



<https://www.hawthorneplayers.info/auditions.html>

Groundhog Day **Auditions Information for 2025 Production**

AUDITIONS: Sunday, March 30: 11:00 am-4:40 pm

Sign up for audition time slot at <https://www.hawthorneplayers.info/auditions.html>

CALLBACKS: Monday, March 31 6:30 pm

To be seriously considered, those asked to callbacks should attend.

LOCATION: Florissant Performing Arts Center at the Florissant Civic Center
#1 James J. Eagan Dr. – corner of Parker Rd. and Waterford Dr., Florissant 63033

2024 PRODUCTION DATES:

- Fridays, July 25 & August 1 and Saturday, August 2 at 7:30 pm
- Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, August 3 at 2:00 pm
- Theater Move-in is Saturday, July 12
- Tech Week begins Sunday, July 20

AUDITION DETAILS:

- Please sign up for a 1-hour audition time slot. Plan to attend the entire hour, though you may be excused earlier, or stay slightly longer. We will do our best to keep auditions moving on time.
- **Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the audition time for sign in.**
- Auditioners should **download and complete the Audition Form** and bring it to auditions with a current headshot. A selfie is acceptable.
- Please come prepared to sing 16-32 measures of a song not from the show. Bring sheet music in the key you will be singing. An accompanist will be provided.
- **Sides for auditions** may be downloaded ahead of time. **Choose only one.** Not all characters are represented. You will be considered for all appropriate roles, unless you specify otherwise.
- While accents are truly not necessary for auditions, should you be interested in the ensemble, or choose to read for a role listed as using a Western Pennsylvania English accent (aka Pittsburgh English or Pittsburghese), feel free to try. :)
- **Dress for movement/dance.** Should you choose to do the optional tap combo, please bring tap shoes.
- Not all roles will be called back. You may still be cast whether you were called back or not. Any callbacks will include cold readings from the script along with music from the score, taught that evening.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Auditions are open to non-union actors of all races, sexes, creeds, orientations and abilities, ages 18 and older, who can sing, act, and move well, and who will make the commitment to be on time to all rehearsals, when they are needed, to create a superlative production. We encourage performers of diverse backgrounds and abilities to audition for our productions. Hawthorne Players is a community theatre and, as such, all roles are volunteer, unpaid positions.

Only actors available for production dates, tech week and rehearsals will be cast. Actors will be asked to help with move-in, set build and strike in some capacity.

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals will begin Sunday, May 18 at North Hills UMC in Ferguson and are currently planned for Sunday afternoons/evenings beginning at 1:00 PM and Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 6:45-10:00 PM.

SCHEDULE AND CONFLICTS: Conflicts will not necessarily eliminate you from being cast. However, excessive additional conflicts after being cast may result in a role being recast. Please do not audition if you are not available for all rehearsals during tech week and all performances.

HAWTHORNE DUES: Those cast are expected to become a paid member of Hawthorne Players to cover insurance, photos of show and eligibility for Hawthorne's Best Performance Awards. The cost to join Hawthorne Players is \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family, per calendar year.

For additional questions, please contact Director Dani Mann at danimann@hotmail.com

SHOW SYNOPSIS

Groundhog Day revels in one man's journey of self-discovery, day after day. Phil Connors, a seasoned big-city weatherman, is frustrated to be reporting the annual Groundhog Day Ceremony in small town Punxsutawney, PA. His arrogance and cynicism are in direct opposition to the cheery townsfolk, who are ready for their favorite Groundhog to not see his shadow and welcome an early spring. After disdainfully covering the rodent's negative forecast, he awakens the next day only to discover it's February 2 once more. Initially in disbelief, Phil finally accepts he is doomed to repeat the same day over and over again. Or will he find the courage to change himself and his fate?

AVAILABLE ROLES

In addition to the roles listed below, there's much to do! The ensemble will cover: Townspeople, Phil's Director (voice), Clock Radio Voices, Jeff (Sherrif's son), "Groundhog Guy," Marching band members, Ticket Man, Bartender, & Elders.

Some "featured" roles listed may not specify a vocal type, as they are also part of the ensemble, so there's flexibility.

The following characters might speak with a Pittsburghese accent: Mrs. Lancaster, Piano Teacher, Freddie, Debbie, Ralph, Gus, Doris, Sheriff, Deputy, other townspeople.

