

## **Not So Common Players** announces auditions for



a musical by Stephen Schwartz.

### **Free musical theatre sponsored by the Town of Clifton Park**

Producer: Kara A. DiCaterino

Director: Tim Orcutt

Music Director: Patricia Leighton

Choreographer: Edmund Metzold

#### **WHEN:**

Sunday, December 11 and Monday, December 12

Sign In at 6:30 P.M.

Auditions will begin at 7:00 P.M.

#### **WHERE:**

Shenendehowa Adult Community Center, 6 Clifton Common Court, Clifton Park, NY 12065

Auditioners should be prepared to sing 16-32 bars of a Broadway song. Usually the bridge to the final refrain should be sufficient. Please steer clear of Sondheim - our accompanist will be most grateful! Since an accompanist will be provided, no a capella auditions permitted.

There will be a movement audition (so please dress comfortably and accordingly).

If callbacks are needed they will be held on Thursday, December 15.

#### **PERFORMANCE DATES: April 20-22 and 26-29**

*Rehearsals begin early February. Generally, rehearsals will be in the evenings - Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Not all actors will be called to every rehearsal. Rehearsals will start and end promptly, but may run late during tech week.*

This show is a comedy that relies on great comic timing. Please keep this in mind when auditioning.

***Pippin is a Tony-award winning musical that opened on Broadway in 1972. It received rave reviews for director and choreographer Bob Fosse, leading player Ben Vereen, and composer Stephen Schwartz (author of Wicked). An eclectic acting troupe invites the audience to see their story of Pippin, the son of Charlemagne, one of the great medieval rulers. Pippin believes he is destined for an extraordinary life if he can only discover what he is meant to do. Pippin becomes a soldier, a politician, an artist, and has a romantic relationship with a young widow named Catherine – but nothing makes him happy. Pippin’s search leads him (and the member of the acting troupe who portrays him) to the grand finale of the show and a choice that only he can make.***

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Note: While principals will need superb acting and singing skills, they will also need to be able to move well. Their choreography will not be as complex as it is for the ensemble. Ages shown are a guideline and indicate the age the actor can portray, not necessarily what appears on the birth certificate.

**Lead Player** - male or female (tenor/soprano) is the narrator of the show who is featured in nearly every scene. The Leading Player has a malevolent intensity and sparkling charisma. He (or she) leads Pippin through the story and controls the action. He/she also controls the finale. His/her goal is to make a theatrical spectacle that will not disappoint the audience. He/she is a performer, observing and controlling the action but does not participate in the story. Excellent singer, dancer, actor – triple threat. Able to hold the audience’s attention. Should appear experienced (late 30s - 40s)

**Pippin** (tenor) is an idealistic and inexperienced youth in his early twenties, searching for meaning in his life. He believes that he is an extraordinary person who is bound for an uncommon life, if he can only find something worth dedicating his life to. Actor / Singer most important, dancer second. Performs a dance number with the Lead Player.

**Charles** (baritone), Pippin's father, is also known as King Charlemagne. He is the ruler of the Holy Roman Empire. He is a powerful ruler, unafraid of waging war and demanding of his subjects. He is uninterested in helping Pippin to find happiness. Actor / Singer (late 40s - 50s)

**Fastrada** (mezzo) is Pippin's somewhat evil stepmother, who is plotting to make sure that her son Lewis becomes king. She is sly, devious, charming and tough. Actor / Singer, dancing a plus. (mid 30s - 40s)

**Lewis** is Pippin's half-brother who is self-obsessed and a good warrior, but not particularly smart. He kisses mirrors a lot. Actor / Dancer (early 20s)

**Berthe** (alto) is Pippin's grandmother (Charles' mother), an older woman with a flirtatious taste for young men. She advises Pippin to relax and enjoy his life before it is too late. She is crusty and pragmatic but warm and fun-loving. Actor / Singer (50s and up)

**Catherine** (mezzo) is a young widow who lives with her son, Theo. She is interested in finding a husband to guide her young son and to help her with the work on her estate. She is Pippin's love interest and shows him the simple joys of home and hearth. (late 20s - 40s)

**Theo** is a boy who is 6-10 years old. Unhappy and sassy at first, then grows to care for Pippin as a father figure. Actor/Singer

Ensemble/ Featured Dancers (3-4 male, 3-4 female, 20s-30s): All will have at least one line of dialogue, and will be required to sing, but these roles are primarily for dancers. Expect the choreography to be demanding.

**Please contact Producer, Kara A. DiCaterino at [kara.dicaterino@gmail.com](mailto:kara.dicaterino@gmail.com) or 928-6353 for more information.**