

Village Theatre KIDSTAGE

SummerStock 2023

Bright Star School Edition **CASTING NOTICE & CHARACTER BREAKDOWN**

KIDSTAGE Mission

KIDSTAGE is a youth development program focused on building “Skills for Theatre Skills for Life.” Our mission is to provide a program for young people which uses theatre arts to teach creativity and responsibility, to encourage teamwork and personal integrity, and to foster self-esteem and appreciation for live theatre.

KIDSTAGE Inclusion Statement

Village Theatre KIDSTAGE believes that everyone benefits from an inclusive, multi-cultural environment of students, staff, and programming. We welcome people of every ethnicity, race, faith, sexual orientation, gender identity, income, and ability.

Project Needs

We encourage actors of all genders, ethnicities, bodies, abilities, skill levels, etc. to audition and to be considered for any of the roles.

Character Breakdown

CAST SIZE: 18 -20

Alice Murphy – plays both 16-17 and 36-37. Alice at age 36-37 is an editor of a southern literary magazine; intelligent, attractive, professional – but with an air of melancholy. Young Alice at age 16-17 is rebellious, high-spirited, adventurous – looking to break out of small-town life and experience the world. She must be a very strong singer and comfortable in folk and bluegrass styles. Shares an intimacy scene and onstage kiss with Jimmy.

Billy Cane – a young soldier returning home from WWII; an aspiring young writer; fresh, open, optimistic, charming, and a little naive. Shares an intimacy scene and onstage kiss with Lucy.

Daddy Cane – Billy’s father. A widower. Spry, good looking. Kindhearted, if a bit lonely.

Margo Crawford – a small-town bookstore owner; a childhood friend of Billy’s who now harbors romantic feelings towards him; a natural beauty with a keen intellect.

Max – a customer at Margo’s bookstore, at first, he has a crush on Margo, but later becomes Edna’s beau.

Florence – an employee at Margo’s bookstore and a childhood friend of both Billy and Margo. **Edna** – an employee at Margo’s bookstore.

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Daryl Ames – An assistant at a literary magazine. Funny, with a dry and officious sense of humor. Insecure, and perhaps a bit socially awkward, but endearing and innately likeable.

Lucy Grant – A junior editor at a literary magazine. An ambitious, professional young “modern” career woman of the 1940’s. Strong, forthright and provocative with a sharp sense of humor. Shares and Intimacy scene and onstage kiss with Billy.

Mama Murphy – Alice’s mother. A caretaker to her family and her rural community. A warm, loving, sensible woman. Hardworking, with great inner strength and compassion.

Daddy Murphy – Alice’s father; an authoritative and a stern disciplinarian; devoutly religious, hard-working, a poor but proud farmer.

Mayor Josiah Dobbs – the Mayor of Zebulon; a political and financial powerbroker – distinguished, an imposing and controlling presence; has a genuine interest in protecting his son’s future and his family name, but in doing so, is ultimately pushed to a point of extreme and irrevocable cruelty.

Jimmy Ray Dobbs – plays both age 18-20 and 38-40. Jimmy Ray in his early 20s in flashbacks is Mayor Dobbs’ son and young Alice’s beau; handsome, boyishly charming, well-built and intelligent; from a family of wealth and power and is being groomed by his father for a similar future in the family business; an independent thinker who is not afraid to stand up to his father for what he believes in; he has a sense of personal responsibility and morality as well as a deep reserve of passion and emotion. The same actor will also play an adult Jimmy Ray at age 38-40. Shares an intimacy scene and onstage kiss with Alice.

Stanford – Loyal assistant to Mayor Josiah Dobbs

Dr. Norquist – The local family doctor in Zebulon

Government Clerk – A clerk at the Office of Records in Raleigh

Well-Dressed Woman – A woman (38-40) living in Raleigh.