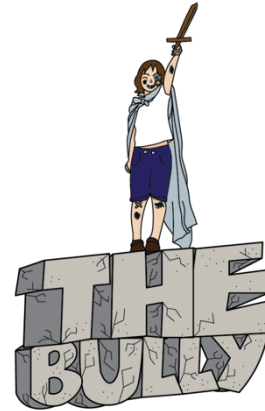




**Ruby  
Bridges**



## **AUDITION PACKET**

OPEN AUDITIONS: FEBRUARY 26 & 27, 2024

CALLBACKS: FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Arts United Center | 303 E. Main St. Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
(Please enter through back of building at the Green Room Door)

Please note: If you are auditioning for *Go, Dog. Go!* or *The Bully*, we would like you to read from the *Ruby Bridges* sides. Remember: sides do not have to be memorized, but please familiarize yourself with them, this is what we will have you read while in the audition room.

### ***Ruby Bridges***

Directed By: Gregory Stieber

### ***Go, Dog. Go!***

Directed by: Todd Espeland

### ***The Bully***

Directed by: Kimee Gearhart



## CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Youtheatre & Director Todd Espeland seek 6-7 actors middle school- high school age for this production. We encourage performers of all races and ethnicities, genders, body-types and abilities to audition.

Role Title: **MC Dog**

Gender: Any

Description: The play's unwitting protagonist, strong physical/comedic performer. MC dog is a strong storyteller and can keep the rapt attention of the audience. Looking for a variety of performers- different in age, race, ethnicity, body type, gender

Role Title: **Hattie/Spotted Dog**

Gender: Any

Description: A "jazz" singer dog who looks fabulous in all matter of hats. Doubles as the Spotted Dog. Has to carry a solo scene and song and be a good mover. Looking for a variety of performers- different in age, race, ethnicity, body type, gender. (Spotted Dog could be portrayed by another actor.)

Role Title: **Red Dog**

Gender: Any

Description: Red Dog is a strong physical/comedic performer. Looking for a variety of performers- different in age, race, ethnicity, body type, gender.

Role Title: **Blue Dog**

Gender: Male

Description: Blue dog is a strong physical/comedic performer. Has a solo scene. Looking for a variety of performers- different in age, race, ethnicity, body type, gender.

Role Title: **Yellow Dog**

Gender: Any

Description: Yellow Dog is a strong physical/comedic actor. Gets left out in the tree game and gets hot in the sun! Preferably a good mover. Looking for a variety of performers- different in age, race, ethnicity, body type, gender. T

Role Title: **Green Dog**

Gender: Any

Description: Green Dog is a strong physical/comedic actor. Looking for a variety of performers- different in age, race, ethnicity, body type, gender.



Youtheatre & Director Gregory Stieber seek 20-30 actors ages 8+ age for this production. We encourage performers of all races and ethnicities, genders, body-types and abilities to audition.

### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

**Ruby Bridges:** (youth) A brave young girl who must contend with the bigotry in her community as she deals with being the only black child enrolled in her elementary school

**Barbara Hanks:** (adult) Ruby's teacher. Smart, and compassionate. She and Ruby form a strong bond.

**Abon:** (adult) Ruby's blue-collar father. Strong and loving.

**Agent Hulbert:** (adult) The stoic lead FBI agent assigned to keep Ruby safe.

**Principal Davis:** (adult) The principal of Ruby's school. She is a determined and serious educator who does not appreciate what she considers a disruption and distraction to the business of learning.

#### **Ensemble:**

The rest of the cast is comprised of an ensemble of actors- both black and white, youth and adult, who play various students, parents, townspeople, reporters, choir members, etc. representing both sides of this true-life story of racial injustice and bravery. Most of these characters do have lines throughout.



Youtheatre & Director Kimee Gearhart seek 7 actors middle school- high school age for this ON-THE-GO production.

We encourage performers of all races and ethnicities, genders, body-types and abilities to audition.

- **Ellyn:** Female. The bully to her peers, influenced by her difficult time fitting in and her home life.
- **Zach:** Male. Student, who flirts with Jordie.
- **Jordie:** Female. Student, who flirts with Zach.
- **Dana:** Female. Student, straight to the point and direct.
- **Paula:** Female. Student, eventually befriends the bully.
- **Michah:** Male. Student, acts as the leader for the group project.
- **Pete:** Student, out of pocket and the comedic relief.

**CHILD / TEEN 1**

WITNESS 1: On a cool Sunday, Reverend Johnson was asking us, once again, to pray for the Bridges. I remember a woman next to me, leaned in and whispered in my ear, "Those white folks are going to get tired, soon, and go away..." As sweet and hopeful as she was, she could not have been more wrong.

WITNESS 2: Daddy said, "Junior. You've always done so good working in the shed, that I'm going to give you a project." Then he handed me one of my sister's baby dolls. I kinda pushed it back at him and said, "Nawww..." But then he told me what he wanted me to do...

WITNESS 1: Not only were the demonstrators not going away, they increased in their number. Their size grew. Their anger grew...

WITNESS 2: I made a box, about yay big... But I didn't make a lid, like Daddy said not to... And then he brought me the brown paint...

WITNESS 1: They found new ways to express their outrage. New sayings. New signs... New symbols for their cause.

WITNESS 2: Then Daddy helped me put the box on a pole. He said, "We have to hold it up real high, so she can see it."

WITNESS 1: No. Those white folks did not get tired. And they did not go away.

**CHILD / TEEN 2**

WITNESS 2: My daddy told me to go with Mama to the school and make sure she was okay, and make sure that nothin' bad happened to her. It didn't matter that I was eleven, I did as Daddy told me. We were on the sidewalk with a whole bunch of our fellow white people, chantin' and yellin'... We saw this group of coloreds across the street, gathered and makin' trouble. There was a big colored man in a dark suit, holdin' a book. He looked right at me, and I looked at him... Mama saw us make eye contact, so she did the only thing she could... She took off her scarf from her head, stretched and twisted it, and held it up to him...

WITNESS 5: Everyone seemed so big. Standing on the street, holding my mother's hand, looking at all of the people. Yelling, shouting, screaming things in unison. I remember looking at a black man, dressed in his minister's suit, praying with a group of his congregation. The woman next to me took a scarf off her head and threatened to choke him with it.

**CHILD / TEEN 3**

TEEN BLACK GIRL 1: Why did you let that man get away with that?

TEEN BLACK BOY 1: The Good Reverend told us to remain peaceful and not cause trouble.

TEEN BLACK GIRL 1: I am not saying that you should have thrown a rock at him. But you could have spoken up.

TEEN BLACK BOY 1: To a white man? On the steps of the courthouse? Do you have a brain in your head?

BLACK BOY 2: What is she so mad about?

BLACK BOY 1: That loud politician was telling lies about Ruby.

BLACK BOY 2: What did he say?

BLACK TEEN BOY 1: He said that the test that Ruby took to get into William Frantz was not accurate.

BLACK TEEN GIRL 1: No. He said that she didn't really do well on the test and that she shouldn't be in the school.

BLACK TEEN BOY 1: Pretty much.

BLACK TEEN GIRL 1: And tell them what else you found out.

BLACK TEEN BOY 1: The kind of test that Ruby took are standardized, and culturally biased in favor of White middle class children.

BLACK BOY 2: What does that mean?

BLACK BOY 1: They make it hard on purpose for black kids.

BLACK BOY 2: And Ruby did good, anyway?

BLACK TEEN GIRL 1: She sure did.