

Wilmington College-Community Summer Theatre

Audition Information for *Into the Woods*

Thank you for considering auditioning for *Into the Woods*. Attached you will find audition information, character descriptions, and an audition sheet with a conflict calendar on back. The completed audition sheet/calendar page is to be turned in at the auditions. Please also complete an audition disclosure form.

AUDITION DATES:

Sunday, May 19 at 7:00 pm in Heiland Theatre in Boyd Cultural Arts Center

Monday, May 20 at 7:00 pm in Heiland Theatre in Boy Cultural Arts Center

You are ENCOURAGED to attend both nights of auditions, but you are NOT REQUIRED to attend more than one. If you are not available for either of these dates and still wish to be considered for a role, please contact the director, Bryan Wallingford, at bryan_wallingford@wilmington.edu for alternative options.

POSSIBLE CALLBACKS:

Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 pm in Heiland Theatre in Boy Cultural Arts Center.

AUDITIONS:

You do not need to prepare anything for this audition. This is a workshop-style audition; everything you need will be provided. Both nights of auditions will include group/solo singing, movement/dance, and reading from the script. Please plan on staying for the entire time (about 2 ½-3 hours).

REHEARSALS:

We will typically rehearse Sundays through Thursdays from 7:00-10:00 p.m. However, we are going to build a rehearsal schedule around the availability of our cast, so please be detailed in listing your evening conflicts. After the show is cast, a specific rehearsal schedule will be provided. You will only have to attend rehearsals for scenes in which your character is present.

PERFORMANCES:

We will have performances on **Thursday, July 18 at 7:30 pm; Friday, July 19 at 7:30 pm; Saturday, July 20 at 7:30 pm; and Sunday, July 21 at 2:30 p.m.**

ATTENDANCE/CONFLICTS:

On the back of your audition sheet there is a space in which to write your conflicts (dates & times that could interfere with your attendance at rehearsals). Please list all dates and times that apply on that sheet. Only previously approved conflicts (those on your audition sheet) will be excused.

We understand that life is unpredictable, and emergencies and illnesses occur. Please do your best to ensure that these events occur as infrequently as possible during the rehearsals and run of this show. During tech week (July 14 through 21) we cannot excuse anyone from rehearsal or shows. We must have all cast and crew members present that entire week. If absences must occur, the directors reserved the right to recast the role. Please note that during tech week and the shows (July 14-21) your call time will start at 6:30 pm and will go until we are finished (no specific stop time).

THE CHARACTERS:

Narrator: An intellectual and pleasant storyteller who helps to orchestrate the show and illustrate lessons to the audience. Vocal range top: E4, bottom: G2

Cinderella: A young, earnest maiden who is constantly mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters. Vocal range top: G5, bottom: G3. *Brief stage kiss

Jack: The feckless giant killer who is 'almost a man.' He is adventurous, naive, energetic, and bright-eyed. Vocal range top: G4, bottom: B2

Jack's Mother: Browbeating and weary, Jack's protective mother who is independent, bold, and strong-willed. Vocal range top: Gb5, bottom: Bb3

The Baker: A harried and insecure man who is simple and loving. He wants his wife to be happy and is willing to do anything to ensure her happiness. Vocal range top: G4, bottom: Ab2

The Baker's Wife: Determined and bright woman who wishes to be a mother. She leads a simple yet satisfying life. Vocal range top: G5, bottom: F3 *Intimacy Choreography

Cinderella's Stepmother: Mean-spirited and demanding. Vocal range top: F#5, bottom: A3

Florinda & Lucinda: Cinderella's stepsisters who are black of heart. They follow in their mother's footsteps of abusing Cinderella. Vocal range top: Ab5, bottom: C4

Cinderella's Father: Out of touch with his family but harmless. Vocal range top: Eb4, bottom: B2

Little Red Ridinghood: A spoiled young girl who is strong-willed, quick-witted, fearless, yet youthful and naive. Vocal range top: F5, bottom: Bb3

Witch: Sarcastic, ugly-then-gorgeous, obsessive protector of Rapunzel who is straightforward and aggressive. Vocal range top: G5, bottom: F3

Cinderella's Mother: Deceased with her soul guarding and aiding her daughter from a tree. Vocal range top: F4, bottom: E4

Mysterious Man: A mischievous vagrant and nosy meddler. He is a good-natured protector and observer. Vocal range top: Eb4, bottom: G2

Wolf: A hungry and insatiable hunter who takes advantage of the weak by misleading and captivating his prey. Vocal range top: Gb4, bottom: Bb2

Granny: A feisty old lady with a sadistic side. Vocal range top: F#5, bottom: A3

Rapunzel: A loopy-but-lovely maiden who is sheltered by the Witch and terribly lonely. She yearns to experience the world. Vocal range top: A5, bottom: B3 *Brief stage kiss

