

LTA Announces Auditions for Lost in Yonkers

Written by Neil Simon

Directed by Chantale Plante

Produced by Eleanore Tapscott

Audition Location & Dates:

The Little Theatre of Alexandria
600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Saturday, July 12, 2025 - 12pm to 2pm for Jay/Arty, 2pm to 4pm for Adult roles

Sunday, July 13, 2025 - 6 to 7pm for Jay/Arty, 7 to 9 PM for Adult roles

Community theatre production. Non-union. Non-paid. Please complete the [online form](#), where you will list your conflicts and upload your headshot and resume. Please sign up for an audition slot [here](#). You must sign up for a slot in order to audition. Please also be ready to provide all conflicts between July 15-September 28, 2025.

Audition will consist of cold Readings from the script; a prepared monologue is not required. Audition sides can be found [here](#).

Callbacks if needed – July 15, 2024 – by invitation only.

Performance Dates: September 6 – September 27, 2025

Rehearsals: Rehearsals are scheduled to begin the week of July 13. The show will rehearse weeknights (typically 7 pm to 10 pm) and weekend afternoons, with additional rehearsals added as we move towards tech week. Tech week is August 30 thru September 4 with a Preview on September 5th. Attendance during tech week is required.

For questions regarding this production and auditions, please email asklta@thelittletheatre.com

SYNOPSIS

This funny and heartwarming play is by one of America's most acclaimed and beloved playwrights. Neil Simon's Tony award winner and Pulitzer prize-winning play tells the moving drama about the cruelties and painful memories that scar a family.

It is Yonkers, New York, 1942. After the death of their mother, two young brothers are sent to stay with their formidable grandmother for the longest ten months of their lives. Grandmother Kurnitz is a one-woman German front—a refugee and a widow who has steeled her heart against the world. Her coldness and intolerance have crippled her own children: the boys' father has no self-esteem . . . their Aunt Gert has an embarrassing speech impediment . . . their Uncle Louie is a small-time gangster . . . and their Aunt Bella has the mentality of a child. Filled with laughter, tears, and insight, *Lost in Yonkers* is yet another testament to Neil Simon's talent.

FOR THE AUDITION

Please familiarize yourself with the roles. Cold readings/monologues from the script. Audition sides can be found [here](#).

Actors of all races/ethnicities are encouraged to audition.

CHARACTERS

NOTE: Stage age is consider “stage look” so actors in real life can be older or younger in reality but believably pass for the age of the character.

- **Arthur Kurnitz** (stage age 13) Younger brother of Jay. If not for the fact that his mother had died and his father is about to leave him and his brother with their very strict grandmother, Arthur would be a typical 13- year-old, inquisitive boy.
- **Jay Kurnitz** (stage age 16) Older brother of Arthur. Since his mother’s death, Jay has not only been taking care of himself and his younger brother, but also carries the burden of making sure that his father is ok as well.
- **Eddie Kurnitz** (stage age 40’s) Still mourning the loss of his wife, Eddie must find a way to support his two sons. The only option means having to ask his mother to care for his sons while he takes on a traveling sales position. His mother terrifies him.
- **Bella Kurnitz** (stage age early 30’s) Bright and energetic, emotionally she is almost a young, innocent child. Bella lives with and works for her mother in their candy shop below their apartment. Everyone believes that this is all Bella will ever have but Bella dreams of so much more. Bella is Eddie’s sister.
- **Grandma Kurnitz** (stage age 70’s) She is the strongly opinionated matriarch of the Kurnitz family. She is a “big” woman who walks with a limp and runs her family like her candy store, with great discipline and authority. Grandma Kurnitz needs to speak with a German accent.
- **Louie Kurnitz** (stage age late 30’s-40’s) Brother to Eddie and Bella. Louie is the black sheep of the family who appears to be involved in – *stuff* - wink wink. But whatever it is, it has brought him home to hide out for a few nights before leaving again. His mother definitely disapproves of him.
- **Aunt Gert** (stage age late 30’s) Sister to Eddie, Bella and Louie. Aunt Gert suffers from a speech affliction. It causes her to say half of a line with the breath going out and then somewhere in the middle, she seems to need to take in more air which causes her to speak in a higher tone. Appears in Act 2.

LTA Policies

LTA is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion. As such, we encourage performers of all races and ethnicities, gender identities, sexualities, abilities, and ages to attend auditions.

Those cast must be, or must become, members of the Little Theatre of Alexandria at the performers rate (\$20), or higher if desired. If this membership presents a financial hardship, please notify the producers, as exceptions can be made.

COVID VACCINATION POLICY as of September 2024

LTA highly encourages all participants in productions and educational activities to stay up to date with COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations according to CDC and Virginia Department of Health recommendations. Vaccines are one tool to help protect volunteers, cast, and crew in the LTA community from illness, and to prevent outbreaks of COVID-19 or flu from disrupting productions. Questions? Contact us at AskLTA@thelittletheatre.com.