

PICAYUNE THEATRE CO.

presents



LITTLE WOMEN

The Broadway Musical

Book by
ALLAN KNEE

Music by
JASON HOWLAND

Lyrics by
MINDI DICKSTEIN

Based on the novel by
Louisa May Alcott

PERFORMANCES - MARCH 2024

Thursday 7th - 7pm

Friday 8th - 7pm

Saturday 9th - 1pm & 7pm

Sunday 10th - 1pm

HANCOCK PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: Nathan Sandercock

Musical Director: Tyler Palavacini

Assistant Director: TBC

Choreographer: Jade Eastridge

AUDITIONS

Saturday 9th December

at Picayune Music

Call Backs Tuesday 12th December

Little Women

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com



MEMBERSHIP

Membership is a condition of performing for Picayune Theatre Company and is inclusive of insurance protection in the event of an injury sustained at rehearsal or during performance, there must be paid within 3 weeks of starting rehearsal.

If you are not a financial member after this date your activity at rehearsal will be restricted and if you are not financial after one month you will be replaced.

(Please speak to Laney before we get to this stage)

MEMBERSHIP

Membership has an annual fee of **\$50**



SHOW FEE

In addition to membership all cast members are required to pay a show fee of **\$100**



PAYMENTS can be made in cash, check or card or online (scan qr code). These payments are due by the 3rd rehearsal.

About Little Women

Based on Louisa May Alcott's 1868–69 semi-autobiographical two-volume novel, it focuses on the four March sisters— traditional Meg, wild, aspiring writer Jo, timid Beth and romantic Amy, — and their beloved Marmee, at home in Concord, Massachusetts, while their father is away serving as a Union Army chaplain during the Civil War. Intercut with the vignettes in which their lives unfold are several recreations of the melodramatic short stories Jo writes in her attic studio.

KEY DATES

Rehearsal for Little Women will begin on **January 2nd** at **6:30pm**. Rehearsals will be at *Life Church (across from Picayune Donuts)*.

They will take place every **Tuesday** and **Sunday** evening. As we get closer we will be added additional hours on a Sunday. A rehearsal schedule will be provided at the first rehearsal, however, please look at the rehearsal dates below!

WEEK	TUESDAY 6:30pm - 9pm	SUNDAY 4pm - 7pm	ADDITIONAL SUNDAY 2pm - 7pm
WEEK ONE	Jan 2nd	Jan 7th	
WEEK TWO	Jan 9th	Jan 14th	
WEEK THREE	Jan 16th	Jan 21st	
WEEK FOUR	Jan 23rd	Jan 28th	
WEEK FIVE	Jan 30th	Feb 4th	Feb 4th
WEEK SIX	Feb 6th	Feb 11th	Feb 11th
WEEK SEVEN	Feb 13th	Feb 18th	Feb 18th
WEEK EIGHT	Feb 20th	Feb 25th	Feb 25th
WEEK NINE	Feb 27th		

BUMP IN

Saturday, March 2nd *

BUMP OUT

Sunday, March 10th*

TECH/DRESS REHEARSALS

Sunday, March 3rd @ 2:00pm - 6:00pm (TBC)

Monday, March 4th @ 6:00pm - 9:30pm

Tuesday, March 5th @ 6:00pm - 9:30pm

*cast are expected to help at both bump in and bump out

PERFORMANCE DATES

Thursday, March 7th @ 7pm

Friday, March 8th @ 7pm

Saturday March 9th @ 1pm

Saturday March 9th @ 7pm

Sunday March 10th @ 1pm

Character Breakdown

THE SISTERS

There are a few important things to note in casting our March Sisters.

1. The role of Jo is incredibly demanding and needs to be played by a female performer who has experience, vocally mature. With this in mind, we are looking for someone to play Jo in her twenties.
2. The casting of Jo will affect the casting of the other girls. We need the girls to look older & younger than each other, while also appearing similar ages.
3. Amy is the youngest, many say the age of 13yrs. We will not be casting younger than 16years of age. Whilst Amy is 13 in the beginning she marries and Laurie in Act 2 and it will not be great for our modern audience to see a 13yr old to marry and 18yr old.

