

CASTING/AUDITION INFORMATION

# The Laramie Project

Written by Moisés Kaufman and the Members of Tectonic Theater Project

Directed by Robert Dale Walker

**PRODUCTION DATES:**

Open Auditions: Feb 22 10am-4pm and Feb 23 1pm-5pm 2020

Callback Audition Date: March 7, 2020 time TBD

Company Meeting/1st Rehearsal: August 31, 2020

First Tech: October 11, 2020

Performance Dates: October 16-25, 2020 (weekends only)

**SUMMARY OF SHOW:** In October 1998, a twenty-one-year-old student at the University of Wyoming was kidnapped, severely beaten, and left tied to a fence in the middle of the prairie outside Laramie, Wyoming. His bloody, bruised, and battered body was not discovered until the next day, and he died several days later in an area hospital. His name was Matthew Shepard, and he was the victim of this assault because he was gay. Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theater Project made six trips to Laramie over the course of a year and a half, in the aftermath of the beating and during the trial of the two young men accused of killing Shepard. They conducted more than 200 interviews with the people of the town. Some people interviewed were directly connected to the case, while others were citizens of Laramie, and the breadth of the reactions to the crime is fascinating. Kaufman and Tectonic Theater members have constructed a deeply moving theatrical experience from these interviews and their own experiences in Laramie. THE LARAMIE PROJECT is a breathtaking collage that explores the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of which we are capable.

**AUDITOR(S):** Robert Dale Walker (Director)

**CHARACTERS/CASTING NEEDS:**

8 Actors

This is an inclusive casting production; Actors of color, actors with disabilities, women, trans and gender non-conforming are encouraged to audition. This is an ensemble piece with 60+ characters. Actors should feel comfortable playing multiple characters of varying ages and genders. As an eight actor ensemble, all actors will be playing many characters including the narrator. The following breakdown is just a blue print based on the first production of *The Laramie Project*.

**Actor 1:** Will portray Stephen Belber, Doc O'Connor, Matt Galloway, Anonymous Friend of Aaron McKinney, Bill McKinney, Andrew Gomez, Fred Phelps, Mormon Spiritual Advisor, Conrad Miller

**Actor 2:** Will portray Amanda Gronich, Eileen Engen, Marge Murray, Baptist Minister, Trish Stiger, Shadow

**Actor 3:** Will portray Reggie Fluty, Rebecca Hilliker, Debbie the Waitress

**Actor 4:** Will portray Moisés Kaufman, Philip Dubois, Stephen Mead Johnson, Murdock Cooper, Jon Peacock, Dennis Shepard, Harry Woods

**Actor 5:** Will portray Andy Paris, Jedediah Schultz, Doug Laws, Dr. Cantway, Matt Mickelson, Russell Henderson, Aaron McKinney, Philip Dubois, Kerry Drake

**Actor 6:** Will portray Greg Pierotti, Detective Sergeant Hing, Phil LaBrie, Father Roger Schmit, Rulon Stacey, Detective Sergeant Rob DeBree, Jonas Slonaker

**Actor 7:** Will portray Barbara Pitts, Catherine Connolly, April Silva, Zubaida Ula, Sherry Aenonson, Lucy Thompson, Eileen Engen

**Actor 8:** Will portray Leigh Fondakowski, Zackie Salmon, Alison Mears, Romaine Patterson, Aaron Kreifels, Tiffany Edwards

**AUDITION PROCEDURES:**

Professional actors should be prepared to present a monologue and have a headshot/resume that details their credentials. All actors should be prepared to read from the script. Actors may be asked to attend a callback audition at the discretion of the director.

**REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS:**

Rehearsals will be held at the Mountain Heritage Center located at 113 Green Mountain Drive in Burnsville and at Parkway Playhouse, located at 202 Green Mountain Drive. Performances will be at Parkway Playhouse. Any/all known conflicts should be disclosed prior to or at auditions and confirmed at the first company meeting.

Additional calls for the purposes of costume fittings, research, PR, and other issues pertaining to production will be scheduled as needed by the Production Manager/Stage Management.

**TENTATIVE REHEARSAL DAYS AND TIMES:**

Sundays-Thursdays 6:30pm

Saturdays 10am

Tech Week - Sunday-Friday 6pm

**COMPENSATION:**

Actors who present a professional audition and meet the associated criteria will be paid a modest stipend.

**NOTIFICATION:**

ASAP via email or phone call no later than March 31. Due to time constraints the theatre will only notify those persons we intend to cast. Actors may be asked to attend a callback audition at the discretion of the director.