



What You Need to Know Before You Audition

GENERAL INFORMATION

WELCOME

We are incredibly excited that you are interested in auditioning for our production of RENT! Jonathan Larson's brilliance has changed the lives of so many individuals and we are honored to play a role in bringing this story to life here in Paragould, Arkansas!

SYNOPSIS

Set in New York City's East Village during the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis, RENT follows a group of young artists and friends navigating love, loss, identity, and the pursuit of their dreams while struggling to survive. With an unforgettable rock score and powerful message of building community, this groundbreaking musical celebrates friendship, resilience, and living with no regrets... or life is yours to miss!

CONTENT WARNING

RENT contains mature content such as heavy themes, substance abuse and addiction, sexual situations, and profanity and adult language. Due to the mature content, we are limiting the audition age to 18+. We strongly urge you to do your research on this title before auditioning.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director - Ariel Williamson

Assistant Director - Jay Henon

Music Director - Kyle Jones

Choreographer - Katie Davis

Board Liaison - Jodie Rebstock

AUDITION & CALLBACK INFORMATION

AUDITION DATES & TIMES

Wednesday, June 17, 2026 from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Thursday, June 18, 2026 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

CALLBACK DATE & TIMES

Thursday, June 18, 2026 from 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

AUDITION & CALLBACK LOCATION

The Wessell Building

118 W Emerson St, Paragould, AR 72450

AUDITION LINK

Auditions will be by sign-up link ONLY! Please use the link below to sign up for an audition slot. Please only sign up for ONE audition slot.

<https://signup.com/go/kKzbVcH>

CALLBACKS

Callbacks will only be held if the production team deems it necessary. You only need to attend callbacks if the production team has asked you to do so.

VIDEO AUDITIONS

We will be accepting video auditions! Please prepare the audition songs listed in the "Audition & Callback Material" section for the role(s) you would like to be considered for. If you are also unavailable for callbacks, you may go ahead and include the callback material in your video audition as well. Please complete and include the Audition Form in your email as well. The Audition Form is linked below.

https://www.act2performingarts.org/_files/ugd/c518c6_e654ae148acc44d6bac42fa6f03954b7.pdf

All video submissions must be sent to actiiperformingarts@gmail.com no later than Wednesday, June 17th at 5:00 PM. Any submissions received after this date will not be considered.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Listed at the end of this document are the character descriptions for each of the characters in RENT. Please note that the ensemble in this musical is HEAVILY utilized.

REHEARSAL INFORMATION

REHEARSAL DATES & TIMES

Mondays & Thursdays from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Paragould, Arkansas

CONFLICTS

We kindly ask that you list **ALL** of your conflicts between the dates of June 22nd - August 23rd on your audition form. (*work, vacations, camps, etc.*) Conflicts do not always determine your casting. It is simply so our team can construct the most production rehearsal schedule possible.

A2PA has a three strike policy. Should you have three unexcused absences that are **NOT** listed on your conflict sheet at auditions, your role may be in jeopardy and up for recasting. We do, however, understand that emergencies come up! Emergencies do **NOT** fall under the "unexcused absence" category!

TECH WEEK

Tech week is the week of rehearsals before the weekend of performances. This is when the whole show really starts to come together! We're on the stage working with our set, lights, mics, costumes, and props! Every rehearsal during tech week is 100% mandatory for **ALL** cast & crew members. Tech rehearsals are as follows:

- SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH - Move In Day / Work Day (8:00 - ???)
- MONDAY, AUGUST 17TH - THURSDAY, 20TH (5:30 PM - ???)

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

PERFORMANCE DATES & TIMES

- Friday, August 21st at 7:00 PM (Call Time is 5:30 PM)
- Saturday, August 22nd at 2:00 PM (Call Time is 12:30 PM)
- Saturday, August 22nd at 7:00 PM (Call Time is 5:30 PM)
- Sunday, August 23rd at 2:00 PM (Call Time is 12:30 PM)

LOCATION

The Historic Collins Theatre

120 W Emerson St, Paragould, AR 72450

DISCOUNTED TICKETS

Each cast member in our production of *The Rocky Horror Show* will be granted two (2) discounted tickets to the show. Regular ticket prices are \$15 and the discounted tickets will be \$12 each. We kindly ask that these be spoken for prior to tech week.

