



### Audition Information

Thank you for your interest in the Abilene High School's 2024-2025 musical, *Bright Star, School Edition*. This page contains information for those wishing to audition for a performance role.

Rehearsals will begin on **Tuesday, September 3**. The following is a list of important dates associated with the production.

Regular rehearsals will be **Monday-Friday, 4-6pm**, after school. **Not all performers will be needed at every rehearsal.** You will receive a detailed schedule at the first rehearsal that will indicate when you are called, based on your character.

All rehearsal will be in the one of the following locations:

- Abilene High School Fine Arts Building
- Dance Discovery Studios (you will need transportation from school to the studio)

August 24	Abilene High Fine Arts Building	Auditions
August 26-27	Abilene High Fine Arts Building	Call Back Auditions
September 3	Auditorium Stage	First Rehearsal
October 26	Auditorium	Dry Technical Rehearsal
TBD	Band Hall/Auditorium	Rehearsal with orchestra
November 2	Auditorium	All day technical rehearsal
November 4-6	Auditorium	Dress Rehearsals
November 7-10	Auditorium	Performances

Students wishing to be cast be advised of the following:

- In order to remain in the cast a student **must maintain a passing average in all classes**. During the course of rehearsals eligibility will be checked every three weeks.
- Students will be expected to attend all rehearsals for which their character is called unless prior arrangements have been made. Failure to attend a rehearsal for which you did not previously list as a conflict, may result in recasting.
- Students will be expected to be responsible for memorizing lines by the date stated on the rehearsal schedule. Failure to do so may result in recasting.

### **AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Attend the information meeting in the Auditorium on Tuesday, August 20 from 4-5pm.
- Fill out a Conflict Sheet, Audition Packet, and Company Contract. Student and parent must sign and return to Mr. Martin or Mrs. Gonzales by **Friday, August 23**.
- Prepare a 32 measure (approx.) section of a song. Your selection should be less than a minute.
  - The ideal selection would be a pop-country or bluegrass song in a style similar to the music in *Bright Star*. Listen to music from the musical (available on Spotify, AppleMusic, YouTube, etc.) to get a sense of the tone and style.

NOTE: This is different from years past. I would prefer a pop-country song over a song from Musical Theatre.

- If you arrive without a prepared song, we will check your vocal range. You may not be eligible for a lead role without prepared material.
- Sign up for a 5-minute time slot for the morning of Saturday, 8/24
- Attend the dance auditions, at 3pm on 8/24 in the Abilene High Auditorium.
- Arrive early for your audition time. *Late comers will be skipped and will be allowed to auditioned as time becomes available.*
- Check the call board for call-backs, to be held Monday and Tuesday, 8/26-27 at 4pm.

## Character Descriptions

**Alice Murphy** – plays both 16-17 and 36-37. Alice at age 36-37 is an editor of a southern literary magazine; intelligent, attractive, professional – but with an air of melancholy. Young Alice at age 16-17 is rebellious, high-spirited, adventurous - looking to break out of small-town life and experience the world.

**Billy Cane** - a young soldier returning home from WWII; an aspiring young writer; fresh, open, optimistic, charming, and a little naïve.

**Daddy Cane** - Billy's father. A widower. Spry, good looking. Kind hearted, if a bit lonely.

**Margo Crawford** - a small-town bookstore owner; a childhood friend of Billy's who now harbors romantic feelings towards him; a natural beauty with a keen intellect

**Max** – a customer at Margo's bookstore, at first, he has a crush on Margo, but later becomes Edna's beau.

**Florence** - an employee at Margo's bookstore and a childhood friend of both Billy and Margo.

**Edna** – an employee at Margo's bookstore.

**Daryl Ames** - An assistant at a literary magazine. Funny, with a dry and officious sense of humor. Insecure, and perhaps a bit socially awkward, but endearing and innately likeable.

**Lucy Grant** - A junior editor at a literary magazine. An ambitious, professional young "modern" career woman of the 1940s. Strong, forthright and provocative with a sharp sense of humor.

**Mama Murphy** - Alice's mother. A caretaker to her family and her rural community. A warm, loving, sensible woman. Hardworking, with great inner strength and compassion.

**Daddy Murphy** - Alice's father; an authoritative and a stern disciplinarian; devoutly religious, hard-working, a poor but proud farmer.

**Mayor Josiah Dobbs** - the Mayor of Zebulon; a political and financial powerbroker - distinguished, an imposing and controlling presence; has a genuine interest in protecting his son's future and his family name, but in doing so, is ultimately pushed to a point of extreme and irrevocable cruelty.

**Jimmy Ray Dobbs** - plays both age 18-20 and 38-40. Jimmy Ray in his early 20s in flashbacks is Mayor Dobbs' son and young Alice's beau; handsome, boyishly charming,

well-built and intelligent; from a family of wealth and power and is being groomed by his father for a similar future in the family business; an independent thinker who is not afraid to stand up to his father for what he believes in; he has a sense of personal responsibility and morality as well as a deep reserve of passion and emotion.

**Stanford** – Loyal assistant to Mayor Josiah Dobbs.

**Ensemble** – Customers, bar patrons, towns folk, etc.

## PLEASE NOTE!

The genders listed are the gender of the character, not necessarily the gender of the actor playing the role. You may be considered for roles that are not your identifying gender.