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**ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES DATES FOR LOCAL AUDITIONS**

**Local Performers Needed for Large and Diverse Casts of 2013-2014 Shows, Including *Show Boat*  
and *Grapes of Wrath*; Many Roles for Children Available**

**(SARASOTA, April 19, 2013)** — Asolo Repertory Theatre is hosting local auditions by appointment for its upcoming 2013-2014 season on Sunday, April 28, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Monday, April 29, 2013 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Actors who audition must be able to attend callbacks on Monday, June 24, 2013 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The production team is seeking to cast Equity and non-Equity roles for the fall musical *Show Boat* and for other roles throughout the 2013-2014 season. The theatre is seeking a wide range of diverse actors and is looking to cast a significant number of local adult and child actors. Asolo Rep Literary Manager and Local Casting Director Lauryn Sasso said, “We are thrilled to have such a large number of roles open for potential casting from the local community. We’re seeking a truly diverse mix of actors to join our company for 2013-2014. It’s a very exciting year to be auditioning for Asolo Rep.” Full information regarding the available roles can be found on the AEA casting notice website, [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org), or on the Asolo Repertory Theatre website at [www.asolorep.org/auditions](http://www.asolorep.org/auditions).

Auditions will be held in three-minute slots in the Asolo Repertory Theatre Rehearsal Hall located in The FSU Center for the Performing Arts on the grounds of the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art at 5555 North Tamiami Trail in Sarasota.

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To schedule an audition appointment, please call the audition hotline at 941.351.9010 ext. 3311 and leave a message with the name of the person auditioning, contact number, preferred time slot, and whether this will be a dramatic or musical audition. For dramatic auditions, please prepare two contrasting monologues, no more than three minutes total. For musical auditions, please prepare either a brief song (musical theatre, pop/rock, or gospel) or 16 bars of a song and a one-minute contemporary monologue. An accompanist will be provided. Please bring two copies of headshots with resumes attached.

Both Equity and Non-Equity roles are available. Asolo Rep is also seeking mature men and women, young men and women, and children between the ages of nine and thirteen to fill understudy roles throughout the 2013-2014 season.

Following is a complete breakdown of the roles to be cast:

### **Show Boat music by Jerome Kern, book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II**

Directed by Rob Ruggiero

[CAPTAIN ANDY HAWKS] Early 40s – Early 50s. Bluff, hale and hearty. Good-spirited, warm, open. A friendly father figure. Gentle, sweet, but with a touch of the showman.

[ELLIE MAY CHIPLEY] Early 20s – Early 30s. Bright and cheery, sweet. Warm-hearted yet ambitious. Funny.

[FRANK SCHULTZ] Late 20's – Mid 30s. Good-natured, strong. Not too bright, but well-meaning. Stalwart.

[PARTHY ANN HAWKS] Early 40s – Early 50s. Pragmatic, pessimistic. Always the one who sees the harsh realities, but though she might complain, she's devoted to her family.

[JULIE LAVERNE] Early 20's – Early 30's. Beautiful, talented, has an easy femininity. Eye-catching and mysterious. Hiding a deep secret.

[STEVE BAKER] Late 20s – Late 30s. Handsome, a matinee idol. Rugged and strong. Brimming with machismo.

[QUEENIE] Mid 30s – Late 40s. African-American. No-nonsense, direct. Pleasant and warm, but her personal qualities are somewhat masked by her professional demeanor.

[JOE] Late 30s – Late 40s. African-American. Strong and reliable. A bit world weary but resilient.

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[MAGNOLIA HAWKS] Early 20s – Late 20s. Sweet and guileless. A charming innocent. Beautiful and not yet jaded by the world.

[GAYLORD RAVENAL] Mid 20s – Mid 30s. Dashing, handsome, and gallant, a bit of a scoundrel. There's a good heart in there somewhere, but he's also a bit of a cad.

[PETE GAVIN] Early 20s – Late 30s. Brooding and brutish, menacing and obsessive. A bully. SAME ACTOR ALSO PLAYS JEB.

[JEB] Any age. Burlly and tough. Menacing and frightening. SAME ACTOR ALSO PLAYS PETE.

[SHERIFF IKE VALLON] Late 40s – Early 60s. Well-meaning and kind, but he IS the law. He will not be pushed around.

[JAKE] Any age. Jaded, worldly, someone who has seen it all. A bit removed, distant.