FEES & FINANCING

PRODUCTION FEE

A2PA **requires** each cast member to pay a production fee of \$40. This fee will cover any necessary production costs we have during the run of our show (costumes, props, set materials, advertisements, etc.) This fee **MUST** be paid at our first cast meeting on Monday, June 22nd at 6:00 PM. This is your ticket to receive your script!

We also offer a family discount. The \$40 production fee applies to the first family member and \$20 for each extra family member involved in our cast. (This applies to parents and children, spouses, and siblings only.)

If you are unable to pay this production fee or need to set up a payment plan, we just kindly ask that you *communicate this need* with a member of our production staff or the designated board liaison at the first cast meeting so we can provide the resources to help you out!

CAST SPONSORSHIPS

A2PA **requires** each cast member to acquire a cast sponsorship of \$100. This fee should **NOT** come from your own pocket unless you choose to sponsor yourself (*Example: If you are a business owner and want your business to sponsor you, if you want your sponsorship to be in memory of a loved one, etc.*)

Your cast sponsorship does not have to come from one place or person either! It can be broken up into \$5, \$10, \$25, etc. increments! This cast sponsorship fee also assists with covering the costs of costumes, wigs, props, set materials, advertisements, and other necessary production costs.

Anyone who contributes to your cast sponsorship will be listed in our Playbill under the "Teamwork Sponsor" tier if they donate anywhere from \$1 - \$249! All other sponsorship tiers and benefits can be found on our Facebook page and website.

CLOSING INFORMATION

Thank you for taking the time to read our "What You Need To Know Before You Audition" information. We hope you are as excited as we are to spend this season of love together! This is your chance to be part of a production that is unapologetic, bold, and raw. We look forward to seeing what you bring to the lab!

If you have any questions, please feel free to directly reach out to any member of the production team or email us at actiiperformingarts@gmail.com!

Audition & Callback Material

AUDITION & CALLBACK MATERIAL

WHAT TO EXPECT

There will be no reading or dance audition for RENT. You will only be asked to prepare the song listed below that is associated with the character(s) you are auditioning for.

AUDITION SONGS

MARK - *"Halloween"*

ROGER - *"One Song Glory"*

COLLINS - *"I'll Cover You (Reprise)"*

MAUREEN - *"Over the Moon"*

JOANNE - *"Take Me or Leave Me"*

MIMI - *"Out Tonight"*

ANGEL - *"Today 4 U"*

BENJAMIN "BENNY" COFFIN III - *"You'll See"*

ENSEMBLE - *"Seasons of Love"*

CALLBACK SONGS

MARK & ROGER - *"What You Own"*

MAUREEN & JOANNE - *"Take Me or Leave Me"*

COLLINS & ANGEL - *"I'll Cover You"*

ROGER & MIMI - *"Light My Candle"*

Character Descriptions

RENT features many adult themes, including sex, drug use, profanity, and same-sex intimacy. Due to the adult nature of **RENT**, all actors must be over 18 at the time of auditions. **NO** exceptions.

ROLE	DESCRIPTION
Mark	Filmmaker and video artist. Knee deep in his own soul-searching, Mark is the typical young artist. He and Roger are roommates in the loft. A bit of a nerd.
Roger	A struggling musician and former drug addict. He is reminiscent of Kurt Cobain. Roommates with Mark in the loft and battles with being HIV-positive.
Mimi	An HIV-positive stripper with drug addictions. Slender and sickly, she conceals it all at her job in the local strip club. She lives in the same building as the loft.
Maureen	An unpredictably zany performance artist. Maureen oozes sexuality and used to live in the loft. She has recently dumped Mark for Joanne.
Joanne	A public interest lawyer and headstrong lesbian. She is smart and purposeful in all her decisions. Carries on a tumultuous relationship with Maureen.
Collins	A computer genius and liberal professor. He is a nurturer with a smooth and relaxed disposition. Used to be a roommate in the loft and is HIV-positive.
Angel	The eccentric HIV-positive street drummer. A drag queen with an incredible gift of dance and a magnetic personality. He becomes Tom's lover.
Benny	The landlord of Mark and Roger's apartment building. A former roommate in the loft, Benny traded in his personal morals for power and wealth.
Ensemble	Homeless men & women; Junkies; Parents (Mrs. Cohen, Mr. & Mrs. Jefferson, Mrs. Davis, & Mrs. Marquez), Support Group (Steve, Gordon), Alexi Darling, Seasons of Love soloists