

AUDITION NOTICE: Violet

May 1st, 2022

VIOLET

music by Jeanine Tesori, lyrics and book by Brian Crawley
based on *The Ugliest Pilgrim* by Doris Betts

AUDITION DATE: Sat & Sun, May 14 & 15 | 1pm-4pm
(these auditions will be IN-person)

Sign-up online here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a48afaf2daaf58-violet>

PRODUCTION INFO

directed by PAUL MOW

musical direction by JOSHUA GOINES

performance dates: AUGUST 18 19 20 21 / 24 (run out) / 25 26 27 28

ABOUT THE MUSICAL

Winner of the Drama Critics' Circle Award and Lucille Lortel Award for Best Musical when it premiered Off-Broadway in 1997, and then on to a Tony-nominated Broadway debut in 2014 with a revised version, *Violet* is a moving musical featuring show-stopping anthems, ranging from American-roots to folk to gospel. With a score from Tony-winning composer Jeanine Tesori (*Caroline, or Change*; *Thoroughly Modern Millie*; *Shrek*; *Fun Home*) and book and lyrics by the acclaimed Brian Crawley (*A Little Princess*), *Violet* is inspired by the short story, *The Ugliest Pilgrim* by Doris Betts, astounding critics and audiences alike in two separate decades.

As a girl, Violet was struck by a wayward axe blade when her father was chopping wood, leaving her with a visible scar across her face. With enough money finally saved, she's traveling across the Deep South in Civil Rights era 1964 towards a

miracle – the healing touch of a TV evangelist who will make her beautiful. Although she may not succeed in having the scar on her face healed, Violet is able to repair those scars that are lying deeper than her skin. On the way, she meets a young African-American soldier whose love for her reaches far past her physical “imperfections.”

PREPARATION

- Prepare 16-32 bars of a musical theatre, gospel, or country song. (Bring sheet music - An accompanist will be provided)
- You may also be asked to read sides from the script
- Bring a headshot and resume, if available
- Bring ALL known conflicts between July 5th and August 28th

AVAILABLE ROLES

The following roles are open and all ethnicities are encouraged to audition. Cast of 11 needed: 6 men, 4 women, 1 girl. Ages are approximate.

FLICK | M | 20-30 | African-American | Baritone with strong musical theatre belt | A soldier; a dreamer and go-getter. He doesn't enjoy the army, but enjoys the respect it garners him. There is something gentle and good about him, not to be interpreted or confused with weakness or lack of authority.

MONTY | M | 20-30 | Caucasian | Tenor | A paratrooper and Flick's friend from basic training. Rough around the edges. Self-consumed, but not necessarily purposefully so. Fighting his own demons.

YOUNG VIOLET | F | 10-13 | Caucasian | Mezzo | Not quite as guarded or prickly as her older self, but still tough and stubborn. She has a keen curiosity and the rough edges of being brought up solely by her father.

FATHER | M | 35-45 | Caucasian | Baritone | A simple, widowed man who lovingly raises his daughter alone doing the best he can with little knowledge or resources.

Stern but friendly, smart but uneducated. Accidentally scars Violet's face while he is chopping wood.

OLD LADY | F | 45-65 | Any Ethnicity | Alto | A former beauty in her heyday. Staunch, tired and frustrated with life. Must be able to play both sweet and "down and dirty." Actor doubles as Hotel Hooker.

PREACHER | M | 35-50 | Any Ethnicity | Tenor | An impassioned, theatrical man who preaches with all the bravado he can muster. Once had a true healing touch but has lost it in his quest to become a showman. Dismissive and egotistical. Actor doubles as Radio Singer, Bus Driver, and Bus Passenger.

VIRGIL | M | 20-35 | Caucasian | Tenor | The Preacher's assistant. Knows the smoke and mirrors of the Preacher's show and must begrudgingly deal with anyone who might derail it. Actor doubles as Billy Dean, Bus Driver, Radio Singer, and Bus Passenger.

MUSIC HALL SINGER | F | 35-45 | Any Ethnicity | Alto/Mezzo with strong blues belt | The solo performer at a dance hall in Memphis. Actor doubles as Bus Passenger.

LULU BUFFINGTON | F | 40-70 | African-American | Alto with strong gospel belt | A soloist in the volunteer choir that sings for the Preacher's telecast. Sings for God with passion and power. Actor doubles as Almeta (Landlady) and Bus Passenger.

LEROY EVANS | M | 45-70 | Caucasian | Baritone | A citizen of Spruce Pine with a dog named Roscoe. Not very bright. Actor doubles as Radio Soloist, Bus Driver, and Bus Passenger.