[KIM] Early 20s – Late 20s. Just like her mother at her age. Sweet and guileless. A charming innocent. Beautiful and not yet jaded by the world.

[MOTHER SUPERIOR] Late 40s – Mid 60s. Reverent and holy, firm, serene. A sense of calm and strength.

[WILLY] Any age. Solid and hardworking, reliable and strong.

[CHARLIE] Any age. Friendly and blustery, no-nonsense.

[WINDY] Early 50s – Mid 60s. Wise and kind, steady and calm. Relaxed, at ease.

[GOVERNESS] Any age. Firm and no-nonsense, a good worker, knows her place. SAME ACTOR ALSO PLAYS LOTTIE.

[DOTTIE] Early 20s – Mid 30s. Flirty and fun, easy-going and up for a good time. Likes to party, charming.

[LOTTIE] Early 20s – Mid 30s. Flirty and fun, easy-going and up for a good time. Likes to party, charming. SAME ACTOR ALSO PLAYS THE GOVERNESS.

[YOUNG KIM] 10 – 12. Delightful and full of energy, bright and sweet, happy, open and full of life and wonder.

[ENSEMBLE] Any age, plays multiple roles.

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**Philadelphia, Here I Come! by Brian Friel**

Directed by Frank Galati

[PUBLIC GAR] Early 20s – Early 30s. Engaging and outgoing, a fun and cheery young man, idealistic. Sometimes prone to bouts of melancholy and introspection, a dreamer. Filled with yearning and longing.

[PRIVATE GAR] Early 20s – Early 30s. The inner self of Public Gar. His “spirit,” conscience, secret thoughts, and id, if you will. Feels everything intensely. The emotional highs are very high and the lows devastating. Passionate, mercurial.

The roles of MASTER BOYLE, SB O’DONNELL, MADGE MULHERN, CANON O’BYRNE, TOM, JOE, NED, KATIE DOOGAN, and SENATOR DOOGAN Have Been Cast.

**Other Desert Cities by Jon Robin Baitz**

Directed by Greg Leaming

[POLLY WYETH] Early 60s – Late 70s. Elegant, forthright, whip-smart. The consummate wealthy Reaganite housewife – nothing is ever out of place and her feathers are never ruffled.

[LYMAN WYETH] Early 60s – Late 70s. Sturdy in the way of old Californians of a particular type. Described as “oak-like.”

The roles of SILDA GRAUMAN, TRIP WYETH, and BROOKE WYETH Have Been Cast

**Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike by Christopher Durang**

Directed by Peter Amster

[MASHA] Late 40s – Late 50s. Glamorous and successful actress. A high society world traveler. Conscious of the fact that she’s the main family breadwinner. Self involved and over-the-top.

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[CASSANDRA] Early 20s – Early 60s. Cleaning lady and soothsayer. Mystical, earthy, warm. Friendly and easygoing but tough when necessary. African-American.

The roles of SONIA, VANYA, NINA, and SPIKE Have Been Cast

### **The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck, adapted by Frank Galati**

Directed by Michael Donald Edwards

[ELIZABETH SANDRY/ENSEMBLE] Late 30s – Mid 50s. Righteous and full of fire, a true believer. Judgmental and slightly vicious towards those who do not share her beliefs.

[TOM JOAD] Early 20s – Late 20s. Solid, strong, a bit rough. Deep down, a good-hearted young man, but one who has been disillusioned by life. Struggles to do the right thing. Has a hot temper that he struggles to control.

[CONNIE RIVERS/ENSEMBLE] Early 20s – Late 20s. Gentle, means well but unable to live up to the challenges life puts before him. Slightly lazy, prone to being a layabout, cowardly.

[WINFIELD JOAD] 10 – 12. Full of energy, bright and sweet, happy, open and full of life and wonder.

[RUTHIE JOAD] 10 – 12. Full of energy, bright and sweet, happy, open and full of life and wonder.

[1<sup>st</sup> CAMP GIRL/ENSEMBLE] 10 – 12. Full of energy, bright and sweet, happy, open and full of life and wonder.

[SON OF MAN IN BARN/ENSEMBLE] 10 – 12. Tired, hungry, frightened. Beaten down by life, but still scrappy. A fighter.

[CAMP PROPRIETOR/ENSEMBLE] Any age. Solid, working-class. No-nonsense, not afraid to defend what's his. A bit hard.

