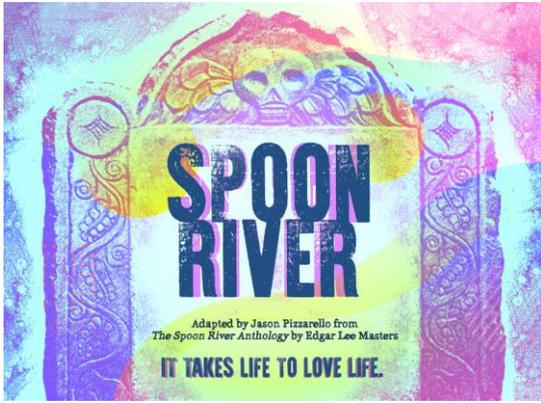


The Winnepesaukee Playhouse Education Department Presents...



Spoon River

Adapted by Jason Pizzarello

from *The Spoon River Anthology* by Edgar Lee Masters

Auditions: Tuesday, September 7, 2021
Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Callbacks: Thursday, September 9, 2021

Performances: October 28-31, 2021
Teen Production (Ages 13-18)

About the Play: The denizens of a small town in the American Midwest address the audience from beyond the grave in this contemporary adaptation of poet Edgar Lee Masters' most famous collection. Some fixate on a pivotal moment or a treasured relationship. Some of their stories brim with regret, others radiate gratitude or burst with humor. Some are devastating. All of Spoon River's residents, in the end, remind us that some human bonds are unbreakable.

Creative Team: **Directed by** Meredith C. Brown **Stage Manager** Amanda Dickinson
Scenic Design by TBA **Lighting Design by** Davis Vande Steeg
Costume Design by Wendy Davidson **Sound Design by** Timothy L'Ecuyer
Props Coordinator Jenn Szendre

Who is Eligible: Auditions are open to anyone ages 13-18.

Audition Dates: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:00PM – 9:00PM
Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6:00PM – 9:00PM
*****When possible, please leave the first hour free for the younger students!*****

You do NOT need to attend both days, nor do you need to stay the entire time on the night you attend. Instead, you will make a 5-10 minute appointment when you register. Those invited to callbacks will be asked to stay for the whole callback.

How to Register: Register for an audition appointment at www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org under the "Education" tab OR by calling 603-279-0333.

What to Prepare: Everyone auditioning should prepare one of the audition pieces included in this packet. (See those pages for details!)

Callbacks: **Callbacks will be Thursday, September 9th 7:00PM-9:00PM.** Those called back should plan on staying the entire time. Callbacks are by invitation only. A list of people needed for callbacks will be posted on the website as soon as possible after the final day of auditions. Everyone who auditioned will receive an email when the list is posted. The callback evening will consist of (provided) **readings from the script and movement work**. Please come dressed in comfortable clothing that allows freedom of movement. Bringing a water bottle is also a good idea.

- Parent Meeting:** For students cast in the production, there is a mandatory parent/guardian meeting on **the first day of rehearsal**. This meeting should be attended by the student and at least one parent/guardian. We will cover Education Department policies and procedures, paperwork, and any questions people have. The meeting will take about 30 minutes and rehearsal will begin immediately after the conclusion of the meeting.
- Rehearsals:** This production will rehearse **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 6:00PM-9:00PM as well as Sundays 1:00PM-5:00PM. Rehearsals begin Sunday, September 12th**. A detailed rehearsal schedule is included at the end of this document.
- Volunteers:** At the parent/guardian meeting, we will discuss opportunities for volunteers to help in various production capacities on this production. Parent, guardian, and family member volunteerism is not required for a student to participate in the production, but it helps us get this show off the ground and is HUGELY appreciated. (It's a great opportunity for siblings who need volunteer hours for school or other programs!)
- Tech Week:** **Tech and Dress Rehearsals** are **Sunday, October 24th – Wednesday, October 27th** and run 1:00PM – 6:00PM on Sunday and 5:00PM-10:00PM Tuesday through Thursday.
- Performances:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 7:30PM (tentative 5:30PM call)
Friday, October 29, 2021 at 7:30PM (tentative 5:30PM call)
Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 7:30PM (tentative 5:30PM call)
Sunday, October 31, 2021 at 2:00PM (tentative 12:00 call)
- Commitment:** It is, of course, preferred that each cast member is available for every rehearsal. That said, we acknowledge that people have a lot going on and need to fit this production into already busy schedules.
- Not every student will necessarily be called (required to attend) every rehearsal. The theatre will publish a detailed schedule taking students' conflicts into account.
- Students will be asked to put their schedule conflicts on the form at auditions. When a student is cast, the theatre agrees to work with all conflicts indicated on the back of the audition form. Additional conflicts (that were not disclosed at the time of auditions) may lead to dismissal from the production without a refund of tuition.
- There may be instances where a student's availability affects casting decisions.
- All tech and dress rehearsals as well as performances are mandatory and may, therefore, only be missed in the case of the most extreme illness or emergency.**
- Special Note:** Students ages 13 are eligible to audition for either fall WP Education production or for both of them. Students will be asked to indicate at the time of their auditions whether they intend to audition for *Spoon River*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, or both. Students auditioning for both shows should prepare the required audition material for both shows. **Students will be cast in ONE production at most.**

