

PRIDE and PREJUDICE - Casting Call

Thank you for your interest in our Fall show, *Pride and Prejudice!* Auditions will take place on **Monday, July 16 and Tuesday, July 17 @ 9:00-11:00am**. You need to have your monologue memorized to the best of your ability. We ask you to sign in with one of our Stage Managers on the day (Katherine McKinney- **SM**; TBD-**ASM**) so that we may get through auditions in a timely fashion.

There are four monologues provided, it is suggested that you research and prepare your audition to the best of your ability. Please be familiar with the different roles you could play.

During your audition, you do NOT need to do an accent or be worried, this is fun! Create the character you'd want to watch!

Please bring the following items with you

- your **audition sheet** (this paper, filled out)
- your **memorized** audition monologue

Callbacks, if necessary, will be **Wednesday, July 18 @ 9:00-11:00am**. Rehearsals begin the following **Monday, July 23** for a read-through. Copies of the script will be provided. Rehearsals will be Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays during the school year. Some summer rehearsals will be necessary but will be discussed at the read-through.

Our show will open on **Friday, October 19**, with more public shows and school shows through the 26th. More details TBD but keep the week of October 16-19 open for tech rehearsals. **That will be the week after our Fall break weekend. We will not have rehearsals Friday October 12 through Monday October 15 in respect of your vacation.** It is REQUIRED for you to be in attendance at all of the previously stated dates to be cast.

If you or your parents have any questions, please email me at hlyle@bcbe.org

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Please sign this sheet to indicate that you understand the requirements for auditions and participating in the show.

Signature

Print Name

Parent's Signature

Parent's Name

***Pride and Prejudice* Audition Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Your Phone Number (cell): _____

E-mail (that you will actually check): _____

Grade: _____

Parents'/Guardians' Names: _____

Parents' Emails: _____

Please list acting experience or attach resume:

Which role(s) are you auditioning for?

If you are not cast as this role, would you accept another part?

Any other special skills/talents we should know about?

Do you have any/foresee any conflicts with rehearsal, tech week, performance dates?

If you are not cast, are you interested in joining production staff or tech crew?

AUDITION INFO

SUMMARY of *Pride and Prejudice*:

Finding a husband is hardly Elizabeth Bennet's most urgent priority. But with four sisters, an overzealous match-making mother, and a string of unsuitable suitors, it's difficult to escape the subject. When the independent-minded Elizabeth meets the handsome but enigmatic Mr. Darcy, she is determined not to let her feelings triumph over her own good sense -- but the truth turns out to be slipperier than it seems. In a society where subtle snubs and deceit proliferate, is it possible for Elizabeth and Darcy to look beyond his pride and her prejudice and make the best match of all?

You are **STRONGLY** encouraged to dive further into the play, characters, and history. This show is based on the novel by Jane Austen, one of my favorite books of all time and a sparkingly witty look at human nature and manners. This is a **COMEDY**.

Please Slate in your audition. Before beginning your monologue, Introduce yourself and state your name, grade, which monologue you're doing, and what show the monologue is from (*Pride and Prejudice*)

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

- Mr. Bennet: A country squire who cares little for responsibility or social frippery. He loves his daughters and his wife, but often cares more for a good joke than being a strong, responsible father.
- Mrs. Bennet: Mr. Bennet's emotional wife. Mrs. Bennet is vapid and vain. Her largest concern in life is seeing her daughters married (preferably to a rich man) so they may care for her when she is older.
- Jane Bennet: The Bennets' eldest daughter. Jane always sees the good in everyone, even when their actions seem inexcusable or cruel. Though her mother would prefer Jane marry someone rich, she would much rather marry for love. She is shy with her emotions, shielding her heart by presenting a charming, polite exterior.
- Elizabeth Bennet: The Bennets' vivacious second daughter. Elizabeth is a studier of character. She is witty, funny, and willful, something her mother often despairs over. Despite her seeming cynicism, Elizabeth is truly a romantic, swearing that if she were to marry it would only be for the deepest love and to a man whom she could respect. She rarely takes other's barbs to heart, preferring to laugh them away.
- Mary Bennet/Charlotte Lucas (**DOUBLE CAST**): **Mary Bennet** is the third, and middle, daughter of the Bennets. Thoroughly unremarkable, Mary strives to be as witty as Lizzy by correlating other's behavior to religion and philosophy. She is the most accomplished of the sisters due to her stoicism and plodding determination in the face of mediocrity. **Charlotte Lucas** is Elizabeth's best friend and neighbor. She is older than Lizzy, reaching the age where she is considered to be "on the shelf" and a burden to her parents.

Because of her plain appearance, Charlotte has not married and has a more practical approach to marriage.