Cinderella's Prince: Vain and gorgeous, he is a disloyal lover who is currently searching for the next new, exciting thing. Vocal range top: F4, bottom: B2 *Intimacy Choreography

Steward: A servant whose only care is to please his master or the strongest personality in the room. Conniving, callous, and cowardly. Vocal range top: Eb4, bottom: B2

Rapunzel's Prince: Just as vain and gorgeous as his Prince brother, he is also always chasing the newest, most exciting endeavor. Vocal range top: E4, bottom: C#3 *Brief stage kiss

Giant: The Giant's wife is an angry and vengeful 'monster.' She is seeking restitution for her loss. Voice only.

Storytellers: There will be several storytellers who portray both the flora and fauna of the world of *Into the Woods* through movement and puppetry. Milky White will be a puppet assigned to one from this group.

A (NOT SO BRIEF) SUMMARY OF THE MUSICAL:

Act 1: Once upon a time...The Narrator leads the company through "The Prologue," as we learn about a series of wishes that are more important than anything to these characters. Cinderella wants to go to the King's Festival; Jack wishes his cow could give milk; and the Baker (who believes his parents were killed in a baking accident) wishes that he and his Wife could have a child. As these characters express their wishes, we meet Cinderella's Stepmother and Stepsisters, who laugh at the idea of her going to a ball; Jack's aging mother, who wishes for a lot of gold and a less foolish son; and Little Red Ridinghood, who comes to buy bread and sweets from the Baker and his Wife before visiting her sick Grandmother.

Jack's Mother sends Jack off to market to sell his beloved cow, and the Baker and his Wife learn that the Witch next door has placed a curse on them to prevent their having a child. She explains that the Baker's father had stolen vegetables, including magic beans, from her garden many years ago. To punish him for the theft, she demanded the Baker's sister, a sibling the Baker never knew existed. She claims that she still has the sister hidden away, and that he can break the spell that makes him childless only by bringing her a cow as white as milk, a cape as red as blood, hair as yellow as corn and a slipper as pure as gold.

The Baker puts on his father's old jacket as he prepares to journey into the woods. He finds six beans in the pockets and wonders if they are the Witch's magic beans. He forbids his Wife to join him on this dangerous quest as he tries to memorize the list of things the Witch says he must deliver. As "The Prologue" ends, Cinderella decides to visit her mother's grave.

Cinderella tells her mother her wish and is given a fancy dress and slippers to wear to the ball. While walking through the Woods to market, Jack encounters a Mysterious Man, who tells Jack that his cow is only worth a sack of beans. Little Red Ridinghood meets a Wolf, who targets her and her grandmother as his next meal ("Hello, Little Girl"). The Baker appears and is concerned that harm will come to Little Red Ridinghood. We hear a woman singing in the distance; it is the voice of the Baker's lost sister, Rapunzel.

As the Baker struggles to remember the four objects on his list, his Wife appears, with another offer to help him. They argue about her presence as they encounter Jack and his cow. The Baker's Wife persuades Jack to sell the cow for five of their beans (which leaves them with one remaining bean). After Jack sings a sad farewell to the cow ("I Guess This Is Goodbye"), the Baker is upset that they used deceit to acquire the animal. The Baker's Wife insists that they did Jack a favor ("Maybe They're Magic"). The Baker sends his wife home with the cow and continues on his way as Rapunzel sings again.

The Witch visits Rapunzel at the tower where she is kept prisoner. A handsome prince sees the Witch climb Rapunzel's hair and decides to try it himself the following day.

Little Red Ridinghood enters Grandmother's house, finding the Wolf in bed, pretending to be the old woman (whom he has eaten). After the Wolf eats Little Red Ridinghood, he takes a nap. The Baker sees a corner of the red cloak hanging out of the Wolf's mouth and cuts his stomach open, releasing Little Red

Ridinghood and Granny. After the ordeal, Little Red Ridinghood sings a song of realization ("I Know Things Now"). Grateful to the Baker for saving her life, Little Red Ridinghood gives him her cloak.

Jack's Mother is furious with him for selling their cow for seemingly worthless beans, and she throws them away. The Baker's Wife, leading Milky-White through the forest, encounters Cinderella, who is running from a Prince and his Steward. When Cinderella reveals that she isn't sure she wants the Prince, the Baker's Wife thinks she is being very foolish ("A Very Nice Prince.") The Baker's Wife tries to take one of Cinderella's gold shoes, but is forced to chase after the runaway cow instead.

The next morning the characters realize one midnight has gone and they have not realized their wishes. Jack discovers a beanstalk has grown up overnight.

