

WAITRESS

AUDITION BRIEF

“A DELICIOUS TALE THAT’S NOT SIMPLY ABOUT GETTING PRINCE CHARMING, BUT GETTING ITS HEROINE TO TAKE ACTION AND DISCOVER HER WORTH!”– *Variety*

Brought to life by a ground-breaking all-female creative team, this irresistible new hit features original music and lyrics by 6-time Grammy® nominee Sara Bareilles (“Brave,” “Love Song”), a book by acclaimed screenwriter Jessie Nelson (*I Am Sam*), choreography by Lorin Latarro (*Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Waiting For Godot*) and direction by Tony Award® winner Diane Paulus (*Pippin*, *Finding Neverland*). “It’s an empowering musical of the highest order!” raves the *Chicago Tribune*.

Inspired by Adrienne Shelly's beloved film, *WAITRESS* tells the story of Jenna, a waitress and expert pie maker who dreams of a way out of her small town and loveless marriage. A baking contest in a nearby county and the town's new doctor may offer her a chance at a fresh start, while her fellow waitresses offer their own recipes for happiness. But Jenna must summon the strength and courage to rebuild her own life.

“*WAITRESS* is a little slice of heaven!” says *Entertainment Weekly* and “a monumental contribution to Broadway!” according to *Marie Claire*. Don't miss this uplifting musical celebrating friendship, motherhood, and the magic of a well-made pie.

COMING TO SYDNEY IN 2020

SEEKING THE FOLLOWING CAST

- 8 Principals
- 7 Ensemble (3 male & 4 female)
- 4 swings (2 male & 2 female)
- Please note there is also a role for a 5 year old girl, Lulu. Auditions for this role will take place in early 2020 and an audition brief distributed in due course.

APPLICATIONS – GFO’S WAITRESS AUDITION PORTAL

GFO has recently set up an audition portal for all audition applications. Agency and self represented artists must create a profile to register for auditions. All audition applications must be made via the official GFO/Waitress audition portal, no exceptions. Please see link below:

<https://registration.gordonfrostoporganisation.com/audition/waitress/>

AUDITION DATES & DEADLINES

1st Round Video Auditions:

- Videos to be submitted by **6pm** on **26 May 2019**
- Videos should be submitted using **YouTube** or **Vimeo** formats. Other file types will not be supported.

2nd Round - Dance Calls & Final Call Backs:

- **Melbourne** - 24 June to 28 June 2019
- **Sydney** – 29 June to 3 July 2019

Please note, you will only be notified of a 2nd round audition time if you have been successful. Late applications will not be accepted.

PREPARATION

1st Round Video Audition – Adult Characters:

Please prepare the following:

- At the start of the video please state your Name, Preferred Audition City and Characters you would like to be considered for.
- One (1) short pop/rock song in the style of Sara Bareilles that shows off your vocal range (maximum 2 minutes)
- One (1) short scene or monologue of your own choice that shows off your acting strengths (maximum 2 minutes)
- One (1) Waitress Acting Side of your own choice.

All Audition Material is available in the downloads section on the Waitress auditions website.

Please do not submit additional material or exceed requested length. Your audition may be disqualified if you do not adhere to audition guidelines

2nd Round – Dance Auditions and Final Call Backs:

Please prepare the following:

- Two (2) short pop/rock songs in the style of Sara Bareilles. Please note you may only perform one song on the day.
- Waitress Song/s as requested by the Creative Team
- Waitress Acting Side/s as requested by the Creative Team.

WHAT TO BRING TO YOUR 2nd ROUND AUDITION

All successful applicants must bring the following to their 2nd Round/Final Auditions:

- CV
- Headshot
- Sheet music for accompanist. NO backing tracks.
- Show material where supplied
- For your movement call, please wear appropriate dance wear and flat dance sneakers/shoes.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

[JENNA] – Female, 20’s-30’s. Any ethnicity. A woman stuck in her life as an unhappily married waitress in a small town. Finds some happiness and expression through her meticulous baking of pies and her friendships with her coworkers, Dawn and Becky. Lives her live paycheck-to-paycheck, day by day, and wants nothing more than to get away and start fresh, unbeknownst to her destructive husband, Earl. Must have a fantastic pop/rock voice with great range. PRINCIPAL.

