

CASTING NOTICE

Scranton Shakespeare Festival is back for a star-studded 14th season, and this year, we're rolling out the red carpet for our CELEBRITY theme. From show-stopping musicals to timeless Shakespearean drama and dynamic youth productions, we're casting a constellation of talent to bring our most dazzling season yet to life. Scranton Shakes is seeking actors of all ages, races, backgrounds, orientations, and identities who possess a strong command of heightened text, emotional courage, and range and are dedicated to strengthening their craft whilst providing theatre to a varied audience. Productions include:

SISTER ACT JULIUS CAESAR TIMON OF ATHENS HAIRSPRAY

Rehearsals and performances will take place in Scranton, PA on a 6 week non-equity contract between June 9th and July 28th 2025.

We are seeking to cast a tight repertory company to perform in multiple productions in a rolling rep. There may also be some performers hired for less shows, or who are contracted as inter-disciplined artists with other responsibilities to keep our company numbers at a minimum.

Stipend varies from \$200-\$1600 depending on duties. Included: Round trip transportation to and from NYC or Philadelphia, housing in Scranton with private bedroom, Wi-Fi, gym access, swimming pool access and some group meals provided.

Our auditions are open to everyone. There is no pre-screening process and anyone who submits will be seen and considered by our creative team.

Actors should visit <http://scrantonshakes.com/casting> to begin the process. All candidates will be required to provide an accurate headshot, an up-to-date resume and will be asked to submit a self taped audition. You will have the opportunity to highlight roles of interest to you in your application.

In regards to the breakdowns below, the character descriptions are taken from their respective scripts and should be considered as a starting point, they are not carved in stone. We seek to reflect an accurate representation of the world we live in; we fully intend to cast broadly in regards to race/ethnicity, gender and identity, body type, and ability.

While we appreciate characters may be listed and written in a binary format with he/she pronouns, we invite gender non-conforming, genderqueer, transgender, and non-binary actors to submit for any roles they most identify with.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or to let us know how further we can support your application at casting@scrantonshakes.com.

SISTER ACT

Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Glenn Slater

Book by Cheri Steinkellner & Bill Steinkellner, Additional Book Material by Douglas Carter Beane

Based on the iconic film, this high-energy musical comedy is packed with heavenly harmonies and a soulful story. When lounge singer Deloris Van Cartier trades in her nightclub act for a nun's habit, she turns a struggling choir into a chart-topping sensation through the power of sisterhood and music. Full of praise-worthy laughs and show-stopping numbers, *Sister Act* will have audiences hooked from start to finish!

Deloris Van Cartier

Playing Age: 25-35

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano, Belt (E3–F#5)

Description: A sassy, confident disco diva who dreams of fame and fortune but finds herself hiding in a convent after witnessing a murder. She transforms the convent's choir and discovers sisterhood and purpose. Needs strong comedic timing, excellent vocal ability, and stage presence.

Mother Superior

Playing Age: 50-70

Vocal Type: Alto/Mezzo-Soprano (D3–E5)

Description: The stern but caring head of the convent. Initially resistant to Deloris' influence, she ultimately learns to embrace change. Requires strong acting ability and powerful vocal delivery.

Sister Mary Robert

Playing Age: 16-25

Vocal Type: Soprano, Belt (F#3–A5)

Description: A shy and timid postulant who finds her voice and confidence through Deloris' guidance. Needs a powerful belt and the ability to portray a transformation from meek to bold.

Sister Mary Patrick

Playing Age: 30-50

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano (G3–E5)

Description: A bubbly, enthusiastic nun who embraces Deloris immediately. Full of joy and energy, she provides comic relief. Needs strong comedic timing and a bright vocal tone.

Sister Mary Lazarus

Playing Age: 50-70

Vocal Type: Alto (F3–B4)

Description: The wisecracking, deadpan nun who was previously in charge of the choir. She adapts to Deloris' changes and brings a sarcastic but lovable presence. Needs strong comedic skills and rhythm.

Monsignor O'Hara

Playing Age: 45-65

Vocal Type: Baritone (E3–G4)

Description: A warm and comedic priest who welcomes Deloris and embraces the newfound success of the choir. Needs strong stage presence and comedic ability.

