



*DREAMGIRLS* in concert

The Centre Theater, under the artistic direction of Amina Robinson, is seeking Equity and Non-Equity Submissions for a limited engagement of *Dreamgirls* in Concert, with music by Henry Krieger and lyrics and book by Tom Eyan.

We do not provide housing at this time, so we are looking for local actors/actors who are able to provide their own housing.

**Director:** Amina Robinson

**Music Direction:** Renee Robinson-Way

**Choreography:** TBD

**REHEARSAL DATES:**

April 7th to 20th 2023

Opening: 4/21/23

Closing 4/23/22

(3 performances)

**IN PERSON** auditions will be held on Friday, January 13 2024 from 1 pm to 6 pm. Please submit a headshot and resume to [casting@thecentretheater.com](mailto:casting@thecentretheater.com) to be considered.

**VIDEO SUBMISSIONS** are being accepted now and will be viewed thru January 13th at 6 pm. After which, we will no longer be accepting video submissions for this project. All video submissions should be by unlisted Vimeo or Youtube link

**CALLBACKS** will be held on January 27th from 12 pm-4 pm.

Please prepare 16 to 32 bars of a show-appropriate song. Singing from the show is recommended. Also, prepare a one minute monologue that you feel shows you well, as the character you are interested in playing.

Equity Guest Artist Contract \$600 per week

Non-Equity \$400 per week

Equity's contracts prohibit discrimination. Equity is committed to diversity and encourages all its employers to engage in a policy of equal employment opportunity designed to promote a positive model of inclusion. As such, Equity encourages performers of all ethnicities, gender identities, and ages, as well as performers with disabilities, to submit.



## Summary

Inspired by Motown and R&B legends of the 1960s-70s, *Dreamgirls* follows the rising stardom of the Dreamettes, an all-girl singing trio from Chicago. The three best friends—the phenomenally talented, but demanding Effie White, the beautiful and appealing Deena Jones, and the eager, romantic Lorrell Robinson—team up with driven, demanding manager Curtis Taylor, who is determined to see their—and his—star rise. As their careers begin to take off, changes are made to ensure their mass appeal to the pop market. Egos are bruised, tempers flare, and hearts are broken in pursuit of stardom. Inspired by the stories of groups such as The Supremes and The Shirelles and featuring many iconic classic songs, *Dreamgirls* is a love letter to American R&B music and the artists that make such music great.

Based on the show business aspirations and successes of R&B acts such as The Supremes, The Shirelles, James Brown, Jackie Wilson, and others, *Dreamgirls* features music by Henry Kreiger and lyrics and book by Tom Eyrn.

## SEEKING:

**Deena Jones** (Black, Female, 20s-30s) Initially modest and svelte backup singer for The Dreamettes, turned lead singer of The Dreams. An endearing ingenue with regality, grace, and quiet confidence. Her humble beginnings make her an unsuspected underdog. As the lead singer, she is magnetic, effortless, and effervescent. Replaces her best friend, Effie under pressure. Embodies both innocence and star power.

**Effie Melody White** (Black, Female, 20s-30s) Lead Singer of The Dreamettes. A powerhouse and a soaring singer with undeniable talent. The true underdog. A vibrant, confident, and outspoken young woman who wears her heart of gold on her sleeve. Becomes overcome with anger, jealousy, and paranoia when Curtis betrays her trust. Her journey from snappy confidence to depths of betrayal ultimately ends in triumph.

**Lorell Robinson** (Black, Female, 20s-30s) The group's youngest member. Bubbly, energetic, youthful, and pragmatic. Eager for success, she's swept off her feet by the married James Thunder Early. Speaks her mind. A high-energy, quirky, hopeless romantic. Has a keen sense of humor and comedic skill.

**Curtis Taylor Jr.** (Black, Male, 20s - 40s) Former Cadillac dealer turned entertainment manager, turned music mogul. Charming, funny, handsome, smooth, and seductive but ruthless in the pursuit of his dreams. He is motivated by his hunger for mainstream success, an appreciation for crossover music, and keen business mind. Takes over the management of Jimmy Early's career and oversees the rise to stardom of The Dreams. Initially warm and approachable, he becomes hardened by wealth, power, and control.



**James "Thunder" Early** (Black, Male, 30s - 40s) Self-proclaimed "King of Soul". A chart-topping and dynamic performer. A sexy, high-energy star full of flash, charisma, and pizzazz. Once a trendsetter, the newer trends threaten to pass him by. A deeply troubled showman of the era, who lets loose in every aspect of his life.

**C.C. White** (Black, Male, 20s) Effie's songwriting younger brother. Idealistic, loyal, endearing, and soft-spoken. While initially inspired by Curtis's business savvy, his efforts to do the right thing are ultimately eclipsed by Curtis' controlling vision. Goes through the journey of losing and regaining himself.

**Michelle Morris** (Black, Female, 20s-30s) Replacement for Effie. A Dynamic singer/performer that better fits into Curtis' aesthetic for The Dreams. Headstrong and sure of her place. Falls in love with C.C. and facilitates the reunion of him and his sister, Effie.

**Marty Madison** (Black, Male, 40s-60s) Street savvy, long-time manager of Jimmy's career, and the one to clean up after his mistakes. Represents an earlier age of black entertainment; honest and loyal, never overstepping his bounds. At odds with Curtis and his ideas and schemes. Later oversees Effie's comeback.

**Ensemble** Singers/Dancers to play various roles

#### **Swings/Understudies**

Learn ensemble tracks, songs, and choreography to swing in during rehearsals and necessary performances.