

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

### **BELLE** (Stage Age: 1830)

Belle is the original fairy tale heroine—kind, gentle, and beautiful—but with an important 21st Century twist. She is a strong, intelligent, spirited and independent young woman. Belle is the moral conscience of the story, elevated by her thoughts and deeds. The maturity and depth of her character allow her to see the true beauty and spirit within The Beast, and to love him for it. This role requires a very strong singer who portrays innocence with her singing and speaking voice.

Mezzo- Soprano: Low A-High F

### **THE BEAST** (Stage Age: 1830)

The Beast's tortured soul is evident for all to see. He is paying the ultimate price for a moment of mean-spiritedness, and wishes beyond wishing that he could rectify his mistake. There is anger and menace in The Beast's appearance and behavior, but increasingly we see his soft and endearing side as he interacts with Belle. It becomes clear that he is a loving, feeling, human being trapped within a hideous creature's body. This role requires a very strong singer, and the actor must have a strong speaking voice and stage presence.

Baritone: A-High F

### **GASTON** (Stage Age: 21-35)

Gaston is the absolute antithesis of The Beast. Although he is physically handsome, he is shallow, completely self-centered, not very bright, and thrives on attention. However, when his ego is bruised he becomes a very dangerous foe for The Beast, Belle and Maurice. This role requires a strong singer and character actor who moves well.

Baritone: A-High F

### **LEFOU** (Stage Age: 18+)

Lefou is Gaston's dim-witted, servile sidekick. He goes to extraordinary lengths and suffers repeated humiliation in his efforts to please his master. The actor must be comfortable with physical comedy, and the role requires strong character acting.

Baritone: B-High F Sharp

**MAURICE** (Stage Age: 40+) Despite being a bit scatter-brained, there is no mistaking Maurice's steadfast love for his daughter Belle. Kindly, gentle, enthusiastic and inventive, he becomes single-minded and determined when Belle faces danger. Maurice and Belle sing the lovely duet No Matter What.

Baritone: B flat-High D flat

**BABETTE** (Stage Age: 20's-40's)

Babette is a saucy, enchanted feather-duster, and the object of Lumiere's affections. This role requires good character acting and she should move well, as she dances a tango with Lumiere during Be Our Guest. This character speaks with a French accent.

Alto: C–C

**LUMIERE** (Stage Age: 30+)

Lumiere is the French butler who was transformed into a Candelabrum. He is light-hearted, suave, romantic, smooth-talking, and charming. He has a romantic involvement with Babette. This character speaks with a French accent. This role requires strong character acting, and he should move well. NOT gender specific!

Baritone: A–High F sharp

**COGSWORTH** (Stage Age: 30+)

Cogsworth is a tightly-wound, enchanted mantle clock and the head of the Beast's household. He is a stuffy English man who loves perfection. This character speaks with a British accent. This role requires strong character acting.

Baritone: A–High E. NOT gender specific

**MRS. POTTS** (Stage Age: 30+)

Mrs. Potts is a warm-hearted, maternal enchanted teapot. She sings the title song Beauty & the Beast. This character speaks with a British accent.

Mezzo-Soprano: Low F sharp– High G

**MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE** (Stage Age: 30+)

Madame is a former opera diva turned enchanted wardrobe.

Soprano: C sharp–High G

**Dance Ensemble:** for people with dance training or who move very well and can pick up choreography quickly.

MUST also sing the ensemble audition song.

**ENSEMBLE:** There are many additional ensemble roles. The ensemble is very busy as they are both townspeople and enchanted objects. There will be solos chosen from ensemble as well as roles such as wolves, Silly Girls, etc. Ensemble auditioners only need to sing assigned ensemble song.