

Auditions for Charlotte's Web

February 25

Session 1: 6-7 p.m

Session 2: 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Scottish Rite Ballroom

CHOOSE ONE SESSION and plan to be there for the whole hour.

Sign up for a session here: <https://forms.gle/o5n69bxbBXo6EDDn8>

Performances

May 1 at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

May 2 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Scottish Rite Auditorium

Details:

1. Adults and kids ages 5 and up are encouraged to audition
 - Kids under 11 will need to be supervised by a guardian at rehearsals. This is a great opportunity to try a show together!
2. Please read the audition sides below. You don't have to memorize them—they will be available at the audition—but get familiar with the lines.
 - We will be grouping people to read and then rearranging to get a sense of who reads well together. You will likely read multiple times for a few different roles during your session.
3. Rehearsals begin March 7.
 - Rehearsals will generally be **Wednesday evenings from 6:00-9:00** and **Saturday mornings from 9:30-12:30** at the Scottish Rite with the potential for more rehearsals added between April 20-30.
 - Not everyone will be needed at all rehearsals. An updateable digital calendar with rehearsal information will be made available to the cast.
 - Please list all conflicts (including Spring Break!) on your audition form.
4. There is a performance for visiting schools that happens at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 1.
 - **If you are cast you must be able to make ALL performances including the school performance.**
5. The show runs about 50 minutes and is not a musical.

Questions?

Email us!

Caitlin challiga@gmail.com or Hollie hbarattolo@gmail.com

Cast of Characters:

Fern Arable

(Female, age 10-16)

Fern is a gentle girl who loves her “runt” Wilbur. She’s the only human in the story who can understand the animals.

John Arable

(Male, Adult)

John is Fern’s father. A sensible farmer who loves his daughter.

*This actor may take on ensemble roles.

Avery Arable

(Male/Female, age 10-16)

Avery is Fern’s brother. He’s the stereotypical older brother, picking on Fern and messing around.

Homer Zuckerman

(Male, Adult)

Homer is Fern’s uncle. He’s a famer who sees an opportunity when Wilbur shows promise as “some pig.”

*This actor may take on ensemble roles.

Lurvy

(Male/Female, Teen-Adult)

Lurvy is the Zuckerman’s hired farm hand. He’s the first to notice Charlotte’s wonderful webs.

*This actor may also take on ensemble roles.

Wilbur

(Male/Female, Teen-Adult)

Wilbur is a pig saved from the slaughter by Fern. He’s sensitive, silly, and naïve. He relies on Charlotte to keep him safe.

Templeton

(Male/Female, Adult)

Templeton is a rat who lives in the Zuckerman’s barn. He’s mostly selfish and crafty, but he can be persuaded to help the others when it also helps himself.

Charlotte

(Female, Adult)

Charlotte is a spider who lives in the Zuckerman’s barn. She is a sensitive and kind artist who has a deep fondness for Wilbur and will do anything to make sure he is safe.

*Must be comfortable climbing scaffolding.

Goose**(Female, Adult)**

Goose is a goose that lives in the Zuckerman's barn. She's the stuttering mother of many goslings.

*This actor may also take on other ensemble roles.

Gander**(Male, Adult)**

Gander is a goose that lives in the Zuckerman's barn. He also stutters and is a doting husband to the goose and proud father to the goslings.

*This actor may also take on other ensemble roles.

Sheep**(Female/Male, Adult)**

Sheep is a sheep that lives in the Zuckerman's barn. He's very old and tends to be the most practical of the farm animals.

Lamb**(Female/Male, Child 7-13)**

Lamb is a sheep who lives in the Zuckerman's barn. She is very rude to Wilbur.

Narrator**(Female/Male, Adult/Teen/Child ages 7 and up)**

Narrator tells the story and engages with all the characters. Kind demeanor and curious-natured.

Children's ensemble**(Female/Male, Child ages 5-13)**

These actors will play multiple parts including goslings, spiderlings, and fair goers. Some of the ensemble will have speaking lines.

Audition Sides:

CHARLOTTE/WILBUR 1

CHARLOTTE: Salutations.

