

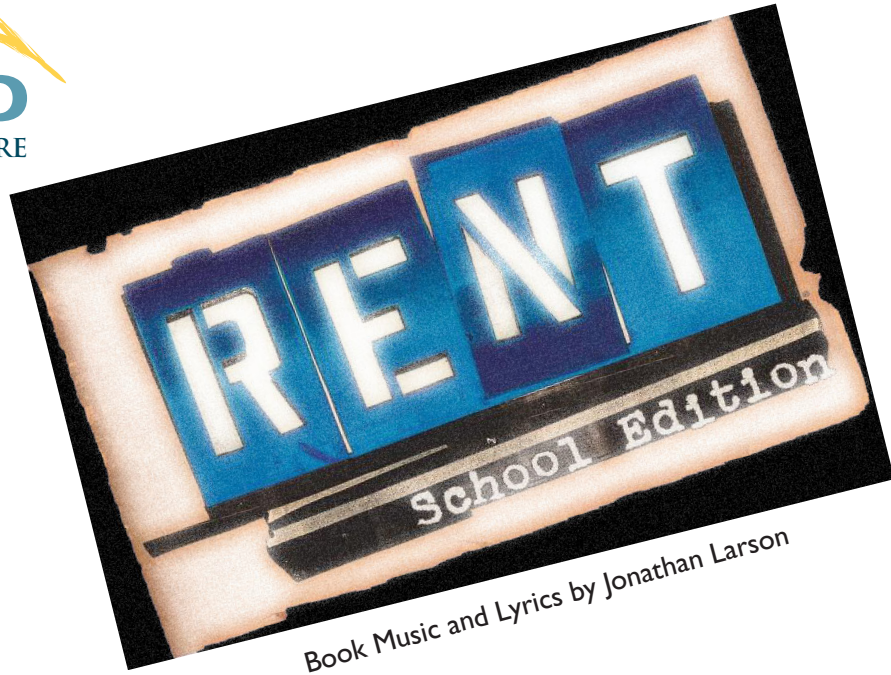
DIABLO
THEATRE
COMPANY

STARS
2000
TEEN THEATRE



Auditions

for Teens Ages 14 - 20



RENT is the story of a community of friends celebrating life and love, in the face of adversity at the end of the 20th century

Book Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson

Friday, September 9 -- 4:30 pm - 9:30 pm (Las Lomas HS Theatre)
Saturday, September 10 -- 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Sunday, September 11 -- 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

at the Diablo Theatre Company Firehouse, 1948 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill

Call backs September 17 – 18

Rehearsals begin October 9

Performances January 13 - 28, 2012 at Las Lomas High School Theatre

JASEN JEFFREY - Director, ERYN ALLEN - Vocal Director
DIANE KAMRIN - Musical Director/Choreographer, ELLEN SMITH - Producer

For an audition appointment contact:

Diane Kamrin 925-944-0900 or email dkstars2000@yahoo.com

Characters: Mark Cohen, Roger Davis, Mimi Marquez, Tom Collins, Angel Dumott, Maureen Johnson, Joanne Jefferson, Benjamin "Benny" Coffin III, plus ensemble.

Prepare 32 bars of a pop/rock song that is meaningful to you.

Bring sheet music. Accompanist provided. No Tapes/CDs.

Also please be prepared to sing the first verse of "Amazing Grace" a cappella, if asked

Please dress to move.

DIABLO THEATRE COMPANY • 925-944-1565 • WWW.DIABLOTHEATRE.ORG

RENT

RENT is a rock opera with music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson based on Giacomo Puccini's opera *La bohème*. It tells the story of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side in the thriving days of Bohemian Alphabet City, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS.

The musical was first seen in a limited three-week workshop production at New York Theatre Workshop in 1994. This same New York City off-Broadway theatre was also the musical's initial home following its official January 25, 1996 opening. The show's creator, Jonathan Larson, died suddenly the night before the off-Broadway premiere. The show won a Pulitzer Prize, and the production was a hit. On Broadway, *Rent* gained critical acclaim and won a Tony Award for Best Musical among other awards.

