

Jewish Theatre Grand Rapids

Esther: The Musical

Audition Information

This production features a volunteer cast of young adults and adults ages 16 to 100! We are looking for singers and actors of all gender identities and ethnicities who can move well. All are welcome.

WHEN:

Saturday, November 2 from 6:00pm-8:00 pm, AND Sunday, November 3 from 12:00 -3:00 pm

SIGN UP: Sign up for a time on Sign Up Genius here: <https://shorturl.at/5AoFO>

Please plan to arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled slot to fill out audition paperwork.

WHERE:

The Vine at First Place - 207 Fulton E. GR, MI 49503 (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/D6uU3XE238Rpi47GA>)

WHAT TO PREPARE:

- ALL Auditions will consist of a singing element and dance element. No reading from the script will happen at the initial auditions on Saturday and Sunday.
- VOCAL AUDITION: ALL Auditionees should prepare 16-32 bars of a song. Bring a copy of your sheet music with you for the accompanist. You must sing with an accompanist - music tracks or
- a capella will not be accepted. Musical theatre songs are encouraged over Pop songs.
- DANCE AUDITION: Everyone will learn a short dance combination. This will show us whether you can follow simple choreography and you will have a chance to inform us of your experience level.
- KNOW your schedule. Bring your personal calendar and know of any conflicts you may have from November 10, 2024 through February 9, 2025. Rehearsals will primarily be between 6:00 pm and 10 pm, Sundays – Thursdays. There will be no rehearsals November 27 – 30 or December 20 - Jan 4. Performances are Jan 30-Feb 9, 2025.

CALLBACKS:

- Monday, November 4 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at The Vine at First Place.
- CALLBACKS ARE BY INVITATION. Auditionees will be contacted Sunday evening, November 3.
- Those invited to callbacks will read scenes and sing songs from the show, and may be asked to dance again as we look for additional dance needs – we might be looking for some specialties: tap, hip hop, break dancing and acrobatic tricks. We also will want to know if you play any instruments.

CASTING:

If you are cast in the show, you will receive a call by Wednesday, November 6 by 10:00 pm.

ABOUT THE SHOW:

Esther: The Musical is written and composed by local playwright Lori Jacobs. It is the classical Biblical story with a twist and a true fun-filled Purim Speil. With original songs based on Kletzmer Songs, Rap, Showtunes, Country, Ragtime and Pop, this show is a rapid, surefire, farcical, tongue-in-cheek-retelling of the rise of Esther and her salvation of the Jews in Persia in 483 B.C.E. Come join the party!

Directed by Pamela Steers

Musical Direction by Alex Hamel

Choreography by Owen Smith

Stage Management by Laurie Hamilton

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Cast, description, Vocal Ranges

(note: some characters may sing an octave lower- depending on casting)

Esther -Our heroine. A teenage Jewish woman who becomes the Queen of Persia and saves the Jewish people from annihilation. Young, Naïve. Soloist Vocal Range: Bb3 – F5

Mordecai - Esther's second-cousin twice- removed. Ten or fifteen years older than Esther. A pious Jew who has raised Esther after her parents died. A mensch. Soloist Vocal Range: G2 – D4

Haman (Hey- Man) - The evil villain. Soloist Vocal Range: G2 - D4

Ahasuerus (Ah-haa-shoe-air-us) -The King of Persia. A bumbler. Soloist Vocal Range: F2 - D4

Vashti - Ahasuerus' proud Queen who will always be the Queen, no matter what. Vocal Range: G3 – F5 Soloist

Hegai (Hey-Guy) The head eunuch in charge of just about everything for the King. Narrates our story. Soloist Vocal Range: G3 – G5

Bigthan - Royal chef who plots to kill the King. Soloist & Ensemble. Dancer. Vocal Range: C4 – D5

Teresh - Royal chef who plots to kill the King. Soloist & Ensemble. Dancer Vocal Range: C4 – D5

Za-Za – Haman's consort & Ensemble singing and Dancer.

Captains of the Guard – the protectors of the king. Some solo singing, Dancers. Vocal Range: A3 – A4

Butinskis – 2 men who keep butting into the King's business- busybodies. Some solo vocals. Vocal Range: E3 – F4

Young Prince- King's young son & Ensemble

Haman's entourage: Za-Za and some of Ensemble. Singers and Dancers Esther's Handmaidens – Some of Ensemble.

Ensemble who will sing and dance: Handmaidens, Beauty Contestants, Haman's entourage, townspeople of Shushan and the Court of King Ahasuerus.