Curtis Jackson

Playing Age: 35-50

Vocal Type: Baritone (A2–Ab4)

Description: A smooth but dangerous gangster and Deloris' ex-boyfriend. He is charming yet ruthless. Needs a strong presence, good comedic timing, and a powerful singing voice.

Eddie Souther ("Sweaty Eddie")

Playing Age: 25-35

Vocal Type: Tenor (Ab2–B4)

Description: A kind-hearted but awkward police officer who has had a crush on Deloris since high school. He helps her stay safe and ultimately gains confidence. Requires strong acting, comedic timing, and a good pop-tenor voice.

TJ

Playing Age: 20-40

Vocal Type: Tenor (Db3–Eb5)

Description: Curtis' nephew and one of his goofy henchmen. A wannabe tough guy who is more comic relief than a real threat. Needs strong comedic chops and solid singing ability.

Joey

Playing Age: 30-50

Vocal Type: Tenor/Baritone (Bb2–Eb5)

Description: Another of Curtis' henchmen, Joey is the smooth-talking ladies' man of the trio. Requires strong comedic timing and vocal ability.

Pablo

Playing Age: 25-40

Vocal Type: Tenor (C4–F5)

Description: The silent but deadly member of Curtis' gang. Speaks mostly in Spanish but has a lot of comedic presence. Needs a strong falsetto for "*Lady in the Long Black Dress*."

Michelle & Tina

Playing Age: 20-35

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano (Ab3–F5)

Description: Deloris' backup singers in her nightclub act. Sassy, stylish, and fun. Must be strong vocalists with good movement ability.

Ensemble

Various roles including nuns, bar patrons, and fantasy dancers. Strong singers and dancers needed.

JULIUS CAESAR

Written by William Shakespeare

Power, loyalty, and betrayal collide in *Julius Caesar*, Shakespeare's gripping political thriller. As Rome teeters on the edge of tyranny, conspirators plot to overthrow a leader they once loved—only to face the devastating consequences of their actions. Featuring powerful roles and intense drama, this timeless classic challenges performers to bring ambition and betrayal to life on stage.

Julius Caesar

Playing Age: 50-65

Description: A powerful Roman general and politician, celebrated for his victories but feared for his growing ambition. His assassination drives the play's central conflict. Requires a commanding stage presence and strong oratory skills.

Brutus

Playing Age: 35-50

Description: A noble Roman and close friend of Caesar who struggles between his loyalty to Rome and his personal affection for Caesar. A tragic hero with deep internal conflict. Needs strong classical acting ability and emotional depth.

Cassius

Playing Age: 35-55

Description: A shrewd and manipulative senator who resents Caesar's power and persuades Brutus to join the conspiracy. Cunning, persuasive, and driven by envy. Needs excellent rhetorical skills and intensity.

Mark Antony

Playing Age: 30-45

Description: A loyal friend of Caesar who masterfully turns the public against the conspirators with his famous funeral speech. Charismatic, intelligent, and politically savvy. Requires strong emotional range and persuasive delivery.

Octavius Caesar

Playing Age: 18-30

Description: Caesar's adopted heir who rises to power following his uncle's death. Initially inexperienced, he grows into a strong and authoritative leader. Needs a strong presence and a sense of youthful determination.

Casca

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: A cynical and sarcastic senator who is the first to stab Caesar. Witty and observant, he provides insight into the political climate of Rome. Needs sharp comedic timing and a strong command of language.

Calpurnia

Playing Age: 35-55

Description: Caesar's devoted wife, haunted by ominous dreams warning of his downfall. Deeply emotional and caring, but powerless to change fate. Requires strong dramatic ability.

Portia

Playing Age: 30-45

Description: Brutus' wife, who is intelligent, strong-willed, and deeply concerned for her husband. She proves her loyalty with an extreme act of self-harm. Needs strong emotional intensity and vulnerability.

Cinna the Conspirator

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: A conspirator against Caesar, tasked with planting forged letters to manipulate Brutus. Needs a sense of secrecy and urgency.