WILBUR: Oh, hello. What are salutations?

CHARLOTTE: It's a fancy way of saying hello.

WILBUR: Oh. And salutations to you too. Very pleased to meet you. What is your name, please? May I have your name?

CHARLOTTE: My name is Charlotte.

WILBUR: Charlotte what?

CHARLOTTE: Charlotte A. Cavetica. I'm a spider.

WILBUR: I think you're beautiful.

CHARLOTTE: Thank you.

WILBUR: And your web is beautiful too.

CHARLOTTE: It's my home. I know it looks fragile. But it's really very strong. It protects me. And I trap my food in it.

WILBUR: I'm so happy you'll be my friend. In fact, it restores my appetite. (*He begins to eat.*) Will you join me?

CHARLOTTE: No thank you. My breakfast is waiting for me on the other side of my web.

WILBUR: Oh. What are you having?

CHARLOTTE: A fly. I caught it this morning.

WILBUR: (*choking*) you eat...flies?

CHARLOTTE: And bugs. Actually, I drink their blood.

Wilbur: Ugh!

CHARLOTTE: That's the way I'm made. I can't help it.

CHARLOTTE/WILBUR 2

WILBUR: Charlotte? Charlotte? Are you alright?

CHARLOTTE: Yes. A little tired, perhaps. But I feel peaceful now that I know you will live, Wilbur, secure and safe.

WILBUR: Oh, Charlotte. Why did you do all this for me? I've never done anything for you.

CHARLOTTE: You have been my friend. That in itself is a tremendous thing.

WILBUR: You have saved me, Charlotte, and I would gladly give my life for you...I really would.

CHARLOTTE: I'm sure you would.

WILBUR: Charlotte, we're all going home today. Won't it be wonderful to be back in the barn again?

CHARLOTTE: I won't be going back to the barn.

WILBUR: (alarmed) not going back? What are you talking about?

CHARLOTTE: I'm done for. In a day or two, I'll be dead.

WILBUR: Charlotte!

CHARLOTTE: I'm so tired.

WILBUR: Charlotte! My true friend!

CHARLOTTE: Come now, Wilbur. Let's not make a scene.

AVERY/FERN

AVERY: Mother sent me to get you. You're going to miss supper.

FERN: Coming. 'Bye, everybody. And thank you, Charlotte, for whatever it is you're going to do to save Wilbur.

AVERY: Who's Charlotte?

FERN: The spider over there.

AVERY: It's tremenjus! (*He picks up a stick.*)

FERN: Leave it alone!

AVERY: That's a fine spider and I'm going to capture it.

FERN: You stop it, Avery!

AVERY: I want that spider. (*FERN grabs the stick and they fight over it*) Let go of my stick, Fern!

FERN: Stop it! Stop it, I say!

HOMER/LURVY

LURVY: Here you go, pig. Breakfast. Lots of good leftovers today. Absolutely de- de (*sees the writing in the web.*) What's that? I'm seeing things. (*calling*) Mr. Zuckerman! Mr. Zuckerman! (*HOMER enters.*) I think you'd better come out to the pigpen quick! (*He points to the web.*)
Look!

HOMER: (*amazed*) A miracle has happened on this farm!

LURVY: A miracle.

HOMER: "SOME PIG." I don't believe it. You'd better hurry and take care of the chores, Lurvy.

LURVY: Sure thing Mr. Zuckerman. (*He exits.*)

HOMER: I'm sure we'll have lots of visitors today when word of this leaks out. I've got to call the minister right away and tell him about this miracle. Then I'll call the Arables. But, first, I've got to tell Edith. She'll never believe this. Edith! Edith!

ARABLE/FERN/AVERY

FERN: Papa, please don't kill it. It's unfair.

ARABLE: Fern, I know more about raising a litter of pigs than you do. A weakling makes trouble. Now run along!

FERN: But, it's unfair. The pig couldn't help being born small could it? This is the most terrible case of injustice I have ever heard of.

ARABLE: Oh...all right. I'll let you take care of it for a little while.

FERN: Thank you, Papa!

ARABLE. You can start him on a bottle, like a baby.

AVERY: (*entering*) What's going on?

