

Seussical TYA Character Descriptions and Requirements

*NOTE THAT ALL ROLES REQUIRE AT LEAST SOME SOLO SINGING AND A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF GROUP SINGING. THIS SHOW DOES NOT OFFER ANY SPEAKING-ONLY ROLES.

HORTON THE ELEPHANT - Horton is the main character. He is a gentle, big-hearted elephant who is always trying to do the right thing. Horton is protective of all the creatures in the jungle, especially Mayzie's abandoned egg and the invisible planet of Who.

- Male, adult, approximate age 20-40, vocal range is A2-E4.

THE CAT IN THE HAT - The high-energy narrator of the story, who embodies mischief, fun, and imagination. The Cat stirs things up, causes trouble, but always sets things right again, helping JoJo discover the power of his/her own imagination as they create the story for the show together.

- Male or female, adult, any age, must be physically adept and comfortable improvising with an audience. The music for the show includes different arrangements for either a male or a female Cat in the Hat.

GERTRUDE MCFUZZ – Horton's admirer who is self-conscious about her one-feather tail. She goes to great lengths to win Horton's attention, but over the course of the show she grows up and stops worrying about her looks.

- Female, late teen or adult, approximate age 16-40, vocal range is F3–F5.

MAYZIE LA BIRD - A self-centered, vain, and manipulative character who will never admit to her flaws. She manipulates others (especially Horton) into doing what she wants, but she isn't all bad and has a moment of generosity near the end of the show.

- Female, adult, approximate age 25-45, vocal range is G3-Eb5, must be able to dance and move well.

SOUR KANGAROO – A jungle animal who isn't really sour, but has plenty of attitude. She's loud, brassy, and a lot of fun.

- Female, approximate age 30-45, must be able to belt loudly and riff on top of the other jungle animals' singing.

YOUNG KANGAROO – Sour Kangaroo's baby who determinedly imitates his/her mother and displays a similar amount of attitude.

- Male or female, approximate age 8-10.

JOJO - A young Who child with a wild imagination that often gets him/her in trouble. By the end of the show, JoJo learns what it means to be a responsible and use the power and possibility of "Thinks."

- Male or female, child, approximate age 9-12, vocal range is Ab3–C5.

WICKERSHAM BROTHERS (3) – Not exactly bad guys, but they like to tease, play pranks, and make mischief, often at others' expense. Will likely serve as understudies for other male roles, including Horton.

- Male, late teen or adult, approximate age 16-40, must be able to dance and move well.

BIRD GIRLS (3) – Flamboyant “girl group” that lives to sing and dance. They love to tell stories. They often serve as back-up performers to Mayzie La Bird. Will likely serve as understudies for other female roles, including Gertrude McFuzz and Mayzie La Bird.

- Female, late teen or adult, approximate age 16-40, must be able to dance and move well.

THE WHOS (at least 5) – Tiny people on the microscopic planet of Who. They are encouraged to create their own unique characters.

- Male or female, approximate age 8-98.

MR. AND MRS. MAYOR – The mayor of Whoville and his wife. They are also JoJo’s parents and are having a hard time raising a difficult child. They love JoJo dearly, but often get aggravated with him/her.

- One male and one female, approximate age 30-50

Other roles (Grinch, Yertle the Turtle, Fish, Vlad Vladikoff, Hunters, Jungle Citizens, and Circus Animals) are likely to be played by actors cast in the roles listed above, although the directors might decide to cast specifically for some of these roles.