Cinna the Poet

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: A separate character from Cinna the Conspirator, he is mistaken for the traitor and brutally murdered by an angry mob. A small but powerful role symbolizing chaos and the dangers of blind rage.

Trebonius

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: A conspirator who lures Antony away from the Senate so the others can kill Caesar. Unlike the others, he does not stab Caesar. Requires a strong, steady presence.

Metellus Cimber

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: A conspirator who distracts Caesar by pleading for his exiled brother's return, allowing the others to strike. Needs a persuasive and strategic demeanor.

Decius Brutus

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: A conspirator who convinces Caesar to ignore Calpurnia's warnings by reinterpreting her dream. Smooth-talking and manipulative.

Lepidus

Playing Age: 40-60

Description: A member of the Second Triumvirate alongside Antony and Octavius, though he is seen as weak and unremarkable. Requires the ability to play a more submissive character.

Soothsayer

Playing Age: 40-70

Description: A mysterious figure who warns Caesar to "beware the Ides of March." Needs an eerie, prophetic quality.

Lucius

Playing Age: 12-18

Description: Brutus' loyal young servant. Offers moments of tenderness and innocence in contrast to the play's darker themes.

Flavius & Marullus

Playing Age: 30-50

Description: Tribunes who scorn the common people for celebrating Caesar's return. They represent opposition to Caesar's growing power.

Various Senators, Soldiers, Citizens, and Servants

A large ensemble is needed to portray the shifting political landscape of Rome, requiring strong classical acting and movement skills.

TIMON OF ATHENS

Written by William Shakespeare

Directed by Darin F. Earl II

Greed and betrayal take center stage in *Timon of Athens*, one of Shakespeare's most intense and rarely performed tragedies. Timon, a wildly generous millionaire, learns the brutal truth about friendship when his generosity is met with ingratitude, leading him from lavish feasts to bitter exile when his fortune fades. A powerful exploration of wealth, loyalty, and downfall, this play offers performers the chance to dive into Shakespeare's most complex themes.

Timon

Playing Age: 40-60

A wealthy and generous Athenian nobleman who lavishes gifts upon his friends, only to be abandoned when he falls into financial ruin. His descent into bitterness and misanthropy forms the core of the play. Requires strong emotional depth and the ability to shift from warmth to rage.

Apemantus

Playing Age: 40-60

A cynical philosopher who scorns society's greed and hypocrisy. He warns Timon about false friends but is dismissed. Witty, sharp-tongued, and sarcastic. Requires strong comedic timing and commanding delivery.

Flavius

Playing Age: 30-50

Timon's loyal steward, who remains devoted even after his master loses everything. The only truly honest character in Timon's circle. Requires a heartfelt and sincere performance.

Alcibiades

Playing Age: 30-50

A general of Athens who, after being wronged by the city, leads an army against it. Unlike Timon, he seeks justice rather than total destruction. A charismatic and authoritative presence is needed.

Lucullus, Lucius, and Sempronius

Playing Age: 40-60

Wealthy Athenian lords who pretend to be Timon's friends while he is rich but refuse to help him when he needs them. They embody the play's theme of false friendship. Each requires strong character acting and distinct personality traits.

Ventidius

Playing Age: 30-50

A supposed friend of Timon who is bailed out of debt by him but later refuses to return the favor. A smaller but pivotal role showcasing ingratitude.

Poet, Painter, and Jeweller

Playing Age: 30-60

Opportunistic artists and tradesmen who flatter Timon to gain his patronage. Provide moments of satire and dark comedy. Require strong comedic timing.

Phrynia and Timandra

Playing Age: 20-40

Courtesans who keep company with Alcibiades and represent the decadence of Athenian society. Confident, alluring, and manipulative.

Various Senators

Playing Age: 40-70

Politicians who exploit Timon's wealth but later fear Alcibiades' wrath. Represent the corruption of the state.

Bandits

Playing Age: 20-50

Desperate thieves who encounter Timon in the wilderness. Their interaction highlights the breakdown of social order.

