You too, Charlotte, but really look at Gabrielle! Each of us shall wear the tiniest bit of hand-blown Venetian glass. Allow me to place this tiny bauble around the neck of my courageous Charlotte. Allow me to place this tiny bauble around the neck of my beautiful daughter Gabrielle. Cinderella, fetch the perfume! Come two daughters that count, finish getting ready! Seven-thirty! Ball preparation, double-time! Expensive bracelet, necklace, hair, then the prince we shall ensnare.

GABRIELLE & CHARLOTTE: Then the prince we shall ensnare.

MADAME: Are we worthy?

GABRIELLE & CHARLOTTE: Yes. Yes!

MADAME: To battle! The crown is ours to lose! Posture! Posture!

SIDE 3 – MARIE, ELLA

MARIE: Fol-de-rol and fiddledy dee,
Fiddledy Faddledy Foddle,
All the wishes in the world
Are poppycock and twaddle!

ELLA: Oh Crazy Marie. Are you mocking me with your gibberish?

MARIE: Yes.

Fol-de-rol and fiddledy dee
Fiddledy faddledy foodle,
All the dreamers in the world
Are dizzy in the noodle.

ELLA: So what if I do have a dream to see the prince again? And tell him what life in his kingdom is really like? And what it could be.

MARIE: Exactly. And then to have him fall in love with you.

ELLA: No one will fall in love with me. I am being foolish.

MARIE: Then be foolish with me. What would you dream of?

ELLA: Why, an invitation to the ball, I guess.

MARIE: (*Produces invitation*) Right here. There's an invitation.

ELLA: What? But it's torn.

MARIE: Don't wait for everything to be perfect, just go! Now, what else would you dream of?

ELLA: Oh, a white gown, I imagine. A beautiful white gown sewn up with pearls. And jewels. And a tiara of diamonds.

MARIE: And on your feet?

ELLA: Why, the most beautiful grosgrain pumps, I'd imagine.

MARIE: No. Better. The Venetian glass that your stepmother so loves in her trinkets and baubles. An entire pair of shoes made only of Venetian glass.

ELLA: Oh, how silly. I'd be the envy of all. But how would I get to the ball?

MARIE: Well, this pumpkin over here?

ELLA: Yes?

MARIE: I'll turn it into a golden carriage.

ELLA: And horses?

MARIE: Those mice? Trapped in this cage.

ELLA: And a fox as a footman, and a raccoon as a driver. Oh, you are crazy, Marie. Why in order to do that you would have to be a fairy godmother.

SIDE 4 – GABRIELLE, ELLA

ELLA: You won't tell the others, will you? Madame and Charlotte?

GABRIELLE: No. Never.

ELLA: Are you mad at me that I stole the prince from you?

GABRIELLE: I will confess a secret to you. I never loved the prince. Or even liked him. There's someone else that I want.

ELLA: How wonderful for you. Who is it?

GABRIELLE: Well, Madame hates him.

ELLA: Madame hating them doesn't narrow the field. Who is it?

GABRIELLE: If I promise to keep your secret of the prince, can you keep my secret of my forbidden love?

ELLA: I can. And I will.

GABRIELLE: It's Jean-Michel. The firebrand.

ELLA: He is a good man. And seems angry for all the right reasons.

GABRIELLE: He wants to change the world and make it a better place. You gotta love a guy like that.

ELLA: You may one day win Jean-Michel. But I will never win Prince Topher. If he was who I truly was he would have no interest in me.

GABRIELLE: That's not true. He would love you for who you are.

ELLA: I don't see how.

GABRIELLE: Well, if Madame ever saw me with Jean-Michel, why I shudder to think what she might do! Are you sure you can keep my secret?

ELLA: I can. And you can keep mine. We shall have a secret. That will make us –

GABRIELLE: Co-conspirators.

ELLA: Friends

GABRIELLE: Sisters.

ELLA: May be both find our loves

GABRIELLE: And our lives.

SIDE 5 – SEBASTIAN, TOPHER

SEBASTIAN: Honestly, sire. Three nights in a row you search? And here it is, four o'clock in the morning. It's as if you are testing my good nature. The second that woman in the white ran off – which we all must admit seems to imply she has a police record. The second she is gone, you don't want to dance with any of the other girls.