As the Baker sleeps beneath a tree, Jack appears with a sack of golden coins. He sings about "Giants in the Sky" and relates his adventure. Jack's Mother, delighted by his acquisition, has let him keep five gold pieces, which he wants to use to buy back Milky-White. He finds the Baker and demands his cow. The Baker cannot sell the cow because the Witch wants it. Jack, thinking the Baker is holding out for more money, goes off in search of additional funds, leaving the gold with the Baker. The Baker's Wife appears, confessing that she has lost the cow.

Rapunzel's Prince and Cinderella's Prince exchange tales of woe ("Agony"), each insisting his romantic problem is more serious than his brother's.

The Mysterious Man returns the cow to the Baker. The Witch warns the Mysterious Man to stay out of her business. The Baker's Wife, recognizing Rapunzel's hair as the perfect shade to satisfy the Witch's hair demand, rips out one of the girl's substantial tresses, and runs into Cinderella, who is on her way home from another night at the Festival. The Baker's Wife tries, without success, to take Cinderella's shoe. The Baker and his Wife run into each other, and he finally agrees that it will take both of them to accomplish their goal ("It Takes Two"). The cow drops dead, and all seems lost for the couple.

The Baker goes in search of another cow. The Baker's Wife goes off to retry grabbing a golden slipper. The Witch warns Rapunzel to obey her ("Stay with Me"). Infuriated, the Witch cuts off most of Rapunzel's hair and exiles her. The Narrator reveals, while pursuing Rapunzel, that Rapunzel's Prince has fallen into a patch of thorns and blinded himself.

Little Red Ridinghood has replaced her red cloak with one made from the skins of the Wolf. Jack, questing after more money for his mother, has returned to the giant's domain to steal more gold.

Leaving her third visit to the royal ball with only one slipper, Cinderella has reflects on her indecision about the Prince ("On the Steps of the Palace").

The Baker's Wife gives Cinderella her own shoes in exchange for the remaining gold slipper. She then has a struggle with the Prince's Steward, who also wants the second gold slipper. There is a horrible thud. Jack's Mother screams that a dead giant has fallen from the sky, but no one seems to care.

The Baker and his Wife report to the Witch with their four objects, but she rejects the new cow, which they have covered with flour to look like the dead Milky-White. The Witch demands that they bring the dead Milky-White to her, and she will bring it back to life. The Witch commands the Baker to feed the newly revived cow the other objects. A clock chime begins to strike. The Witch reveals that the Mysterious Man is the Baker's father. The cow's milk flows into the goblet and the Witch drinks it. She is transformed into a beautiful woman, and the Baker's father dies as the third midnight strikes.

The Narrator explains that the Witch had been cursed with ugliness after her beans were stolen, but is now beautiful once again. Milky-White is reunited with Jack. The Prince searches for Cinderella with the golden slipper. Lucinda and Florinda try to fit into the slipper by cutting off parts of their feet, but their tricks are revealed by Cinderella's Mother, and the Prince finally finds Cinderella.

The Narrator states that Rapunzel, has had twins and been reunited with her blind husband, and that Rapunzel's tears restored his vision. The Witch attempts a reconciliation with her adopted daughter, but Rapunzel refuses. When the Witch tries to enchant Rapunzel and her prince, she realizes that, in exchange for her own youth and beauty, she has lost her magical power over others.

At Cinderella's wedding, her stepsisters are blinded by birds. The Baker's Wife appears, very pregnant.

The Narrator observes that everything that once seemed wrong is now right. The kingdoms are filled with joy, and those who deserve happiness are certain to live long and satisfying lives. Only tenderness and laughter are foreseen forever after. As everyone congratulates themselves on their unswerving determination to get their wishes, a giant beanstalk emerges from the ground and stretches to heaven. No one notices it. To be continued...

Act Two: Once upon a time...later. As in the opening of Act I, we discover three structures. The first is the castle where Cinderella lives with the Prince; the second is Jack's house, which is filled with all the conveniences that gold will buy; the third is the home of the Baker and his Wife, which is cluttered with nursery items.

While the characters seem content ("Prologue – So Happy"), minor disturbances are quietly disrupting the joyous scene. The Baker's Wife wants a bigger cottage and she is squabbling with her husband over the baby's care. Suddenly, a huge crash is heard and their home caves in.

The Baker goes off to tell the Royal Family. The Witch, who has lost her garden in the incident, insists that they will not be of any help. When the Baker stops at Jack's house, he is refused help by Jack's Mother, who is still angry because no one cared when she had a giant in her backyard. The Baker is granted an audience with Cinderella, who seems unable to offer any concrete assistance. Despite his mother's warnings, Jack goes out to investigate.