JO MARCH

Soprano E3 - A5 - (belting)

18-26yrs FEMALE

Our story's protagonist. A Passionate and determined young author struggling to find her place in the world. She is her own person and resolved to not submit to the expectations of society. Described in the novel as quick tempered, Jo does have bursts of almost irrational anger, however, this is trait forgiven because of her vivaciousness and zeal. While Jo comes across as stoic and defiant, she is also very vulnerable and fearful of change. The actress playing Jo will need to deliver a nuanced performance that confidently and naturally portrays Jo's energy and zest for life, while also subtly conveying her inner fears, doubts and grief.

MEG MARCH

Soprano A#3 - F#5 - (operatic tone)

20-28yrs FEMALE

The world-weary, yet hopeful, oldest sister who yearns for a great life. She marries John and has twins with him. Doubles as Clarissa in the operatic tragedy. She longs to be part of 'Society' and struggles with the fact that she will not get the "pretty things" that other girls have. Despite this longing, it is important to recognize that Meg is not vain, nor is she selfish. She is incredibly supportive of her family. The actress playing Meg needs to bring a grace and charm to the role. She has the air of class and society without having the snobbery.

BETH MARCH**Soprano - A3 - G5****17-25yrs FEMALE**

The second youngest of the sisters. Timid and musical, Beth encourages and helps her sisters selflessly. Forms an unlikely friendship with the crotchety Mr Laurence. Doubles as Rodrigo II in the operatic tragedy. She lives for her family, music and dolls. While she seems quite weak and innocent, she is wise (possibly beyond her years). Beth is an incredibly difficult role to play well. The actress performing Beth needs to make the audience fall in love with her without saying a word. Like Jo, the audience needs to want to protect her forever.

AMY MARCH**Soprano C4 - F#5****16-24yrs FEMALE**

The youngest, most energetic sister with a rather pompous air about her. She later marries Laurie. Doubles as the troll in the operatic tragedy. she does not understand why Jo does not want to act like a lady and be part of society, and this is a regular source of tension for the two sisters. Unlike Meg, Amy is yet to learn grace and elegance. Her skills in empathy are not fully developed, and like most 13 year olds (her age at the beginning of the story), she is quite involved in her own problems and vexations.

MARMEE MARCH**Mezzo - Soprano D#3 - D#5****35-55yrs FEMALE**

The March girls' mother. She is the strong backbone of the family, who is courageous in spite of the difficult odds she faces. Doubles as the hag in the operatic tragedy. Like many mothers, Marmee puts on a brave face for her girls, however, the audience is allowed glimpses of her own vulnerability, pain and grief during the show. The actress playing Marmee needs to portray her as strong, but full of love; she must have a warm fortitude and never appear cold.

LAURIE LAURENCE**Tenor A#2 - B4****19-27yrs MALE**

Lonely and charming boy next door who becomes firm friends with the March family. Proposes to Jo but eventually falls in love with and marries Amy. Doubles as Rodrigo in the operatic tragedy. The actor playing Laurie must be able to capture Laurie's shy and resistant tendencies with his inner energy and love of life and adventure.

AUNT MARCH**Soprano E3 - F5****50-65yrs FEMALE**

A formidable, over-bearing matron and great-aunt to the March sisters. The wealthy socialite in town. matron, Aunt March wishes for the March girls to maintain their status in society and is determined to ensure that they have the right manners and etiquette. Aunt March provides audiences with a clear juxtaposition to Jo who hates society and the idea of marriage. Having said this, Aunt March should not be presented as a malicious figure.

The actress playing Aunt March will also play Mrs Kirk. Mrs Kirk is soft, kind and enthusiastic about Jo's writing.

PROFESSOR BHAER**Baritone G2 - F#4****30-40yrs MALE**

A sensible German professor boarding with Mrs Kirk. Persuades Jo that she is better than the "blood and guts stuff" she writes. Falls in love with, and eventually becomes engaged to Jo. Bhaer is the opposite of Jo. He is reserved, a thinker and slow to form his opinions. Importantly, he is a strong supporter of Jo; he loves and accepts her for who she is.

MR JOHN BROOKE**Tenor C#3 - F#4****26-34yrs MALE**

Laurie's tutor. A reserved and hard-working young man who only shows his tender side when he falls in love with Meg. Doubles as Braxton Prendergast in the operatic tragedy. The only time he loses his words, is when he is dumbstruck by Meg. The audience must immediately warm to him.