[DAWN] – Female, 20’s, any ethnicity. She youngest of the waitresses. Thick glasses, hair parted 14 centimeters to the left — eccentric is the nice way to say she’s slightly unusual, and not so slightly OCD. She sets the tables, painstakingly insuring each salt and pepper-shaker is equidistant from the napkin holder. Must have an excellent pop/rock/folk voice. PRINCIPAL.

[BECKY] – Female, early 40’s-early 50’s, ANY ethnicity. The oldest of the three waitresses. Irreverent, irascible, been there, made it back, and somehow kept her forward and sometimes wicked sense of humor with excellent comedic timing. Must have a soulful pop voice with an excellent pop belt. PRINCIPAL.

[DR. POMATTER] – Male, 30’s-early 40’s, any ethnicity. Handsome, endearing, and neurotic. Has a warm, if clumsy, matter. Jenna’s gynecologist with whom an unexpected extramarital affair is born. Has a quirky sense of humor and a big heart, despite the fact that he’s contributing to the affair. Must have impeccable comedic timing and must move well. Should have a very strong pop/rock tenor that can navigate the musical style of Sara Bareilles with ease. PRINCIPAL.

[EARL] – Male, 20’S-30’s. Caucasian. Jenna’s husband. Peaked in high school, handsome in a gruff way, but that face is clouded with broken dreams, drowned with cheap beer. Just enough narcissism mixed with stupidity, to be a potent Molotov cocktail that can explode into unexpected anger one second and then turn into a sobbing mess the next. Actors auditioning for EARL would need to come prepared with a song in the vein of Elton John or a similar contemporary singer/songwriter. Guitar playing a plus. PRINCIPAL.

[OGIE] - Male, 30’s, any ethnicity. Strange, yet oddly lovable. Becomes slightly obsessed with Dawn (in a hilarious yet endearing way) after she goes on a 5-minute date with him. Quirky, incredibly persistent, and odd, yet kind. Should have excellent comedic timing. Must have an excellent pop/rock tenor/baritenor sound. PRINCIPAL.

[JOE] - Male, 60’s-70’s, any ethnicity. The owner of the diner where Jenna, Dawn, Becky, and Cal work. A seemingly old, curmudgeonly man who has a soft spot for Jenna (and her pie), warm at heart. A sarcastically funny and no-nonsense guy with a keen ability to read people. Very funny. PRINCIPAL.

[CAL, U/S JOE] - Male, any ethnicity, 40’s. CAL: A chef at the diner. A “Salt of the Earth” guy’s guy surrounded by gals. Brash, impatient, unsentimental, but somehow charming. Should have a strong pop/rock voice with great comedic chops. Must have a strong contemporary baritone singing voice in the style of Sara Bareilles and have excellent comedic timing. Will also understudy the role of: [JOE] - Male, 60’s- early 70’s. The owner of the diner where Jenna, Dawn, Becky, and Cal work. A seemingly old, curmudgeonly man who has a soft spot for Jenna (and her pie), warm at heart. A sarcastically funny and no-nonsense guy with a keen ability to read people. Very funny. Must have a strong baritone pop/rock. PRINCIPAL.

[LULU] – Young Girl, to play 4-5 years old. Daughter of Jenna and Earl. A sweet, carefree child who appears in the last scene of the show. Should be confident and be able to engage in a small amount of dialogue and movement on stage. Must be shorter than 127cm. Please also submit twins who meet these requirements (There will be 4 young girls hired to alternate in this role). *Auditions for this role will be held in early 2020.*

[MALE ENSEMBLE] - Males, any ethnicity, ranging from Mid-Late 20’s to late 40’s. Must have excellent pop/rock voices in the style of Sara Bareilles. Must have excellent comedic timing and be able to play a range of characters comprising the community in which the story takes place. Must be strong movers/dancers. 3 MALE ENSEMBLE PLUS 2 MALE SWINGS

[FEMALE ENSEMBLE] - Females, any ethnicity, ranging from mid 20’s to late 30’s. Must have excellent pop/rock voices in the style of Sara Bareilles. Must have excellent comedic timing and be able to play a range of characters comprising the community in which the story takes place. Must be strong movers/dancers. 4 FEMALE ENSEMBLE PLUS 2 FEMALE SWINGS