Ensemble

Athenian citizens, soldiers, and servants who bring the world of the play to life. Strong movement and ensemble work are required.

HAIRSPRAY

Written by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan

Music by Marc Shaiman and lyrics by Scott Wittman and Marc Shaiman

Energetic, heartfelt, and packed with showstopping tunes, *Hairspray* is the beloved musical comedy that celebrates self-love, inclusion, and the power of change. Set in 1960s Baltimore, the show follows Tracy Turnblad as she dances her way onto *The Corny Collins Show* and fights for integration with the help of her friends and family. Featuring iconic roles, high-energy dance numbers, and a timeless message.

Tracy Turnblad

Playing Age: 16-20

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano, Belt (G3–G5)

Description: A teenager with big dreams and an even bigger heart. She's optimistic, determined, and passionate about dancing and fighting for racial equality. Needs strong comedic timing and excellent movement ability.

Edna Turnblad

Playing Age: 40-50

Vocal Type: Baritone/Tenor (F3–G5, belt)

Description: Tracy's loving but self-conscious mother. Traditionally played by a male in drag, Edna undergoes a transformation from shy laundress to confident businesswoman. Requires strong comedic timing and a warm presence.

Wilbur Turnblad

Playing Age: 40-50

Vocal Type: Baritone (A3–A5)

Description: Tracy's eccentric and supportive father. A joke-loving, big-hearted man who adores Edna and encourages Tracy's dreams. Needs great chemistry with Edna.

Link Larkin

Playing Age: 16-20

Vocal Type: Tenor (G2–A4)

Description: The teen heartthrob and lead dancer of *The Corny Collins Show*. Initially self-absorbed, he learns to stand up for what's right. Charming and smooth, with strong vocals and dance ability.

Penny Pingleton

Playing Age: 16-20

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano, Belt (A3–G5)

Description: Tracy's quirky, awkward best friend who is sheltered by her overbearing mother. She blossoms into a confident young woman through her relationship with Seaweed. Strong comedic timing is essential.

Amber Von Tussle

Playing Age: 16-20

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano, Belt (A3–F5)

Description: The spoiled and snobby resident mean girl of *The Corny Collins Show*. She's fiercely competitive and will do whatever it takes to stay in the spotlight. Needs a strong belt and excellent comedic timing.

Velma Von Tussle

Playing Age: 40-50

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano, Belt (C4–E5)

Description: Amber's manipulative and racist mother, who is the producer of *The Corny Collins Show*. A former beauty queen clinging to her past glory. Needs strong villainous energy and a powerful belt.

Seaweed J. Stubbs

Playing Age: 16-20

Vocal Type: Tenor (F3–D5)

Description: A smooth, confident dancer and singer, Seaweed is the son of Motormouth Maybelle. He introduces Tracy to Black culture and becomes Penny's love interest. Must be a strong dancer with charisma.

Motormouth Maybelle

Playing Age: 40-50

Vocal Type: Alto (F3–E5)

Description: A bold and soulful record shop owner, Seaweed's mother, and a leader in the fight for integration. She delivers the show-stopping anthem "*I Know Where I've Been*." Needs a powerhouse voice with rich, gospel-like quality.

Corny Collins

Playing Age: 25-35

Vocal Type: Tenor (C3–A4)

Description: The charming, charismatic host of *The Corny Collins Show*. He's progressive, fun-loving, and supports racial integration. Needs strong stage presence and great vocals.

Little Inez Stubbs

Playing Age: 12-16

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano (G3–E5)

Description: Seaweed's younger sister, a talented dancer who aspires to be on *The Corny Collins Show*. She's young but fearless in her pursuit of equality.

Prudy Pingleton / Gym Teacher / Matron

Playing Age: 40-50

Vocal Type: Mezzo-Soprano (B3–C5)

Description: Penny's overbearing and ultra-conservative mother, who disapproves of her daughter's choices. Often played by the same actress who doubles as the strict gym teacher and the prison matron.

Male & Female Ensemble

Various roles including Council Members, Dynamites, Mr. Pinky, Mr. Spritzer, and Protesters. Strong singing and dancing ability required.