

***BIG The Musical***  
***ACT1 Theater 2019***  
Directed by:Jonathan Goff

***First-Round Auditions: Monday June 24th OR Tuesday June 25th 7-10PM***

***Callbacks Thursday June 27th 6 -10 PM***

To sign up for an Audition Date/Time, use this URL <https://forms.gle/uDb3GqF9TfVRKPUC6>.  
Other forms available on the website.

**What is ACT1 Theater?**

ACT1 is an all-volunteer, non-Equity, no-fee community theater with a focus on quality entertainment. Now in our 24<sup>th</sup> year, we're proud to bring you musical and non-musical theatrical productions; you'll find us in performance in several major productions each year. Among our many full-length shows have been *Fiddler on the Roof*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Boys Next Door*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat*, *Guys and Dolls*, and many others. In 2018, ACT1 Theater formed a Partnership with the City of Alpharetta, and performed two shows of scenes, sonnets and soliloquies from the Bard; this year will feature ACT1's first full-length Shakespeare production at Wills Park. ACT1 is the proud recipient of several Metropolitan Atlanta Theater awards, and many nominations. We are a community outreach of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church, and provide entertainment to the community without religious bias.

In addition to using many experienced theater folks, one of the objectives of our work is to provide a venue for those who have never been involved with theater before. We enjoy seeing new folks discover a love of theater – whether that's performing on the stage; building sets; making costumes; or working as a stagehand, lighting technician or sound technician. We also welcome the contributions of those who keep our day-to-day operations going, like marketing or admin support. As new cast and crew members "learn the ropes" and become seasoned pros, they may decide to try their hand at stage managing or directing. All of our cast, crew, and management are volunteers. No matter what role you choose, this will be the most fun that you have had in a long time! The actors, staff and crew always form bonds that make this more than a hobby – it's family.

**Can I Review the Script in Advance?**

Scripts are not yet available; however, there are many videos of stage and TV versions available on YouTube.

**What will auditions be like?**

Upon your arrival we'll have you sign in, get an audition number, and fill out forms if not filled out previously. You can save time by downloading the forms on our website and bringing them in completed. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your appointment time if you need to fill out forms. Don't worry if you've never auditioned before – experience is not required. If you have a headshot, bring it along. If not, we'll take a picture during your sign in. Please note that there are required volunteer hours to assist with areas supporting this production or ACT1 operations. If you are under 18 years old, a parent must read and sign forms as well.

Once you have your forms completed, you will let the host or hostess know you are ready. You will be brought in for a musical audition. Please prepare a 60-second selection within your vocal range. You must provide an instrumental track on your phone/tablet. An accompanist will not be provided. You will be evaluated on your physical interpretation of the song as well as vocal quality.

You may or may not also do a cold reading from the script. It's known as "cold reading", because you're not expected to memorize anything in advance. The material you need will be given to you. You may be asked to perform more than one character.

**Among the things we'll be looking for are:**

- Voice quality – Can you project, so that you'll be heard from the back of the auditorium?
- Energy – can we hear the interest and excitement in your voice?
- Facial Expression – Does it match the words you're reading?
- Character – Can you "be" the person you're reading?
- Willingness – Can you follow instructions and give it your best shot?

After the first-round auditions, an email will be sent to you by the morning of June 26th. If you don't hear from us, that doesn't necessarily mean you were not cast. It only means that we've seen what we need to see from you. Callbacks will be held on Thursday, June 27th from 6 – 10 PM. Everyone who has been called back should plan to be there for the entire session, though the entire time may not be needed. You may be asked to read lines from various characters with other actors so we get a feel for your acting range and ability to play off of other actors. You may also be taught a song or two from the show. The callback material will be emailed to everyone who is called back for the second audition. Auditioners will also be taught a 16-count piece of choreography, so you may want to bring character or comfortable shoes. If you own tap shoes, bring those as well.

**How will you pick the cast?**

Many things go into putting a cast together. Of course, your performance at the audition is important, but so are other things that are not in your control. The script dictates, to a large extent, who will be cast. As an example, characters playing members of a family should look like they could be family. So casting is a process of finding good actors of an appropriate age who fit in combination with the other actors. No parts are precast, and everyone who gets a part will have auditioned at one of the two initially scheduled times, unless special arrangements are made in advance.

**When will I know if I'm cast?**

If we are able to cast you, we will call you no later than Friday, June 28th. If you don't hear from us, we were not able to place you in this particular production. The number of people who audition prevents us from calling everyone. But remember, that doesn't mean you did a poor job, and please – come back to audition for another show! If you are cast, the first read-thru will be at 2 PM on Sunday, July 14th.