Lead

Rita Hanson (Any race/ethnicity, late 20s/30s+/flexible): A TV producer, professional, down to earth, empath, but knows what she wants, and knows what she does not want even more. Mezzo-Soprano, Vocal range top: E5 bottom: F#3

Phil Connors (Any race/ethnicity, 30s/40s/flexible): Over it and everybody, a burned-out TV weatherman, resentful, entitled. Tenor/Baritone, Vocal range top: B4 bottom: F#2

Supporting

Larry (Any race/ethnicity, late 20s/30s/40s/flexible): TV Cameraman, great at his job, professional, constantly disrespected by Phil, Tenor/Baritone (No solos; When singing joins ensemble.)

Nancy Taylor (Any race/ethnicity, late 20s/30s/flexible): Self-aware, up against the odds. A fatalistic surrender to her never-changing lot in life as the "pretty one." In a rut of her own. Mezzo-Soprano, Vocal range top: B4

Ned Ryerson (Any race/ethnicity, 30s/40s/flexible): An old friend of Phil Connor's from high school. A comedic, fast-talking life insurance salesman who crosses paths with Phil every morning. ***This actor will also double as "Healer."*** Baritone, Vocal range top: F4 bottom: Ab2

Featured

Mrs. Lancaster (Any race/ethnicity, 50s-60s+/flexible): A chipper, older, bed and breakfast owner with a huge smile and broken coffee maker. Vocal range top: F4 bottom: A3

Jonathan (Any race/ethnicity, 20s/30s/flexible): A fellow guest at Mrs. Lancaster's bed and breakfast in. He's a friendly man, cheerful and talkative, happy to make small talk with anyone he meets. Jonathan is a bit overweight, which Phil pokes fun of, often referring to him as "chubby." ***This actor will also double as "Priest."***

Freddie (Any race/ethnicity, 20s/flexible): A pro wrestling fan and marching band member. In a relationship with Debbie (but afraid to pop the question). Upbeat, huge fan of Phil Connors. ***This actor will also double as "Psychiatric Pharmacologist."*** Vocal range top: A4 bottom: D4

Debbie: (Any race/ethnicity, 20s/flexible) Debbie is a pro wrestling fan and marching band member. In a relationship with Freddie (but no ring yet). Upbeat, huge fan of Phil Connors.

Ralph: (Any race/ethnicity, age flexible) (Punxsutawney Townie who hangs out at the local dive bar, aside from shooting cans in a field somewhere and sleeping in every day. Vocal range top: C#5 bottom: G3

Gus: (Any race/ethnicity, age flexible) Punxsutawney Townie who hangs out at the local dive bar, aside from shooting cans in a field somewhere and sleeping in every day. Vocal range top: F#4 bottom: A2

Buster: (Any race/ethnicity, age flexible) Upbeat and offbeat Town Elder who oversees Punxsutawney Phil's annual prediction. Leads the parade and takes care of the famed groundhog. Vocal range top: Bb3 bottom: E3

Doris: (Any race/ethnicity, age flexible) A small town girl who's never left home, Doris works at the local diner. Still, she dreams of being a singer--despite the fact that she can't really sing (Until she suddenly can, when Phil helps her knock it out of the park.) Doris is friendly and cheerful, always doing her job with a smile. ***This actor will also double as "AA Member."***

Sheriff: (Male, any race/ethnicity, 40s/50s/flexible) One of two town cops. Forgetful, lackadaisical. Vocal range top: D4 bottom: F3

Deputy: (Any race/ethnicity, age flexible) The other town cop. Sheriff's sidekick.

Piano Teacher: (Female, any race/ethnicity, 30s/40s+/flexible) This actor will also double as "Mrs. Cleveland" and "Scientologist."

Old Jensen: (Male, any race/ethnicity, 50s+/flexible) An older homeless man. He begs for money on the streets to get by. Surviving the winter on the streets is difficult, and he succumbs from the cold and ill health in the evening of February 2nd. ***This actor will also double as an "Elder" and "Storm Chaser."***

Naturopath: (Female, any race/ethnicity, age flexible) One of the many doctors who attempts to help Phil figure out what's wrong him. ***This actor will also double as a "Storm Chaser."***

Joelle (Any race/ethnicity, age flexible) Joins Phil briefly in song representing the memory of a former conquest and a day he would rather be stuck in. ***This actor will also double as "Nurse."***