Main characters

Mark Cohen (baritone/tenor): A struggling Jewish documentary filmmaker, the narrator of the show. He is Roger's and Collins's roommate until Collins moves out; he is also Maureen's ex-boyfriend.

Roger Davis (tenor): A once successful but now struggling musician who is HIV positive and an "ex-junkie." He hopes to write one last meaningful song before he dies. He is having a hard time coping with the fact that he, along with many others around him, know that they are going to die. His girlfriend, April, killed herself after finding out they had HIV. He is roommates with Mark.

Mimi Márquez (contralto/belter): a club dancer and drug addict. She lives downstairs from Mark and Roger, and is Roger's love interest who, like him, has HIV. She is also Benny's ex-girlfriend.

Tom Collins (baritone/tenor): A gay anarchist with AIDS. He is described by Mark as a "computer genius; teacher; vagabond anarchist who ran naked through the Parthenon." Collins dreams of opening a restaurant in Santa Fe, where the problems in New York will not affect him and his friends. He was formerly a roommate of Roger, Mark, Benny, and Maureen, then just Roger and Mark, until he moves in with Angel.

Angel Dumott Schunard (tenor, often with falsetto): A young drag queen, street percussionist with AIDS. He is Collins's love interest.

Maureen Johnson (mezzo soprano/belter): A lesbian performance artist; Mark's ex-girlfriend and Joanne's current girlfriend. She is very flirtatious and cheated on Mark a lot. Mezzo Soprano/Belter

Joanne Jefferson (contralto): An Ivy League-educated public interest lawyer, and a lesbian. Joanne is the woman for whom Maureen left Mark. Joanne has very important parents (one is undergoing confirmation to be a judge, the other is a government official.)

Benjamin "Benny" Coffin III (baritone/tenor): Landlord of Mark, Roger and Mimi's apartment building and ex-roommate of Mark, Collins, Roger, and Maureen. Now married to Alison Grey of the Westport Greys, a very wealthy family involved in real estate, and is considered a yuppie sell-out by his ex-roommates. He is also Mimi's ex-boyfriend.

Minor characters

Mrs. Cohen, Mark's stereotypical Jewish mother. Her voicemail messages are the basis for the songs Voicemail #1, Voicemail #3, and Voicemail #5.

Alexi Darling, the producer of Buzzline who tries to employ Mark after his footage of the riot makes primetime. Sings Voicemail #3 and Voicemail #4.

Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson, the wealthy parents of Joanne Jefferson, they leave her Voicemail #2. Mr. Jefferson is also one of the a cappella singers in Voicemail #5

Mrs. Davis, Roger's confused mother who calls in Voicemail #5, asking continuously, "Roger, where are you?"

Mrs. Marquez, Mimi's Spanish-speaking mother who sings in Voicemail #5, wondering, in Spanish, where she is.

Mr. Grey, Benny's father-in-law who wants to buy out the lot.

The Man, the local drug dealer whom Mimi buys from and Roger used to buy from.

Paul, the man in charge of the Life support group.

Gordon, one of the Life support members. Usually doubles as "The Man"

Steve, one of the Life Support members. Usually doubles as "The Waiter"

Ali, one of the Life Support members

Pam, one of the Life Support members

Sue, one of the Life Support members. As notated in the script by Larson, the roles of all of the Life Support members are encouraged to take on the name that someone in the cast (or production) knows or has known to have succumbed to AIDS. In the final Broadway performance, Sue is re-named Lisa.

Squeegee Man, a homeless person who chants "Honest living!" over and over.

There are also **many other roles** such as The Waiter, The Homeless Woman, The Preacher, Seasons of Love soloists, Cops, Bohemians, Vendors, Homeless People.