

Greetings IP elite cast and families,

Happy Friday! I hope everyone is off to an excellent September and enjoying this amazing weather. I wanted to take a moment to say how excited Justin and I are to be working with such an incredible group for this session. We were truly blown away by the skills your students shared with us during Wednesday's auditions. The level of talent for this session is remarkable, and we were so impressed by the amount of risk taking and character choices your students displayed. This is going to be an outstanding advanced ensemble!

For auditions, Justin and I wanted to pre-assess two key components: 1) demonstration of vocal skills (projection, articulation, tonality, pitch-matching) and 2) display of acting skills (commitment to character, facial expressiveness, physical and vocal choices, risk-taking, confidence on stage, etc.) We started class by playing some introductory ensemble building games and acting games. This gave Justin and myself an opportunity to see our students work in an ensemble setting, make initial acting choices, and take risks. We then talked through our educational process, audition process, and elements of our show. We discussed the list of characters in depth to give students the chance to understand the wide variety of amazing roles this production has to offer. Finally, we started our audition assessments by having students sing two songs of their choosing (using excerpts from the show). We prepped by listening to the cast recording, singing through in a large group setting, and then asked volunteers to sing solo for auditions. After vocal assessments, we read through sides (excerpts from the script) and paired auditionees together to perform. The focus here was on character creation and making distinct physical/vocal choices. We had an excellent time at our first meeting, and so look forward to the incredible process ahead! We're so grateful to be working with your amazing students!

\*NOTE: all students will be featured in ways that highlights their individual strengths. This is our priority for the session and we will be collaborating with students on their individual preferences and ideas for features. (Vocal solos, dance solos, cheer solos, comedic acting bits, etc.). Every role is essential to this production. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you may have!

### **13 Cast List**

(in alphabetical order)

Archie- Allie  
Brett- Lucia  
Cassie-Orly  
Colleen-Annie  
Charlotte-Rachel  
Danielle-Kate  
Eddie- Mackenzie  
Emma-Becca  
Evan- Spencer  
Patrice- Christine  
Joey- Amanda

Maja/Rabbi-Lily  
Malcolm-Reeve  
Kendra- Clara  
Kyle-Lucy  
Lucy-Tessa  
Madison-Molly  
Molly-Mia  
Simone/ Mom-Caroline  
Richie-Amelia

We are so excited about this cast. It's going to be an excellent show and an even better process! Again, please let Justin or myself know if you would like any more specific feedback. We are happy to answer questions and discuss casting decisions individually before or after rehearsal. We look forward to our read through and first rehearsal this Sunday!

All of my best,

Britta Schlicht  
Education Director  
Improv Playhouse Theatre