



## IT'S TIME FOR THE HAIRSPRAY JR, ROLL CALL...

### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

#### **Tracy Turnblad** - Female (White Actor, 14-18)

Tracy Turnblad is a young lady with big hair and an even bigger personality! She is the hero of our story, she is sweet but also strong in her convictions. She is bigger in size than the other girls, but she isn't shy about it - she can still dance with the best of them! Tracy must be an excellent singer, dancer and actor but most importantly she must have wonderful stage presence and lots of confidence.

#### **Corny Collins** - Male (White Actor, 14 - 18)

Corny Collins, the host of "The Corny Collins Show," is a Baltimore celebrity. Foremost, Corny is a charmer, so actors should be great energy to the part and not be afraid to be in the center spotlight. Corny should be a confident singer and actor.

#### **Edna Turnblad** - Female/Male (White Actor, 16-18)

Edna Turnblad is Tracy's loving mother who doesn't spend much time outside the house. She works days and nights as a laundress in her home, and her lack of social interaction has made her a bundle of nerves. This is a great character part for a female or male actor ready to transform into an older character. Those auditioning for Edna should be proficient singers and be willing to sell it with strong character choices

#### **Wilbur Turnblad** - Male (White Actor, 14-18)

Wilbur Turnblad is Edna's loving husband and Tracy's supportive father who just wants the best for his girls. We are looking for great chemistry between Wilbur and Edna, they should complement one another and be ready for some physical comedy, so timing will be key!

#### **Seaweed J. Stubbs** - Male (Black Actor, 14-18)

Seaweed J. Stubbs is the object of Penny's affections, and together, they are determined to defy the segregation laws of the 1960s. Seaweed can do it all! This is a great role for an experienced young black performer who loves to sing, dance and act just like Seaweed.

#### **Little Inez Stubbs** - Female (Black Actor, 8-14)

Little Inez Stubbs is Seaweed's little sister and also a confident singer and dancer. Little Inez sometimes is a bit more introverted but when it's her moment to shine she knows how to be bold and seize the opportunity in the spotlight.

**Penny Pingleton** - Female (White Actor, 14-18)

Penny Pingleton is Tracy's fun and sheltered sidekick. She is a young lady caught between her mother's very strict rules and her own wants and desires to be just another teenage girl. Penny might be sweet but don't be fooled, she's got a wild side and great comedic instincts!

**Prudy Pingleton** - Female (White Actor, 16-18)

Prudy Pingleton is a fun role for a performer who can really jump headfirst into a character. She is Penny's eccentric but loving mother, who wants the best for her daughter but is extreme in her means. We are looking for a strong actor who is capable of capturing the conflict of being a caring mother who can't help but be overprotective.

**Amber Von Tussle** - Female (White Actor, 14-18)

Amber Vontussle is a prom queen nightmare! She is definitely "The Corny Collins Show" favorite, but she is competitive and has a bad attitude. Amber can do it all, with a smile on her face and a tiara on her head she'll show you what a triple threat is and if she doesn't, her Mom will.

**Velma Von Tussle** - Female (White Actor, 16-18)

Velma Von Tussle is a carbon copy of Amber - just twenty years older and meaner! She is most concerned with making sure her daughter wins Miss Teenage Baltimore. This role calls for a competent singer who isn't afraid to make bold acting choices that lead her down an evil path or two.

**Link Larkin** - Male (White Actor, 14-18)

Link Larkin is Baltimore's biggest heartthrob, and Tracy's dream guy. Link is considered the best performer in town, so it's essential he can do it all. Act, dance and sing! Link is very much the stereotypical 'heartthrob,' oozing with charisma and always a sparkle in his eyes, he is ready to reduce girls to tears at any moment.

**Motormouth Maybelle** - Female (Black Actor, 14-18)

Motormouth Maybelle is a soulful part for an actor who can play an older age with stage presence and passion. In this story, she is the face of the Civil Rights Movement and sings the beautiful anthem, "I Know Where I've Been," so it's essential that those auditioning for this role have a strong voice.

**The Dynamites** - Female (Black Actors, 12-18)

The Dynamites (Judine, Kamilah and Shayna) are a dynamic musical trio, iconic of the Motown era and the 1960s. The role calls for three actors who are advanced singers and dancers who can synchronize and complement the other members that will make up 'The Dynamites.'

**Mr. Pinky** - Male (Non-specific, 10-18)

Mr. Pinky owns a ladies' clothing shop and is a salesperson inside and out - he is always the first to give a compliment. This is a perfect character role for a young person with great energy.

**Council Members** - NA

Brad, Tammy, Fender, Sketch, Shelley, IQ, Brenda and Lou Ann are the famed teenage performers on "The Corny Collins Show." This group will be made up of some of our featured singers and dancers. We are looking for actors with lots of personality, who are willing to make bold choices in their characterisations of these roles.

**Other standout ensemble roles include - NA**

Gym Teacher, Cindy Watkins, Matron, Principal, Lorraine, Gilbert, Thad, Duane, Stooie, Beatnik Chick, Male Guard, Guard, Newscaster and Council Members.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:****Hairspray Jr: Audition Workshops**

Our audition workshop is an important part of the process, often setting the tone of the project, its a great chance to meet your fellow cast and crew and start forming important bonds. We pride ourselves on creating a non-intimidating atmosphere where we foster a fun, friendly and supportive environment. The audition will consist of a group dance workshop, group singing workshop and audition sides to show back to our directing team. The audition workshop is included in the cost of the project. Those wanting to be considered for a lead role should be prepared to sing a solo at call-backs which will take place from 2:15 - 3:00. All those attending the audition will be cast in the project.

**WHEN to Show UP for Auditions?**

Sun 11th July 10-2

**WHERE to Show UP for Auditions?**

UP Studios, Hamble

**WHO are we looking for?**

7 - 18 year old actors, singers, dancers and enthusiastic and eager performers. No experience is necessary to join.

**Want to Light UP backstage?**

Get practical training in stage management, lights, sound, costumes, props, make up and running crew. Email [Courtney@lightupdrama.org.uk](mailto:Courtney@lightupdrama.org.uk) for more information.

**SHOW SYNOPSIS:**

'You Can't Stop the Beat' as we shake and shimmy it back to live theatre in-person and there's no better show for this year's SYP to get us moving and grooving, then *Hairspray, JR!*

It's 1962, and spunky, plus-size teen, Tracy Turnblad, has one big dream — to dance on the popular "Corny Collins Show." When she finally gets her shot, she's transformed from social outcast to sudden star. In balancing her newfound power with her desire for justice, Tracy fights for the equal right to dance, love and be seen, regardless of your size or skin colour and her voice helps start a movement to stop racial segregation. An important and relevant story for our young people to appreciate and tell and all the better, when we'll be singing and dancing the whole way.

*Hairspray JR.* is filled with a host of parts for a wide cross-section of young people, ranging in skill. and an abundance of energetic production numbers. All the roles below play a relevant and important part in creating the context and texture of the lively world of 1960s Baltimore.