

Notes from your Directors

This production is committed to diverse and inclusive casting. We welcome performers of all races, ethnicities, gender identities, body types, and abilities to audition and participate. Our goal is to reflect the broad range of voices and experiences within our community while telling this story with authenticity, creativity, and respect.

The listed genders are what the character will be portraying onstage. This does not mean the person playing that role needs to have the same gender identity.

This is a fun show with characters that have been loved by many generations. We want to see what you know about these characters and what fresh ideas you can bring to them!

Character Descriptions

Rafiki

A wise mandrill who acts as healer of the Pridelands and guides Simba on his journey home. She is an omniscient character, evincing an air of mystery. Rafiki has significant solos in "Circle of Life" and "He Lives in You," and leads the African chants throughout the show, so cast a confident performer with a strong singing voice.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Ensemble

The ensemble plays various inhabitants of the Pridelands, such as giraffes, elephants, antelopes, wildebeest, and other creatures you choose to include. Looking for many strong singers. There are also several moments to showcase individual dancers in "The Lioness Hunt" and "I Just Can't Wait to Be King."

Gender: Any

Mufasa

The strong, honorable, and wise lion who leads the Pridelands. Mufasa should command respect onstage and also show tenderness with his son, Simba. Looking for a mature actor who can convincingly portray the king.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Sarabi

A featured lioness, Mufasa's mate, and Simba's mother. Sarabi has key speaking lines for an actor who can deliver the care and command of a queen.

Gender: Female

Zazu

The anxious yet loyal assistant to Mufasa who is always busy trying to do his duty.

Gender: Any

Scar

The antagonist of the show, overcome with jealousy of his brother, Mufasa, and nephew, Simba. Coldhearted and wickedly intelligent, he will stop at nothing to become king of the Pridelands. Looking for a mature performer who can bring out this villain's dark side while handling Scar's sarcastic sense of humor.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: A3

Young Simba

The protagonist of the story, is an adventurous and endearing cub who can't wait to be king of the Pridelands. Simba is playful, energetic, and naive, but after his father Mufasa's death, Simba struggles with shame and his destiny.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Simba

Grows from a cub to a lion in "Hakuna Matata." Older Simba has more complex moments as he reunites with Nala, mourns his father, and returns to confront Scar, so cast a more mature actor.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: B3

Lionesses

The fierce hunters of the Pridelands and featured in "The Lioness Hunt," "The Mourning," and "Shadowland." Looking for strong singers and strong movers.

Gender: Female

Young Nala

A courageous lion and Young Simba's best friend. She is not afraid to speak her mind.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: C5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Nala

Grows from a cub to a lioness before she confronts Scar. Looking for a mature actor who can be confident.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: G3

Sarafina

A featured lioness and Nala's mother.

Gender: Female

Shenzi

One of Scar's hyenas who plot to take over the Pridelands. She is the sassy one of the trio and is always looking out for herself. With Banzai and Ed, she should be able to laugh loudly and long, as well as be menacing to Young Simba and Young Nala.

Gender: Female

Banzai

A slick yet childish hyena who works for Scar. He would be the leader of the group if hyenas weren't so lazy. Looking for an outgoing and confident actor who can portray nastiness and gruffness.

Gender: Male

Ed

The third member of Scar's trio of lackeys. He has a loud, cackling laugh that is his only form of communication. Ed should be played by an actor who can laugh unabashedly and communicate through physicality and facial expressions rather than words.

Gender: Any

Hyenas

Scar's army, helping carry out his evil plot to take over the Pridelands. Hyenas are mangy, mindless creatures who sing in "Be Prepared." Cast actors who are able to sing the background parts of that song while playing the loud and raucous characters. Your hyenas can double as animals of the Pridelands or lionesses.

Gender: Both

Timon

An outcast meerkat who lives in the jungle with Pumbaa. He is afraid of his own shadow, but pretends to be the confident, relaxed leader of the duo. Timon is one of the funniest characters in the show and should be played by a charismatic actor who understands comic timing.

Gender: Both

Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: B3

Pumbaa

A kindhearted, sensitive warthog who enjoys his simple life of grubs and relaxation. Looking for someone who can portray this loveable and loyal friend to Timon and Simba with deadpan humor.

Gender: Both

Vocal range top: G5

Vocal range bottom: D4