MR LAURENCE**Baritone D3 - E4****55-70yrs MALE**

Perceived originally to be an old and bitter man, Mr Laurence proves himself as a kind and compassionate gentleman. Mr Laurence bonds particularly with Beth. The actor playing Mr Laurence needs to portray Mr Laurence as stern at the outset and then show his softer side without seeming naff.

All characters except Ms Kirk, Professor Bhaer and Jo will double as characters in Jo's, "An Operatic Tragedy". You will be required to perform in a melodramatic style for this production.

AUDITIONS

Auditions are by appointment only and will be held at **Picayune Music - 112 E Canal Street** on **Saturday December 9th**.

To book an audition please head to our website to book online.

Every individual auditioning for the show will be required to complete a singing and acting audition. Auditions are closed and will be approximately 10 minutes in length.

Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your allocated time. You will be required to submit a completed application form which outlines your theatrical experiences and any relevant training.

The Panel will be: Nathan Sandercock (**Director**), Tyler Palavacini (**Musical Director**), Jade Eastridge (**Choreographer**) and 1 or 2 representative of the Picayune Theatre Company.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

SINGING

All Auditionee's must prepare the pieces associated with the character they wish to audition for.

PLEASE NOTE: persons auditioning for a role that has more than ONE piece listed may be required to perform both songs. The casting panel will advise which music piece to perform at the time of your audition.

Auditionee's may also be required to perform a voice range check. This will be confirmed after your music audition piece(s).

If you are requested for a callback, you may be required to prepare an additional song. This will be provided to you at the time of notification and will be briefly workshopped prior to your performance.

READING

Everyone auditioning for Little Women will be required to perform a scene from the show. These will be available in digital form and will be given to all auditionees when their booking is made. While performers are not required to memorize the script, it is expected that performers have prepared the piece and carefully considered/developed the character they are auditioning for.

All auditionees should be prepared to receive some direction during their audition. This may mean that some readings will be cut short. Please also be prepared to perform one line of dialogue in the style of Melodrama.

CHARACTER	SINGING AUDITION	READING AUDITION
Jo March	- Astonishing (Whole song) - The Fire Within Me (Bar 1 -34) - Better (Whole song)	- Jo Reading pg 2-3 - Jo and Laurie Reading pg 34 - Jo and Marmee pg 100-101 - Jo & Aunt March pg 106-107 - Jo & Professor pg 107 Be prepared to perform at least 2 of these.
Meg March	- More Than I Am (Bar 28 - End)	- Meg and Brooke pg 58-59
Beth March	- Somethings Are Meant To Be	- Beth Reading pg 88-89 - Beth and Mr Laurence Reading pg 45-46
Amy March	The Most Amazing Thing (Bar 1-40 both lines)	- Amy Reading pg 40-42
Marmee March	- Here Alone (Whole song) - Days of Plenty (Whole song)	- Marmee Reading pg 40 - 42 - Marmee and Jo Reading pg 100-101
Laurie	- Five Forever (Bar 49 - 55) - Take a Chance on Me (all)	- Laurie Reading pg 34 & 95-96
Aunt March	- Could You (Bar 23-75, 97 - 102, 142 - 152)	- Aunt March Reading pg 56-57 - Mrs Kirk Reading pg 68-69
Professor Bhaer	- How I Am	- Professor Baer pg 107-110
John Brooke	- More than I Am (All)	Mr Brooke Reading pg 58-59 pg 32-33
Mr Laurence	Off to Massachusetts (Bar 25-45)	Beth and Mr Laurence Reading pg 45-46

CAST MEMBER COMMITMENT

All cast member **MUST** be or become a member of Picayune Theatre Company and remain financial until the completion of the season.

Cast will be provided with a rehearsal schedule at the first week of rehearsals.

This schedule will be subject to change and cast are expected to notify the Production Team of their unavailabilities with ample notice. With 9 weeks of rehearsal, it's imperative that all auditionees indicate which rehearsals they will be unable to attend at the time of the auditions.

All Cast are expected to participate in set building, publicity, fundraising, bump in and bump out.



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Personal Information

Name:

Address:

Date of Birth:

Email:

Cell Number:

Casting Information

Role/s

Will you accept another role
if offered?

Yes /No

Are you committed to any other productions?

Do you have any known unavailability?



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Please list any relevant training/experience (or attach resume)

DRAFT - TO BE COMPLETED
AT AUDITION