

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

THE CAT IN THE HAT is the essence of mischief, fun, and imagination. The Cat stirs things up, causes trouble, but always sets things right again, helping JoJo to discover the power of his own imagination as they create the story for the show together. Our perfect Cat will move well on stage, be comfortable with physical comedy and improvising with the audience. Loose-limbed, fluid mover with some vaudeville skills, comedic, and athletic attributes a plus. Our Cat could be a male or female aged late teen through adult.

JOJO is a “Thinker,” a smart child with a wild imagination. He can be played as being a little bit awkward, a little bit of a loner, or simply a rambunctious kid whose Thinks get him into constant trouble. By the end of the show, he learns what it means to be a responsible member of his world, using the power and possibilities of his own Thinks. Our JoJo will be a strong singer and a fearless actor. JoJo could be a boy, or a girl aged 8-14.

HORTON THE ELEPHANT is a gentle giant. Think of him as a big-hearted blue-collar guy who is steadfast and responsible and always tries to do the right thing for his friends. He is imaginative and receptive to the world around him. He is very un-self-conscious. Gentleness, courage, and warmth are important qualities the actor needs to convey. Horton’s view of the world never changes - he believes in its goodness. The Horton for our show will be a male aged late teen through adult. He will move well on stage, and be an honest, and vulnerable actor.

GERTRUDE MCFUZZ is very self-conscious and aware that her one-feather tail isn’t perfect. Gertrude changes during the show from a neurotic, nervous and shy bird into one with the power to protect and care for a baby elephant bird and commit herself to Horton. Gertrude is a kooky character, and not your everyday leading lady. Socially and physically awkward, she is a little offbeat, but delightfully so. Our ideal Gertrude will have a good high belt, move well on stage, and be a fearless actor. Gertrude will be a female aged late teen through adult.

MAYZIE LA BIRD is self-centered, selfish, and vain, Mayzie will never admit to her own flaws. She manipulates anyone she can (especially Horton) into doing what she wants. She has real star power and enjoys nothing more than being in the spotlight. But Mayzie isn’t all bad. In giving up her egg to Horton once and for all, she has a moment of generosity — she realizes she isn’t the kind of person who’d be a good parent, and she does the best thing she can for the egg. Our Mayzie will be a great mover, and a sassy actress with a great high belt. Female aged late teen through adult.

BIRD GIRLS are sassy, cliquey, and super fancy. Our Bird Girls will have attitude galore, be good movers, and able to harmonize well. The Bird Girls must be able to sing three-part harmony and dance. The Bird Girls are a flamboyant “girl group.” They serve as back-up performers. Script calls for three but we anticipate casting six. Females aged late teen through adult.

THE SOUR KANGAROO is loud, brassy, and a lot of fun. Initially judgmental, she creates a lot of trouble for Horton and The Whos, but she realizes the error of her ways and becomes a supportive friend. Our Sour Kangaroo will be a great over-the-top actor, who can belt her face off. She expresses herself through her fierce, soulful vocalizing and her passionate, deliberate movements. Adult female

ROO is a baby Sour Kangaroo. Determinedly imitating her mother, Roo has guts and gumption and a similar defiant attitude. Roo is raised to be tough and fierce. Female aged 6-12

MR. MAYOR and MRS. MAYOR will be a great comedic acting team. They should be cute/whimsical, over the top, but parental. They should be able to affect some kind of character voice, but it shouldn’t be so weird that their sad duet falls flat. His straight and proper carriage is interspersed with whimsical, off-center, and quirky movement. She is peculiar, fun, and concerned about appearances. Adult male & female.

WHOS CITIZENS are a lot like you and me, just smaller. We are looking for people of all shapes, ages, sizes, genders, and ethnicities to bring these tiny characters to life! The more diverse our group, the better! Our Whos don’t have to be perfect dancers or singers, just courageous and passionate people who are excited to help us tell this great story!

GENERAL GENGHIS KHAN SCHMITZ is bursting with pride at the military academy he runs, and the cadets he turns out. He is not sadistic, mean, or abusive. He is proud, and thinks he is doing the right thing for his cadets. In his mind, he is making the world a better place. He's a comic character (not a villain or bully), because it's clear he's so misguided. Typically, an adult male but we are open to a younger/smaller person filling the role (ala Napoleon Bonaparte). Doesn't have to be the strongest singer but does have to have a commanding presence.

WICKERSHAMS are fun-loving, mischievous, and love to tease and play pranks. Our Wickershams will be great movers! No traditional dance skills are required, but we are looking for actors who are willing to take risks and get a little crazy "monkeying around." Gymnastic skills would be a HUGE plus but are not a deal breaker. Our Wickershams could be teen to adult, male or female (might even include a precocious child if they had skills). We don't need perfect singers for this - just enthusiastic loud ones! There are three Wickershams in the script, but we would love to cast more.

THE GRINCH is a green beastie who lives in Whoville. He is a happy member of the Who community, but this wasn't always the case. He once lived angrily apart and wished to disrupt the pleasantries of the Whos. His story and change of heart are all part of Who culture now, and happily retold every Christmas. He's green and hairy, a fun mover with a distinctive physique. Can be a male or female late teen to adult. Perfect role for someone who is willing to be just this one part.

JUNGLE CREATURES/ADDITIONAL ENSEMBLE - Like our Whos, we need a diverse troupe of enthusiastic performers. Each of our jungle creatures/ensemble members are humans at heart and will need to have distinct personas. They do not have to be perfect dancers or singers, but they must be creative and courageous in their storytelling. We are looking for people of all shapes, ages, sizes, genders, and ethnicities to bring these characters to life! **ENSEMBLE INCLUDES:** Yertle the Turtle, Vlad Vladikoff, Cadets, Things 1 and 2 (or more), Cindy Lou Who, The Hunches, Circus performers, Hunters.