**What am I committing to?**

By coming to auditions you're not committing to anything. Come try us out and see what you think. However, you will be asked to list any conflicts between your personal calendar and the rehearsal and performance schedule; a large number of conflicts may affect your chances of being cast. If we offer you a part, and you accept, then you are making a commitment to attend every rehearsal possible. That means you can't miss a rehearsal unless it's absolutely necessary and you've discussed your situation with the Stage Manager in advance. **No absences are allowed during the last two weeks of rehearsals or any performance.** Even if you have your part perfected and don't feel you need to be there, remember that your fellow actors are dependent on you being where you're supposed to be. If someone has a line to deliver to you and you're not there, it makes it very difficult to stay in character and keep the scene running smoothly. A major factor in a production not getting to a polished, professional level is a cast that is erratic in attendance. OK, enough preaching – just want you to understand the importance of being at rehearsals.

**Tell me about this play!**

Josh Baskin is sick of being an awkward kid. At a carnival, he makes a wish to the Zoltar machine to become "big." To his shock, his wish is granted. In the end, he discovers that there's much more to being an adult than he bargained for and learns that we must all grow up at our own pace, in our own time.

## **What are the roles available?**

### **CAST OF CHARACTERS (7 Roles + Ensemble)**

#### **JOSH BASKIN (M 25-35)**

The story's protagonist. He has the mind, spirit, and innocence of a 13 year-old trapped in the body of a 30 year-old.

Vocal range: B4 - Bb2

#### **SUSAN LAWRENCE (F 30-40)**

The attractive, business-oriented Vice President of Marketing at MacMillan Toy Company. Possesses a secret giddy, school-girl innocence about her. She eventually falls for Josh.

Vocal range: F5 - G3

#### **MRS. BASKIN (F 35-45)**

Josh's frustrated, protective, and loving mother who is struggling with parenting a pre-teen.

Vocal range: F#5 - G3

#### **BILLY KOPECKI (M 11-13)**

Josh's best and most supportive friend. He is optimistic, inventive, and encouraging.

Vocal range: F5 - F#3

#### **YOUNG JOSH BASKIN (M 11-13)**

Obscure, seventh grade pre-teen who is frustrated by his parents and his age.

Vocal range: G5 - F3

#### **GEORGE MCMILLAN (M 60-70)**

The owner of the MacMillan Toy Company who is fighting to save his company. Distinguished, playful, and a bit spry.

Vocal range: G4 - C3

#### **PAUL SEYMOUR (M 30-40)**

The Vice President for Product Development at MacMillan Toy Company vying for Susan's affection. Handsome, aggressive, self-absorbed.

Vocal range: Eb4 - Ab3

### **Adult Ensemble Roles**

### **Teenager Ensemble Roles**

## **What about rehearsals?**

Our schedule calls for 3 rehearsals a week, for 11 weeks, followed by 3 weekends of performances. Our first rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, July 14th. Rehearsals are normally on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:00pm and Sundays at 2:00 PM. (A couple of rehearsals will be held Saturday to avoid conflict with holidays). We take very seriously your commitment and your time. The schedule will be laid out in advance, and only rarely deviated from. The very first rehearsal will be a "read-through" and will include the entire cast. It's just what it sounds like – we'll all sit around and read the script. It's the time to meet your fellow actors, learn about policies and procedures, hear the Director's vision for the show, get measured by the costume department, begin to assimilate your character, work on any tricky pronunciation, etc. We'll give you your copy of the script, the schedule, and any other material you'll need.

After that, the next set of rehearsals will be broken down, scene by scene, and we'll do the "blocking". Blocking is the term used for any stage movement – crossing from one side to the other, sitting down, standing up – all the stuff that supports your lines. It is a MUST to bring a pencil and make notes in your script as you work. Once we're through these "working" rehearsals, we're now about 4 weeks in, and it's time to combine them, and run the full act, and later the full show, fine-tuning as we go. There may be additional or extended rehearsals the week before opening, also known as "Tech Week," if the show needs intensive work prior to opening; please leave your schedule flexible this week.

### **When are Performances?**

Currently, there are plans for 9 performances of this show September 13th-29th. Here's the performance schedule:

- September 12th – 8pm (industry night)
- September 13th - 8pm
- September 14th - 8pm
- September 15th - 2pm
- September 20th - 8pm
- September 21st - 8pm
- September 22nd - 2pm
- September 27th - 8pm
- September 28th - 8pm
- September 29th - 2pm
- September 29th post-production – Set Strike & Cast Party

Tickets prices haven't been announced, but you can have all your fans book tickets at [www.act1theater.com](http://www.act1theater.com) or call the box office at 770-663-8989 to make their reservations. Each cast member will get two tickets free for opening weekend. In addition, cast members may buy more tickets at a discount, for family and friends.

### **Who Will Be Working on This Show?**

#### ***BIG The Musical Production Team***

Director: Jonathan Goff

Stage Manager: Joshua Robinson

Music Director: Kelly Lane

Choreographer: Pamela Smith

### **What about....?**

For any other questions, please email Artistic Director, Marshall Lee Smith Junior, at [ACT1Artistic@Gmail.com](mailto:ACT1Artistic@Gmail.com)