



AUDITION NOTICE

DREAMGIRLS

MUSICAL

BOOK & LYRICS BY Tom Eyn

MUSIC BY: Henry Krieger

RATED: PG-13 (Language, some sexual references, drug use)

REHEARSALS BEGIN: May 12, 2025

PERFORMANCES: July 10-26, 2025

AUDITIONS: Friday, March 7/By Appointment-6:30-10:00 PM
Saturday, March 8/By Appointment-10:00 AM-1:00 PM

***Circle Theatre accepts walk-up (non pre-registered) auditioners. However, due to the nature of how Circle Theatre structures auditions, registered auditioners will have first priority. If you plan to audition without pre-registering, we recommend that you arrive as close to the audition start time as possible and no later than 9 PM on Friday, March 7 and no later than 12 PM on Saturday, March 8, so that we can accommodate everyone auditioning.**

Auditions will be held at the Art & Music Center, located on the campus of Aquinas College.

***Please prepare 16-20 bars of a song. Please bring sheet music, an accompanist will be provided. Be prepared to dance. Music from/in the style of the show is welcomed**

CALLBACKS: BY REQUEST ONLY March 9, 2025 @ 2:30 PM
If you are called back, you will be notified by March 8, 2025.

For callbacks, be prepared to:

*sing from the score

*read from the script

*dance (bring comfortable clothes and shoes to dance in)

PRODUCTION STAFF: DIRECTOR/Michael Travis
MUSIC DIRECTORS/Vanessa Allen & Debra Perry
CHOREOGRAPHER/Joi Thomas
STAGE MANAGER/Shanell Haigh

THE STORY: *A sweeping and inspirational journey through 20th century American pop music, Dreamgirls chronicles one Motown group's rise from obscurity to superstardom. Through gospel, R&B, smooth pop, disco and more, Dreamgirls explores themes of ambition, hope and betrayal, all set in the glamorous and competitive world of the entertainment industry.*

“Dreamgirls is a show about a time in American musical history when rhythm and blues blended with other styles of popular music creating a new American sound. Act One is set in the fabulous sixties – a time when we were still screaming at Elvis and listening to the Beatles, but were dancing to the new beat of countless girl and boy groups like The Supremes, The Marvelettes, The Temptations and The Shirelles. Dreamgirls is not just about the singing and the dancing and the performing. The play is also about the behind-the-scenes reality of the entertainment industry – the business part of show business that made possible this cultural phenomenon. Act Two shows the creation and the arrival of disco – though the word is never used in the script. The subject matter of this play deals with a musical contribution to America of such importance that only now – decades later – are we beginning to understand.” – Michael Bennett.

CASTING: All actors age 20s-50s; all ethnicities; abled and disabled are encouraged to audition. This show is traditionally produced with performers doubling various roles.

NOTE: In reference to the character descriptions below – The characters in this show are on the binary and written with he/him or she/her pronouns as you will see in the following descriptions. However, we seek to be as inclusive as possible and ask gender non-conforming, gender queer, transgender and non-binary actors to list on the audition form the roles they most identify with. We also list race/ethnicity when specific to the character, but are otherwise seeking all races and ethnicities. Unless otherwise noted, roles will be open for consideration of actors of all ethnicities.

CHARACTERS :

EFFIE WHITE: Black woman, 20s-30s. Lead Singer of The Dreamettes. A powerhouse and a soaring singer with undeniable talent. The true underdog. A vibrant, confident, and outspoken young woman who wears her heart of gold on her sleeve. Becomes overcome with anger, jealousy, and paranoia when Curtis betrays her trust. Her journey from snappy confidence to depths of betrayal ultimately ends in triumph.

DEENA JONES: Black woman, 20s-30s. The gorgeous lead singer of The Dreams, based on Diana Ross. She is happy singing backup to Effie until Curtis puts her in the lead and grooms her as star of the group. Mezzo, big full belt. Must move very well and have star quality.

LORRELL ROBINSON: Black woman, 20s-30s. The third member of The Dreams. Sexy, flirtatious girl from the projects of Detroit who has been singing with her best friends Effie and Deena for years. Carries on an affair with Jimmy Early, who refuses to leave his wife for her. Soprano, on top of most triad harmony, big full belt. Must move very well.

CURTIS TAYLOR, JR.: Black man, 30-40. Handsome, and very sexy. Slickcar salesman who becomes The Dreams’ manager. Has an appreciation of R & B music and a sense of what it sells. He eventually takes over the management of Jimmy Early’s career and also oversees the rise to stardom of The Dreams. Initially warm and approachable he becomes hardened by wealth and power and the need to control everything and everyone. Baritone. Must move well.

JAMES “THUNDER” EARLY: Black man, 30-40. James Brown-like R & B star. The Dreamettes become his backup singers. Has an affair with Lorrell. Charismatic, sexy, high energy. Rock and R & B tenor. Must move well and have star quality.

C.C. WHITE: Black man, 20s-30s. Effie’s songwriter brother; writes all The Dreams hit songs. Endearing and soft-spoken, he tries to do what’s best but slowly gives up his ideals to Curtis’ controlling vision. High baritone. Must move well.

MICHELE MORRIS: Black woman, 20s. Effie’s replacement in The Dreams. Thin and beautiful, she sings bottom in

the harmonies. Mezzo soprano, big belt. Must move well.

MARTY: Black man, 30s-50s. Street savvy, long-time manager who oversees Jimmy's career and rise to R & B stardom. Represents an earlier age of black entertainment. At odds with Curtis and his ideas and schemes. Later oversees Effie's comeback. Baritone. Should move.

I CAUCASIAN MAN AND 2 CAUCASIAN WOMEN: Strong singers who move well to play Dave and The Sweethearts (Pat Boone singer and his backup girls who sing the all American pop version of "Cadillac Car"). Will play other ensemble roles such as reporters, press agents, etc.

I CAUCASIAN MAN: Strong singer, character actor to play Frank, the press agent and various supporting roles. Must move well.

ENSEMBLE SINGERS/DANCERS: To play various supporting roles: must be strong singers and move very well. All ensemble members should possess unique and vivid personalities and have the ability to play a wide variety of characters. **Wayne and Tiny Joe Dixon will be cast from this ensemble.**

For additional information, please visit the Circle Theatre website. (www.circletheatre.org). For questions, please email lbrown@circletheatre.org.