



## OPEN AUDITIONS

**Monday, December 2**

[Reserve an audition spot.](#)

### PRE-AUDITION WORKSHOP:

Sunday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m. (optional)

[Register for the workshop.](#)

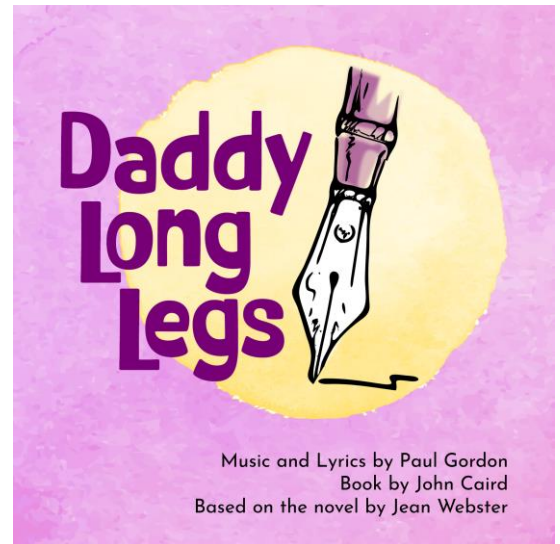
**CALLBACKS:** December 3

**REHEARSALS:** December 8 – February 5

**PERFORMANCES:** February 6-23

**DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER:** Greg Thompson

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Jason Bartosic



## ABOUT THE SHOW

Jerusha Abbott is a poor teenage orphan who has spent her lonely life at the John Grier Home in New England. Now that she's come of age, an unnamed benefactor, intrigued by her essays, decides to send her to college to be educated as a writer. From a distance, Jerusha gets a brief glimpse of the long, tall shadow of this mysterious benefactor as he leaves the orphanage. She nicknames him "Daddy Long Legs." His only requirement for providing her the scholarship is that she write him a letter once a month. However, he will not write her back or reveal his identity. Although she knows that he will never respond to her letters, she grows more and more curious about this elusive and kindly "old" gentleman. Meanwhile, another relationship begins to develop in Jerusha's life with Jervis Pendleton, a well-to-do uncle of one of Jerusha's roommates. Through her monthly letters with "Daddy Long Legs" and her growing intimacy with Jervis, Jerusha's letters chronicle her growth from a doe-eyed orphan girl to a strong, independent woman. In the end, she also finds love with a man she never expected to enter her life. This charming two-person musical is based on the novel by Jean Webster and inspired by the beloved classic film starring Fred Astaire and Leslie Caron.

## ROLES AVAILABLE

- **Jerusha Abbott:** Plays ages 18-23. A bright, youthful mezzo or soprano (range G3-F#5) who needs strong chest, mix, and head voice. Jerusha is lively, witty, and creative. Plucked from her miserable life at the orphanage to go to college, she thrives on her newfound freedom. Throughout the four years of the story, she grows from a wide-eyed teen to a self-assured, confident, and educated young woman.

Jerusha is not a pushover; she goes after what she wants and pushes back if someone has wronged her. As one half of the two-person cast, the actress who plays Jerusha needs to be engaging, charming, and a powerhouse singer-actor. The audience must fall in love with her as Jervis does. Above all else, the key to Jerusha is her emotional honesty. She is always true to what she thinks and feels. This is what gives her great felicity for expression in her writing.

- **Jervis Pendleton:** Plays ages 28-32. A strong baritone (range G3-G#4) with clear pop tenor quality on the high notes. Jervis is Jerusha's anonymous benefactor. He originally intends to keep the arrangement purely one-sided, with Jerusha only writing to "Mr. Smith." However, as he reads her letters, he decides he must meet this expressive, bright, charming young woman. Over the next four years, a romance blooms between them, but complications arise once Jerusha wants to meet "Mr. Daddy Long Legs Smith," to whom she's been writing her letters. Jervis likes to think of himself as quite wise and mature, but he has just as much (if not more) to learn from Jerusha about life. Jervis is the black sheep of his family, and as such, has a bit of a roguish charm. Jervis genuinely wants to use his wealth to make the world a better place – a stark contrast to his snobbish family.