ARABLE: Your sister has a guest fer breakfast. In fact, for a little while, she's going to be raising that pig.

AVERY: You call that miserable thing a pig? He's nothing but a runt.

ARABLE: Come in the house and eat your breakfast, Avery. The school bus will be along in half an hour.

FERN: I'm going to have such a good time with this little pig.

AVERY: Can I have a pig too, Pop?

ARABLE: No. I only distribute pigs to early risers who are trying to rid the world of injustice. Let's eat.

TEMPLETON/WILBUR

WILBUR: Templeton! Templeton! Wake up! Pay attention!

TEMPLETON: Can't a rat catch a wink of sleep?

WILBUR: Listen to me! Charlotte is very ill. She won't be coming home with us. I must take her egg sac with me. I can't reach it, and I can't climb. Please, please Templeton, climb up and get the egg sac.

TEMPLETON: What do you think I am, anyway, a rat-of-all-work?

WILBUR: Hurry! They'll be back soon. Templeton, I will make you a promise. Get Charlotte's egg sac for me and from now on I'll let you eat first when Lurvy slops me. You get first choice of everything in the trough.

TEMPLETON: You mean that?

WILBUR: I promise. I cross my heart.

TEMPLETON: All right. It's a deal. (*He gives the egg sac to Wilbur*)

WILBUR: Thank you, Templeton. Now you'd better run back to the truck and hide under the straw if you want a ride back home.

TEMPLETON: You bet I'm going back home, now that I get first choice of everything in the trough.

GOOSE/GANDER/LAMB/SHEEP/WILBUR

GANDER: We have a new resident.

GOOSE: His name is Wilbur.

LAMB: (*unenthused*) Oh, yeah. The pig.

WILBUR: You know about me?

SHEEP: We overheard the Zuckermans discussing you. They plan to keep you nice and comfortable.

LAMB: And fatten you up with delicious slops.

WILBUR: (*delighted*) Oh, I *am* going to like it here!

SHEEP: Just the same, we don't envy you. You know why they want to make you fat and tender, don't you?

WILBUR: No, I don't.

GOOSE: Now, now, now old sheep. He'll learn soon enough.

WILBUR: Learn what?

SHEEP: (*after a beat*) Oh, nothing. Nothing at all. Nice to meet you...Wilbur. Lamb, mind your manners.

LAMB: (*not meaning it*) Nice..to..meet...you...Wilbur.

WILBUR: (a bit concerned) My pleasure, I'm sure.

GOOSE: Well I have eggs to hatch.

GANDER: Good, good, good night, Wilbur. Better get some rest after such a long day.

NARRATOR

NARRATOR: The new pig has been born here at the Arables' farm. Before long, we'll meet the Arables. We'll also meet the others—the people *and* the animals—who will play an important part in the little pig's life. Now, where should we start? Wait a minute. We've already started. It's early morning and we're at the Arables's farm. Some pigs were born during the night. And the sun is just beginning to come up. For now, that's all you need to know.

SPIDERLINGS/WILBUR *CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE AUDITION SIDE*

FIRST SPIDER: Salutations!

WILBUR: Salutations? Who said that?

FIRST SPIDER: Me! I'm over here!

SECOND SPIDER: I'm over here!

THIRD SPIDER: And I'm over here!

FIRST SPIDER: Three of us are staying.

SECOND SPIDER: We like this place.

THIRD SPIDER: And we like you.

WILBUR: Oh my goodness! Well...salutations to you too! This is wonderful! Wonderful! What are you names please?

FIRST SPIDER: Excuse me. Are you trembling?

WILBUR: Yes. Trembling with joy.

FIRST SPIDER: Then my name is Joy.

SECOND SPIDER: What was my mother's middle initial?

WILBUR: A.

SECOND SPIDER: Then my name is Aranea.

THIRD SPIDER: I need a name too. Not too fancy and not too dumb.

WILBUR: How about...Nellie?

THIRD SPIDER: Fine. I like that very much.

WILBUR: Joy, Aranea, Nellie. Welcome to your new home.

THREE SPIDERS: Thank you! Thank you very much!