Little Red Ridinghood stops at the Baker's. She is on her way to move in with her Grandmother because her own home was destroyed and her mother has disappeared. The Baker and his Wife offer to escort her through the woods. The birds come to lead Cinderella through the woods, warning of trouble at her mother's grave. The characters must go into the woods again.

The royal princes meet and, again, compare their problems. Rapunzel's Prince complains that his wife finds it impossible to be happy because of her pain-filled upbringing. He has fallen for Snow White. Cinderella's Prince lusts after Sleeping Beauty ("Agony – Reprise").

The Baker, his Wife and child and Little Red Ridinghood are lost in the now-chaotic woods. They see the Royal Family staggering down a path and learn that the castle has been set upon by a giant.

Suddenly, the Giant appears, and the group realizes that it is the wife of the giant that Jack killed. She has come to exact revenge and demands that Jack be handed over to her. Since she is nearsighted, the group thinks that they can substitute someone else. Jack's Mother engages the Giant in a furious verbal battle; the Steward bashes Jack's Mother over the head to stop her from endangering everyone else, and Jack's mother is fatally wounded. The Steward reveals that Jack is hiding in Rapunzel's tower. Then, a hysterical

Rapunzel runs toward the Giant and is crushed. The witch mourns that this is the world she was trying to save Rapunzel from confronting ("Lament").

The group disagrees about turning Jack over to the Giant. The Royal Family, without concern for anyone else, runs to another kingdom. The Baker and his Wife leave their child with Little Red Ridinghood and go off to save Jack from the Witch, who is on her way to turn him over to the Giant.

The Baker's Wife encounters Cinderella's Prince in the woods, and they have a romantic encounter in a glade. The Prince is ready to forget his commitment to Cinderella, but The Baker's Wife is ambivalent ("Any Moment"). The Baker meets Cinderella next to her mother's ruined grave and invites her to join his group. The Baker's Wife realizes that she has to let the moment go but says that she will never forget her time with the Prince ("Moments in the Woods"). She knows it is time for her to leave the woods, but she becomes lost. The giant appears, and she is crushed.

Jack is discovered by the others. He reports that the Baker's Wife is dead. Everyone blames him, but he blames the Baker for giving him the beans, which set the scenario in motion ("Your Fault"). As the song evolves, everyone blames everyone else. The Witch stops their accusations, declaring that it's the "Last Midnight." She says that everyone is looking for someone to blame when they should look inward instead. She disappears as they begin to see the connections between their earlier individual actions and the current problem.

The Baker starts to leave the Woods, believing that his child is better off with Cinderella than with him. Suddenly, his father, the Mysterious Man, reappears. The Baker cries out that the whole situation was caused by the father's invasion of the Witch's garden years before. The Mysterious Man accuses the Baker of running from his own guilt ("No More"). As his father leaves, the Baker realizes that he is just like him. He decides to stay and fight alongside the others.

Cinderella and the Baker try to reassure Little Red Ridinghood and Jack, who are now orphans trying to make sense of right and wrong ("No One Is Alone").

The Giant is killed, and the dead in the community appear as ghosts, joining in a pronouncement of the moral lessons learned from the experience in the woods. The Baker and Cinderella become the responsible adults in a reconstituted family, made up of the Baker's child, Little Red Ridinghood and Jack. The ghost of the Baker's Wife encourages him to believe in his power to raise their child without her. The Witch reappears to warn the Baker to be careful of the tales that he tells his child ("Children Will Listen").

The full company sings a reprise of "Into the Woods", and the show ends as Cinderella once again states, "I wish...."

Wilmington College-Community Summer Theatre
Audition/Crew Form for *Into the Woods*

NAME _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP (if living off campus)

ARE THERE ANY ROLES YOU WOULD **NOT** ACCEPT IF OFFERED?

NO, I AM OPEN TO ALL CASTING OPTIONS


YES. PLEASE DON'T CONSIDER ME FOR _____

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CREW POSITION IF NOT CAST? _____

ON THE BACK PLEASE WRITE DOWN ALL EVENING CONFLICTS BETWEEN 6:00 P.M. AND 10:00 P.M., FOR EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK. Attach additional sheets if needed. (Jobs, Meetings, Concert Tickets, etc.)

PLEASE BE SPECIFIC AND ACCURATE!

For Directors' Use Only

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25
Auditions	Auditions	Callbacks				
May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31	June 1
	Memorial Day	First rehearsal Readthrough				
June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6	June 7	June 8
June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15
June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22
June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29
June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5	July 6
						
July 7	July 8	July 9	July 10	July 11	July 12	July 13
July 14 TECH WEEK	July 15 TECH WEEK	July 16 TECH WEEK	July 17 TECH WEEK	July 18 SHOW 7:30 pm	July 19 SHOW 7:30 pm	July 20 SHOW 7:30 pm
July 21 SHOW 2:30						