- Use of Images:** Permission to use students' images in promotional materials (including but not limited to all printed and digital publications in still or video format) is implicit in your agreement to participate in this production. Please note the photograph and/or video using the students' likeness is property of the Winnepesaukee Playhouse and may be edited, altered, exhibited, published, and distributed for the purpose of publicizing this or any other Playhouse program in perpetuity, and that there will be no compensation of any kind for the use of these images.
- Tuition:** **The fee to participate is \$100** and is due at the first rehearsal/meeting. Your tuition helps to cover production costs (set, lights, costumes, props, etc) and the cost of direct instruction by the Playhouse's staff of teaching-artists. In addition, you will receive a production t-shirt, poster, and access to digital photos taken at dress rehearsal. Tuition does NOT include the cost of tickets to the performance.
- Financial Aid:** Financial assistance and payment plans to help with the cost of tuition may be available. Do not let the cost of participation prevent students from auditioning.
- Safety:** As the changing state of the pandemic makes it necessary to constantly re-evaluate the viability of all Playhouse programming, we are dedicated to prioritizing the safety of students and staff. Decisions about safety are ultimately made by the producing artistic director.
- Inquiries:** Please do not hesitate to contact Education Director Timothy L'Ecuyer with any questions and/or concerns you may have by emailing timothy@winnipleyhouse.org or by calling 603-279-0333. Information about this production and everything else at the theatre is always available on the website: www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org

COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

- As all students choosing to participate in this production who are eligible (according to age and medical condition) to be vaccinated against COVID-19 **are required** to be fully vaccinated. “Fully vaccinated” is defined as having received two doses of Pfizer or Moderna (plus two weeks) OR one dose of Johnson & Johnson plus (two weeks.) Exemptions to this requirement will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please email timothy@winnipleyhouse.org if you have questions or concerns about this policy.
- All rooms will have hand sanitizer and we will encourage frequent hand washing.
- In rehearsal and performance situations, it is sometimes difficult to strictly maintain 3 foot physical distancing as people move around. Students may sometimes be physically close together. We will, however, avoid prolonged close proximity and/or physical contact—defined by the CDC as exceeding 15 minutes.
- Masks will be required for students while inside the Winnepesaukee Playhouse building. Staff working directly with students will also wear masks while inside the building. There may be staff members working unmasked in other areas of the building—mostly offices. All Winnepesaukee Playhouse staff are fully vaccinated.
- We may adjust masking requirements as factors (including local vaccination and infection rates as well as the guidance of local, state, and federal authorities) change. If things change, we will fully inform students and parents/guardians by email prior to implementing these changes. **Students are always permitted to wear masks, but they may be in a room with unmasked people if the evolving state of the pandemic allows changes in requirements.**
- During the early weeks of rehearsal, we may have some opportunities to rehearse and/or take breaks outside. Neither students nor staff are required to wear masks outside. In this situation, we will abide by the physical distancing practice noted above.
- ***By attending rehearsal, you are attesting to the student’s health status each day. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT ATTEND REHEARSAL IF THEY ARE EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:***
 - Bad Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea
 - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19
- Cases of students who experience these symptoms will be handled on a case-by-case basis and we **may require documentation of a negative COVID-19 test (rapid test or PCR) before returning to rehearsal.** *In these situations, we want to work with you to do what’s best for everyone involved in the production.*
- COVID protocols for audiences are posted the Playhouse’s website: <http://www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org/covid-19-protocols.html>

SPOON RIVER

Rehearsal Schedule

(Tentative – Subject to Some Minor Changes)

Not every student will necessarily be called (required to attend) every rehearsal. The theatre will provide detailed schedules taking students' conflicts (indicated at the time of auditions) into account.