- **Kitty Bennet:** The fourth Bennet daughter. Kitty follows the lead of her younger sister, Lydia. She is silly and energetic, caring more for the opinions of officers and the latest lace fashions, rather than for books or learning.
- **Lydia Bennet/Georgiana Darcy (DOUBLE CAST):** **Lydia Bennet** is the youngest Bennet daughter at age 14, and arguably the most ridiculous. She is loud, brash, silly, and self-centered. She cares only for her own wants, and she cares not a whit for how her actions and choices affect her sisters. **Georgiana Darcy** is also 14, but she is opposite of Lydia in every way. Georgiana is shy, shrinking from social interactions. She is much younger than her brother, whom she looks up to as a father figure.
- **Mr. Darcy:** The enigmatic, wealthy master of the Pemberley Estate. Mr. Darcy is of the upper class and looks down on those of the lower classes. He does not care to ingratiate himself to others. Too often, he has watched others value his opinions only for his wealth and influence. He is shy and reticent, preferring to observe social gatherings from the edges.
- **Mr. Bingley/Colonel Fitzwilliam (DOUBLE CAST):** **Mr. Bingley** is the new single man in the Bennets' neighborhood. He is affable, charming, and eager to please. He enjoys dancing and any other social activities. Despite (or because of) the fact he and Mr. Darcy are opposites in nearly every way, Bingley and Darcy are the very best of friends. **Colonel Fitzwilliam** is Mr. Darcy's cousin. Their relationship is more that of brothers, because of their similar ages. Colonel Fitzwilliam is sociable and pleasant, like Mr. Bingley. Colonel Fitzwilliam is the second son of an earl, so he has lived in privilege but worked for his own status in the military.
- **Sir William Lucas/Mr. Collins/Mr. Gardiner (MULTI CAST):** **Sir William Lucas** is Charlotte's father and the Bennets' neighbor. He is considered the highest ranked man in the neighborhood due to his knighthood, and he is popular with his neighbors due to his kindness and volubility. **Mr. Collins** is Mr. Bennet's clergyman cousin who will inherit Longbourn Estate, the Bennets' home. He is repulsive to the Bennet women and patently ridiculous, particularly in his effusive esteem for his patroness, Lady Catherine de Bourgh. **Mr. Gardiner** is Mrs. Bennet's brother, and surprisingly a man of taste.
- **Miss Bingley/Mrs. Gardiner (DOUBLE CAST):** **Miss Bingley** is Mr. Bingley's older sister. She is shrewish and cruel to those she deems below her station. Miss Bingley is obsessed with becoming the next Mrs. Darcy, though she pursues him more for his wealth and influence than his personality. **Mrs. Gardiner** is Elizabeth's aunt. She and Elizabeth have a close relationship, and Elizabeth often confides in her.
- **George Wickham:** A member of Meryton's (the Bennets' hometown) local militia. He has a complicated past with Mr. Darcy, though in the beginning Lizzy does not know what. He is charming and seems to possess all the social skills a young man ought to.

- Lady Catherine de Bourgh/Housekeeper (**DOUBLE CAST**): Lady Catherine de Bourgh is Mr. Collins' patroness. She also happens to be Mr. Darcy's aunt. She is a powerful woman, and she believes her opinion is not only the right opinion, but also the only opinion.
- Various Ensemble
 - Ball guests, officer, servant

SETTING:

In and around Hertfordshire, England, 1813

MONOLOGUES

ELIZABETH:

How humiliating is this discovery, yet how just a humiliation. Had I been in love I could not have been more wretchedly blind, but vanity, not love, has been my folly. As to the mention of my family in terms so mortifying, my sense of shame is severe, but the charge strikes too forcibly for denial. Their defects, I fear, seem hopeless of remedy. My mother puts herself forward beyond all expectation while my father does nothing to restrain the uncontrollable giddiness and self-willed carelessness of my younger sisters. Only excepting dear Jane what can I call them all but ignorant, idle and vain... How despicably I have acted! I, who have prided myself on my discernment. Until this moment, I never knew myself.

(for Jane, Elizabeth, Mary/Charlotte, Miss Bingley/Mrs. Gardiner, Lady Catherine)

DARCY:

In vain have I struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you... I see I dismay you. I am slow, even dilatory. I should have declared myself at an earlier date. But there were, of course, the family obstacles which judgment always opposed to inclination. The general sense of your social inferiority, of it being a degradation of the line. I could not forget my responsibility to an estate, a way of life, a pride of place which might, given your circumstances, disinclude you, and thus the very ardency I described took place against my will and reason, or rather in opposition to my character and inclination, but the very strength of my attachment has made it impossible for me to conquer my feelings, and I can only express the hope that these feelings will now be rewarded by your acceptance of my hand. There... I have spoken ill but mean well, Miss Bennet.

(For Mr. Darcy, George Wickham, Mr. Bingley/Colonel Fitzwilliam)

MR. COLLINS:

Before I am run away with by my feelings... I shall enumerate my reasons for marrying. First, to set the example of matrimony in my parish... Secondly, it greatly adds to a man's well being. And thirdly by the particular advice and recommendation of Lady de Bourgh, my patroness... You may observe, fair cousin, that I do not reckon the notice of Lady Catherine de Bourgh the least of my advantages. Your wit and vivacity, I think, must be acceptable to her, especially when tempered with the silence and respect which her rank invariably excites. Fourth, as I am to inherit this estate after the death of your honoured father, I feel bound to choose a wife from among his daughters that the loss to them might be as little possible... As to dowry, I am well aware of your father's finances and you may assure yourself that no ungenerous reproach shall ever pass my lips when we are married.

(For Mr. Bennet, Sir William/Mr. Collins/Mr. Gardiner)

LYDIA:

Congratulate me, sisters; it is a great while since I've been here. Good gracious! When I went away, I am sure I had no idea of being married, though I thought it would be very good fun if I was. Dear Jane, I take your place now, and you must go lower because I am a married woman. And what do you think of my husband? Is he not a charming man? All my sisters must go to Brighton now, as that is the place to get husbands.

(For Mrs. Bennet, Kitty Bennet, Lydia Bennet/Georgiana Darcy)