



AUDITIONS FOR UPPER DARBY SUMMER STAGE



Audition Information

Philadelphia's Barrymore-winning summer theater program Upper Darby Summer Stage is seeking actors ages 18-28 for their 44th season summer production of *Big Fish*. **Brian Walsh** will direct, **Gina Giachero** will musical direct, **Devon Sinclair** will choreograph, with movement coordination by **Abby Shunskis Dietzler**.

Big Fish tells the larger-than-life tale of Edward Bloom, a man who leads an extraordinary life—according to the stories he tells his son, Will. But Will, who is getting married and expecting a child of his own, doesn't think there's any truth to the extravagant tales his father tells about meeting witches, kissing mermaids or joining the circus. He doesn't even believe the story of how his father proposed to his mother, Sandra, in a field full of daffodils. When Edward's health begins to decline, Will visits his father and tries one last time to find out the truth behind the tall tales. As Edward and Will's relationship becomes increasingly strained, Will must decide whether to accept his father's wild stories as fact or risk losing him completely.

Auditions are June 2nd at 1:00 PM with callbacks on June 3rd and 5th at the Upper Darby Performing Arts Center, 601 North Lansdowne Ave, Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Rehearsals begin June 6th and run Monday thru Thursday evenings, 7 PM to 10:30 PM. Tech will be Saturday, July 27th and Sunday, July 28th. The week of July 29th, rehearsals will go from 6 to 11 PM.

Performances are August 2nd at 7:30 PM, August 3rd at 7:30 PM, August 9th at 7:30 PM, and August 10th at 1:30 PM and 7:30 PM.

Song Selection: All actors are asked to prepare 16-32 bars of a contemporary song from musical theatre, and to bring sheet music in the correct key; an accompanist will be provided.

Dance Component: There will be a dance portion to the audition, so please come prepared with clothes that you will be able to move without restriction.

Please feel free to email Brian (brian.walsh83@gmail.com) with any questions you may have about song choice, auditions etiquette, etc. **If you have a conflict with the audition dates, you must contact Brian Walsh at brian.walsh83@gmail.com. We can always arrange for an alternate time or have you send a video submission.**

About Upper Darby Summer Stage: For 44 years Summer Stage has presented outstanding Broadway musicals and children's theater for over 34,000 audience members each season. *The Inquirer* said, "Summer Stage performs miracles with its production of 'Hunchback.'"

***Big Fish* Character Breakdown**

EDWARD BLOOM - a loving husband and father with a rich imagination; a strong singer who can move, Edward ages from 18 to 60+; has a huge heart, a great sense of humor, and a vivid imagination (Baritone/Tenor, G2 to G4).

WILL BLOOM - Edward's son, a realist, pragmatist – the opposite of Edward. His journey of reconciliation with his father is the story. (Tenor, C#3 to G4)

SANDRA BLOOM - Edward's loving wife, who understands her husband and believes in the possibility of reconciliation between her husband and son. Requires a strong actor who also ages from 18 to 60. (Soprano with mix/belt, G3 to E5)

YOUNG WILL - Age 8-12. Intrigued by his father's stories, but already starts to doubt their truth. (F4 to C5). Note: This role will be cast at another time. Contact Brian for information: brian.walsh83@gmail.com.

JOSEPHINE BLOOM - Will's wife, a lovely young woman who provides balance for Will's pragmatism. With Sandra, she supports and helps guide Will's journey toward reconciliation with his father. (Mix/belt to C#5).

KARL - a giant, one of Edward's fantasy friends. Karl grows from being a 'beastly' outcast to a highly successful businessman. Actor must be comfortable acting on stilts. (Bass, A3 to D4)

AMOS CALLOWAY - a werewolf and another of Edward's fantasy friends. Masquerading as a ringmaster of a broken-down circus, with Edward's help, he accepts himself and becomes highly successful. (Baritone, C3 to F5, touches a G5)

DON PRICE - Edward's childhood frenemy, an early buddy, bully and rival for Sandra's hand. (Baritone, C3 to F#4)

THE WITCH - the earliest of Edward's "imaginary" acquaintances who shows him how he'll die. (Mezzo with high belt, useable F3 to F5)

JENNY HILL – one of Edward's early childhood friends who he rejects, but who later becomes the recipient of his kindness. This character also ages from 18 to 60+. (Mix/belt to E5)

GIRL IN THE WATER – an ethereal creature/mermaid who grants Edward his first kiss. An ensemble member who will play multiple other characters.

DR. BENNETT - Edward's physician, the experienced and wise country doctor. An ensemble member who will play multiple other characters.

JOSEPHINE'S DOCTOR – Josephine's physician, a New York doctor. An ensemble member who will play multiple other characters.

ZACKY PRICE – ages pre-teens to 45 throughout show. Nerdy younger sibling and shadow of Don Price.

ENSEMBLE:

EDWARD'S FRIENDS, WEDDING GUESTS, CITIZENS OF ASHTON, ASHTON CHEERLEADERS, CIRCUS PERFORMERS, DANCING WITCHES, THE ALABAMA LAMBS, MAYOR, FISHERMAN