[MAN GOING BACK/ENSEMBLE] Any age. Bitter, disillusioned, profoundly wounded by misfortune.

[WILLY/ENSEMBLE] Any age. Official, no-nonsense, firm and forthright. Someone who knows the rules and upholds them.

The roles of UNCLE JOHN JOAD, PA JOAD, GRANDMA JOAD, GRANDPA JOAD, MA JOAD, JIM CASY, 1<sup>st</sup> NARRATOR, ROSE OF SHARON, AGGIE WAINWRIGHT, NOAH JOAD, AL JOAD, MRS. WAINWRIGHT, and MULEY GRAVES Have Been Cast

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### **HERO: The Musical** music and lyrics by Michael Mahler, book and concept by Aaron Thielen

Directed by David H. Bell

[HERO BATOWSKI] Late 20s – Early 30s. Genial, sweet, a dreamer. Incredibly talented artist but keeps it hidden. Still reeling from personal tragedy that happened years ago and he never moved on.

[AL BATOWSKI] Early 50s – Early 60s. Funny and charming, a big kid himself and kind of a soft touch. Loves his son, but worries about what will happen to him if he can't get out of the rut he's in. Somewhat physically weakened after a heart attack a few years ago and a leg injury sustained in a car crash ten years ago.

[JANE FOSTER] Late 20s – Early 30s. Extremely positive, has the ability to make the world around her a happier, better place. Makes everyone around her better. Powerful heart, even though it has been often broken. Needed to discover the power to protect herself.

[KIRK] Late 20s – Early 30s. Fearless. Fiercely loyal. Ability to communicate with anyone and get what he wants. Super human charm. Funny and a bit of a self-professed ladies' man.

[SUSAN SCHMITTY] Late 20s – Early 30s. Superior organizational skills. Incredibly self-protective exterior. A bit of a loner and very awkward, but a giant heart lurks underneath her outer shell. Quirky and endearing.

[NATE] 10 – 12. Expert chess player. He is independent and wise beyond his years, but a bit socially awkward. For his size, he is very strong and quick.

[TED] Late 20s – Early 30s. Professional slacker, but very sweet, smart, and kind. A good soul.

[KYLE] Early 40s – Late 40s. Wise, caring, and kind. A bit lost in life, but gets a lot out of helping others.

[ADELE] Early 20s – Late 30s. A Guardian Angel who protects Al and Hero, she is Hero's mother who died in a car crash ten years ago. Beautiful, wise, mysterious, and ethereal.

[JOHN TIMMONS] Late 30s – Early 50s. No-nonsense, firm, and businesslike, but a genuinely good person. Willing to take a chance on those he recognizes as talented.

[ENSEMBLE] Any age, plays multiple roles.

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### **4000 Miles by Amy Herzog**

[VERA JOSEPH] Late 70s – Early 90s. Physically tiny and verging on frail, but buoyant of spirit and energy. Fortright and plain spoken. Sharp despite her years.

[AMANDA] Late teens – Mid 20s. Pretty, fashion-forward, party girl. Giggly and fun. Smart and feisty. Chinese-American.

The roles of BEC and LEO JOSEPH-CONNELL have been cast.

### **Casting Policy statement by Asolo Repertory Theatre:**

Many Equity roles for the 2013-2014 season have been cast from our resident company. Auditioning performers will be considered as understudies and possible replacements, should any become necessary. All roles except bit parts are understudied. Asolo Repertory Theatre is committed to equal opportunity employment and a flexible, non-traditional casting policy. "Non-traditional casting" is defined as the casting of ethnic minorities, senior actors, female actors, or actors with disabilities in roles where race, ethnicity, age, sex or ability is not germane.

### **Asolo Repertory Theatre**

Now in its 54<sup>th</sup> season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is widely recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in the southeastern United States. One of the few true repertory companies in the nation, Asolo Rep presents a diverse repertoire of newly commissioned plays, bold reinterpretations of contemporary and classical works, and provocative new musical theatre experiences each season. With its ambitious theatrical offering and groundbreaking education, outreach and audience development programming, Asolo Rep is more vibrant and its work more relevant than ever.

Asolo Repertory Theatre is able to bring productions to the stage because of the generosity of corporate sponsors and individual supporters. Season sponsors for 2012-2013 are Florida State University, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Comcast, Designing Women Boutique, Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, and The Woman's Exchange, Inc. Paid for in part by Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax revenues. Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

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