TOPHER: Sebastian. Are there poor people in this kingdom who have had their land taken from them?

SEBASTIAN: If there were I would tell you.

TOPHER: Do they need our help?

SEBASTIAN: Everyone donated joyfully. Ignore this talk. Where did you hear it?

TOPHER: The girl.

SEBASTIAN: I don't know that she is to be trusted. Please come back to the castle, the work is piling up.

TOPHER: No, something isn't right.

SEBASTIAN: As you say – The ring, sire.

TOPHER: Oh right, sorry. What are you stamping this time?

SEBASTIAN: Nothing, sire, hardly worth troubling your beautiful mind.

TOPHER: Let me read it.

SEBASTIAN: I should explain, before –

TOPHER: I'll read this – on my own.

SEBASTIAN: your Future Majesty, let's go back to the palace and allow me to draw up some coverage you don't want to –

TOPHER: I'm reading this now. Thank you.

SEBASTIAN: But –

TOPHER: That will be all, Sebastian. I'll ask you if I need anything explained.

Oh....no.

Sebastian!

SEBASTIAN: Sire, I can explain –

TOPHER: How could you do this in my name?

SEBASTIAN: I am maintaining this life for you, without my watchful eye you should be a pauper, would you like that?

TOPHER: I want that girl, the one who talked to me. I want to talk to that girl.

SEBASTIAN: A troublemaker.

TOPHER: We're having another ball, a banquet. And she'll come to that!

SEBASTIAN: She won't show, this is lunacy!!

TOPHER: She will come! We're having a banquet tonight. And you are inviting everyone in the kingdom.

SEBASTIAN: Don't forget who you're talking to.

TOPHER: And don't you forget who you're talking to. Now we are having a banquet tonight and I am finding that girl!

SIDE 6 – GABRIELLE, JEAN-MICHEL

JEAN-MICHEL: I'm going out with Gabrielle and I'm wound up like a tick. Tonight, she and I will go to the green grocer and beg him for whatever scraps he might have, then we shall slave over a hot stove and serve a meal to the very poorest. I do hope she's not expecting that much fun every night.

GABRIELLE: Good evening, Jean-Michel.

JEAN-MICHEL: Good evening, Gabrielle. I much prefer you in this simple attire. You no longer look like a carnival attraction.

GABRIELLE: You speak such kind words to me, all the day long. And what of the soup kitchen this evening?

JEAN-MICHEL: Our first responsibility is with the poor. Then we shall march to the palace steps and I shall speak with the prince. We only have one thing to worry about.

GABRIELLE: What's that?

JEAN-MICHEL: That he'll even speak to me.

GABRIELLE: Well, Ella might be a help, you know she's talked to the prince.

JEAN-MICHEL: What?! Ella talked to the prince?!

GABRIELLE: She went to the ball! They were talking about the kingdom and how to make things better. And tonight, she is going to the banquet!

JEAN-MICHEL: The world is upside-down!! But don't you know what this means? If she really talked to the prince, then I can talk to him and he'll be open to my suggestions. What do you call this feeling I have?

GABRIELLE: Optimism.

JEAN-MICHEL: Optimism. I have to do this more often.

GABRIELLE: You can march up to the prince and talk to him.

JEAN-MICHEL: I can march up to the prince and talk to him.

GABRIELLE: You can be a leader!

JEAN-MICHEL: I can be a leader!

GABRIELLE: You can be my boyfriend!

JEAN-MICHEL: I can be your boyfriend. Whoa, left turn! What are you doing? This looks very counter-revolutionary.

GABRIELLE: I like the man who wants to change the world, but I also like the man who brought me flowers.

JEAN-MICHEL: Who brought you flowers? Oh, I did. No, I couldn't.

GABRIELLE: You just said so. Optimism.

JEAN-MICHEL: Optimism?

GABRIELLE: Let yourself go.

JEAN-MICHEL: I could be your boyfriend?

GABRIELLE: Yes!

JEAN-MICHEL: Yes! Yes! Am I your boyfriend?

GABRIELLE: Yes!