**Recommended:** Listen to the cast album on [Spotify](#) or [YouTube](#).

## PRE-AUDITION WORKSHOP

There will be a free, optional, pre-audition workshop on Sunday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m. Led by Director/Choreographer Greg Thompson and Resident Music Director Jason Bartosic, this practical workshop is ideal for both newcomers and experienced performers to meet the show's creative team, learn about the audition process, and practice your audition song. Bring your sheet music so you can rehearse your audition song. [Register for the workshop](#).

## AUDITIONS & CALLBACKS

Auditions will be held on Monday, December 2. Please prepare a show-appropriate song, ideally from a show similar to the modern folk style of *Daddy Long Legs* (such as *Big Fish*, *Parade*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Little Women*, *Jane Eyre*, etc.). An accompanist will be provided. No recorded accompaniment or a cappella auditions will be allowed. You must bring printed, legible music in a book or binder or be able to AirDrop a PDF to the accompanist. [Reserve an audition spot](#). For those who are called back, callbacks will be held on Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m.

You may check out a copy of the script from the box office for one week with a \$10 refundable deposit. Please call ahead to make sure a script is in stock. Scripts checked out the week before auditions must be returned by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27.

No experience is necessary. Newcomers and theatre veterans alike are welcome and encouraged to audition. If you are unable to attend the scheduled auditions, please contact the Theatre at (352) 236-2274 about making a separate appointment. Be prepared at auditions to list any conflicts with the rehearsal schedule.

If you need any specific accommodations to audition, please contact Craig James, Director of Guest Services and Operations, at (352) 236-2274, ext. 102, or [cjames@ocalacivictheatre.com](mailto:cjames@ocalacivictheatre.com) to make your request. Examples of accommodations made in the past are a wheelchair-accessible audition space, large-print materials, prompters in the audition room, volunteers to help fill out forms, and auditions by appointment.

## REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES

Rehearsals will begin with a table read of the script on Sunday, December 8. Rehearsals are Sunday through Thursday. Sunday rehearsals are 5:30-9:30 p.m., while Monday through Thursday rehearsals are 6:30-9:30 p.m. There will be a break for the holidays from December 18 – January 1. Tech rehearsals are January 29 – February 1, with a tech rehearsal on Saturday, February 1 beginning at 12:30 p.m. Dress rehearsals are February 3-5. There will be 15 public performances, Thursdays through Sundays, February 6-23 at OCT.

## DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN CASTING

As we strive to make choices that reflect the best of our community, showcasing the incredible talent and rich diversity, there is always more to learn and more to do. As members of this community, we prioritize our continuous education, reflection, and action. Ocala Civic Theatre is committed to casting diverse artists who reflect the demographics of our city and our society.

## OCT POLICY

All cast and crew ages 16+ will be subject to a background check. This is required for shows with anyone age 15 or younger in the cast.

## ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

**Greg Thompson** is the Executive & Artistic Director of Ocala Civic Theatre. Over the past 35 years of his involvement with OCT, he has served as guest director, choreographer, and instructor many times. Greg created OCT's popular Arts For All summer youth program in 1991 and has taught numerous workshops. Past OCT shows he has directed and/or choreographed include *The Impresario*, *Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Witch*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Newsies*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Hands On a Hardbody*, *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?*, *Macabaret*, *Night and Day*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Fiddler On the Roof*, *The King and I*, *The Baker's Wife*; *A Day In Hollywood*, *A Night On Broadway*; *My Favorite Year*, *Cats*, *Enchanted April*, *The Mikado*, *Annie*, *The Sugar Bean Sisters*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *For Love Or Money*, and *The Music Man*. Greg has been a member of Actor's Equity Association and the Society of Directors and Choreographers, and is SAG-AFTRA eligible.

## CALLING ALL CREW FOR *DADDY LONG LEGS*

We need crew for *Daddy Long Legs*! This may include a stage manager, assistant stage managers; sound, light board, spotlight, and rigging operators; deck crew, costume dressers, and more.

No prior experience is necessary.

Crew will begin attending rehearsals on January 29. The show runs February 6-23. All crew members must be 16 or older and are required to work all performances.

Interested? Please contact Craig James, Director of Guest Services & Operations, at (352) 236-2274, ext. 102, or [cjames@ocalacivictheatre.com](mailto:cjames@ocalacivictheatre.com).

# SEASON 74 AUDITION DATES



**February 3-4**



**February 17-18**



**February 22-23**

A youth production for ages 11-17