

Steel Magnolias Auditions

South Jackson Performing Arts Center
Tullahoma, TN

*Seeking Skilled Performers to Bring this Timeless
Story that Offers a Glimpse into the Lives of Six Women who are Strong,
Beautiful, and Powerful Together to the Main Stage at
South Jackson Performing Arts Center!*

Steel Magnolias is set in the 80s and was conceived as a brother's testament about the life of his late sister. The story is set in Truvy's Salon (1986-1988) in Chinquapin, Louisiana. Here, the audience shares in the two-year journey of six women who are each strong and beautiful in their own right. Through their bond of sisterhood, the women share in the laughter and tears experienced as they face the blessings and trials of life and love in many forms, together.

Audition Materials

Please print and complete the audition form and bring your theater resume to auditions.

For auditions, please come prepared with a full memorized monologue that is no more than 3 minutes and 1 (or 2 from different characters if you are going for multiple roles) of the monologues from the character materials provided. Focus should be on characterization and ability to emote. While this is an iconic work and we will strive for some moments of nostalgia, the director is not looking for carbon copies of any previous version including the film.

Those auditioning may be asked to read through scenes with others during any phase of the auditioning process.

Audition Dates

Auditions will be held at South Jackson Performing Arts Center
in the Annex.

*Note: Video auditions will be considered on a case by case basis. To request a virtual audition, please email robwanamaker@myyahoo.com
(Approved video auditions must be received by October 17, 2024.)*

Sunday - October 13th (Time slots starting at 2:30 pm)
Wednesday - October 16th (Time slots starting at 6:30 pm)

Callback Date (as needed):

Saturday - October 19 @ 10:00 am

Window for Performance Dates

January 31 - February 9, 2025
(Fridays & Saturdays at 7:00 pm & Sundays at 2:30 pm)

Transparency Notices:

- Any member of the current production team (with exception of the Director, Assistant Director, and Casting Consultant) will not be part of the team reviewing auditions. Any member, who is otherwise qualified for a role, may audition with the understanding they will be evaluated like any other candidate.
- While we may not cast understudies for any/all parts, members from crew may be approached to fill in for a lead cast member should the need arise.
- If you have a civic obligation (e.g. military duty, political obligation, first responder duty, etc.) that presents conflicts with shows, tech week, or rehearsals, please communicate what you know on your audition form and do not let these variables discourage you from auditioning. While we may double cast a role (especially when known conflicts fall on performances), doing your duty will not be a disqualifying factor.

Character Descriptions:

Truvy Jones (Female Lead - age 35-45) Owner of the beauty shop. She is vivacious and wise beyond her years. She has a heart of gold but has been dealt some hard knocks. She offers advice with lots of hairspray and teasing. Southern belle whose character is a constant and who creates the space plus sets the tone at the salon where this story of sisterhood unfolds. The ability to work with hair is a plus in this role (but not required). The ability to perform dialogue in a believable southern accent is also important.

Annelle Dupup-Desoto (Female Lead - age 18-24) The newly hired assistant at the beauty shop. Awkward character who shifts throughout life as the various scenes unfold. She has a past with trauma and is still discovering herself throughout. She is unsure and timid at the beginning of the play. Throughout the story she goes from timid to wild to very religious. The ability to work with hair is a plus in this role (but not required).

Clairee Belcher (Female Lead - age 55-70) Widow of former mayor. Grand dame. Elegant, sophisticated, intelligent, and very witty. Clairee adds some comedic relief and is a constant in character but has enough money that her style and salon choices have room to play. The ability to play someone of wealth who is not too good for the friendships within the work is a must. The ability to have chemistry reflecting proper demeanor (Clairee) to her dear friend's abrupt nature (Ouiser) will be fundamental in this role.

Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie (Female Lead - age 19-28) M'Lynn's daughter. She is strong-willed, pretty, and passionate. She loves her mother but is not afraid to go toe-to-toe with her or any of the older women in the show. Like her mother, family and motherhood become pivotal and fundamental for this character. She goes through life-changing milestones throughout the play. The ability to respectfully represent disability, pregnancy issues, life-and-death decisions, and to embody the transition from hope to the realities of mortality are a must in this role.

M'Lynn Eatenton (Female Lead - age 40-55) Shelby's mother. M'Lynn is practical, intelligent, and loving. She is passionate and stubborn about her daughter. M'Lynn must be able to portray the breaking heart of a mother losing her daughter in the apex of the story. While she discourages Shelby risking her life for a child, M'Lynn does not hesitate to put her own life on the line for Shelby.

Ouiser (pronounced Weezer) **Boudreaux** (Female Lead - age 55-70) She is a wealthy curmudgeon (although one could never tell by her wardrobe) and southern to the core. Ouiser is eccentric and quick witted. Ouiser seems rough in personality but is a constant source of care for her friends including acts of kindness like delivering food from her garden. The ability to have chemistry reflecting abrupt nature (Ouiser) to her dear friend's proper demeanor (Clairee) will be fundamental in this role. The ability to deliver aggravated rants while also adding comedy to lighten certain scenes is a must for this character.