Rehearsal

Sunday	Sep 12	1:00-5:00	Sunday	Oct 10	1:00-5:00
Monday	Sep 13	6:00-9:00	Monday	Oct 11	6:00-9:00
Wednesday	Sep 15	6:00-9:00	Wednesday	Oct 13	6:00-9:00
Friday	Sep 17	6:00-9:00	Friday	Oct 15	6:00-9:00
Sunday	Sep 19	1:00-5:00	Sunday	Oct 17	1:00-5:00
Monday	Sep 20	6:00-9:00	Monday	Oct 18	6:00-9:00
Wednesday	Sep 22	6:00-9:00	Wednesday	Oct 20	6:00-9:00
Friday	Sep 24	6:00-9:00	Friday	Oct 22	6:00-9:00
Sunday	Sep 26	1:00-5:00			
Monday	Sep 27	6:00-9:00			
Wednesday	Sep 29	6:00-9:00			
Friday	Oct 1	6:00-9:00			
Sunday	Oct 3	1:00-5:00			
Monday	Oct 4	6:00-9:00			
Wednesday	Oct 6	6:00-9:00			
Friday	Oct 8	6:00-9:00			

Tech – These dates may not be missed except in the event of the most extreme emergency

Sunday	Oct 24	1:00 – 6:00	Preliminary Tech / Run Through
Monday	Oct 25	5:00 – 10:00	First Tech
Tuesday	Oct 26	5:00 – 10:00	Tech/Dress
Wednesday	Oct 27	5:00 – 10:00	Final Dress

Performances

Times listed are curtain times. Call times will be set by stage management.

Thursday	October 28	7:30PM	Performance 1
Friday	October 29	7:30PM	Performance 2
Saturday	October 30	7:30PM	Performance 3
Sunday	October 31	2:00PM	Performance 4

**STRIKE follows Sunday afternoon's performance. EVERYONE is required to stay until everything is done.



AUDITION MATERIALS

Everyone auditioning for *Spoon River* should read all of the following monologues and then choose ONE to present in the audition. Please feel free to choose any monologue, regardless of the character's gender.

Think about what the character wants and what you can do with your voice and body to show us that.

You don't need to fully memorize (though you MAY if you want). Just make sure you're VERY familiar with the speech you choose. You will probably be asked to do it more than once in your audition. **Don't worry if you've never auditioned before—just do your best!**

Dora Williams:

He was a lush.
He married me when drunk.
My life was wretched.
A year passed and one day they found him dead.
That made me rich.
I moved on to Chicago.
After a time I met Tyler Roundtree, villain.
A gray-haired magnate,
he went mad about me—so another fortune.
He died one night right in my arms.
(I saw his purple face for years thereafter.)
There was almost a scandal.
I moved on.
This time to Paris.
I was now a woman,
insidious, subtle, versed in the world... and rich.
My sweet apartment near the *Champs Élysées*
became a center for all sorts of people,
musicians, poets, dandies, artists, nobles,
where we spoke French and German, Italian,
English.
I wed Count Navigato.
We went to Rome.
He poisoned me, I think.

Elsa Wertman:

I was a peasant girl from Germany—
Blue-eyed, rosy, happy and strong.
And the first place I worked was at Thomas
Greene's.
On a summer's day when his wife was away
he snuck into the kitchen and took me
right in his arms and kissed me on my neck
as I turned my head.
Then neither of us
seemed to know what happened.
And I cried for what would become of me.
And cried and cried as my secret began to show.
(*She touches her stomach.*)
One day, Mrs. Greene said she understood,
and would make no trouble for me,
and being childless, would adopt it.
(Mr. Greene had given her a farm to be still.)
So she hid in the house and sent out rumors,
as if it were going to happen to her.
And all went well and the child was born—
They were so kind to me.
Later I married Gus Wertman, and years passed.
But—at political rallies when sitters-by thought I
was crying
at the eloquence of Hamilton Greene—
That was not it.
No! I wanted to say:
That's my son! That's my son!

Roscoe Purkapile:

She loved me. Oh! how she loved me!
I never had a chance to escape
from the day she first saw me.
Time passed and after we were married
I began to think she might prove her mortality
and let me out, or she might divorce me.
Something.
But few die, none resign.
So I ran away and was gone a year on a lark.
But she never complained. She said all would be
well,
if I would return. And I did return. Eventually.
I told her that while taking a row in a boat
I had been captured near Van Buren Street
by pirates on Lake Michigan,
and kept in chains, so I could not write her.
She cried and kissed me, and said it was cruel,
Outrageous, inhuman!
I then concluded our marriage
was a divine dispensation
and could not be dissolved,
except by death.
I was right.

Fiddler Jones:

If the people find you can fiddle,
why fiddle you must, for all your life.
This earth!
Why, it always seems to keep some vibration
going
there in your heart, doesn't it?
Let me ask you:
Do you hear the wind in the corn?
Or do you hear the rustle of skirts
like the girls when dancing at Little Grove?
To Cooney Potter,
a pillar of dust or whiling leaves
meant ruinous drought;
They looked to me like a Red-Head Sammy
stepping it off, to "Toor-a-Loor."
How could I till my forty acres
not to speak of getting more,
when the sound of crows and robins
and the creak of a wind-mill
stirred in my brain as a
medley of horns, bassoons, and piccolos?
I tell you
I never started to plow in my life
without someone stopping me in the road
to take me away to a dance or picnic.
And so
I ended up with forty acres;
I ended up with a broken fiddle—
and a broken laugh,
and a thousand memories,
and not a single regret.