



the 2024 Commencement
Musical

LEGALLY BLONDE Audition Packet

Directed by Alastair Rao '26

Produced by Abby Asmuth '26

Music Directed by Sophie Dvorak '25

Stage Managed by Naomi Schwartzburt '24

Questions? Email comm@yaledramat.org



LEGALLY BLONDE

By Laurence O’Keefe, Nell Benjamin, and Heather Hach

Spring / Summer 2024

WHO?

Producer: Abby Asmuth

Director: Alastair Rao

Stage Manager: Naomi Schwartzburt

Music Director: Sophie Dvorak

Choreographers: Amara Neal & Thomas Kannam

Preferred Contact Email: comm@yaledramat.org

WHAT?

The Show: Elle Woods appears to have it all. Her life is turned upside down when her boyfriend Warner dumps her so he can attend Harvard Law. Elle ingeniously charms her way into the prestigious law school, and along the way, learns the importance of being true to herself. Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances — this musical is so much fun, it should be illegal!

Commencement: In the 10 days between the end of finals period and Yale’s Commencement ceremony, the Dramat puts up a musical in the University Theater, the largest theater on Yale’s campus. We all live together on Old Campus and get to spend time rehearsing and putting up a show without the stress of classes. Think of it as theater camp for college kids — it’s a great way to spend time with friends and meet new people.

WHEN?

Date of First Rehearsal: No earlier than March 25th

Preposterous Day (When people move to Old Campus): May 9th

Tech Week Dates: May 13-16th

Performance Dates: May 17-19th

Commencement Period Dates: May 9th-20th

Overall Dates (First Rehearsal to Last Performance): March 25-May 20 (strike!)

TIME COMMITMENT

Before Commencement Period (music and choreography rehearsals):

For Elle, Emmett, Warner, and Delta Nus: Up to 6-8 hours a week (varies per week)

For all other roles: Up to 2-5 hours a week (varies per week)

During Commencement Period (all blocking, music reviews, more choreography rehearsals, tech):

6-10 hours a day (regardless of role)

<3333 But it's so fun! (we will take breaks!)

CONTENT WARNINGS

Staged intimacy, depictions of sexual harassment and non-consensual intimacy

AUDITION EXPECTATIONS

Audition Form:

Please fill out [this audition form](#) prior to your audition slot. You can also fill out [this optional demographic form](#), which is anonymous and will not impact any casting decisions. The demographic form will only be seen by members of the Dramat Executive Board, not the production team.

Vocal Audition:

Prepare a 32-bar cut (~90 seconds) of a musical theater song of your choosing. See pg 18 for more info and resources on selecting a song. Memorization is not required. If you would like to be accompanied at your audition, please bring a printed copy of your sheet music or email a PDF to our music director Sophie at sophie.dvorak@yale.edu. If you would like assistance with finding sheet music, please reach out to Sophie at least 24 hours before your audition.

Dance Call:

We will be teaching a short combination from the show (45-60 seconds). See pg 17 for more information. Please bring clothes that you are comfortable moving in. Water will be provided.

AUDITION LOCATIONS

All locations are subject to change. Please check your emails for updates closer to the date of your audition.

Vocal Auditions:

Friday, February 23rd from 9:00am to 12:00pm

Crown Down: Crown Down is located in the basement 305 Crown Street. The building is accessible via ramp through the parking lot in the back. The basement level, including room 001 (Crown Down) is not ADA accessible. Please reach out to our stage manager Naomi (naomi.schwartzburt@yale.edu) for any questions regarding accessibility.

Friday, February 23rd from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

BRL 205: The Broadway Rehearsal Lofts (BRL) are located at 294 Elm Street and are accessible via elevator in Arnold Hall (swipe access is required). Room 205 is on the second floor, closest to the lower staircase.

Saturday, February 24th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm

220 York Ballroom: The 220 York Street Ballroom is located at 220 York Street (down the alley past the drama school) and is accessible via ramp. The Ballroom is on the first floor, to the left down the hallway once you enter, accessible via ramp.

Sunday, February 25th from 10:00am to 11:30am

220 York Ballroom: The 220 York Street Ballroom is located at 220 York Street (down the alley past the drama school) and is accessible via ramp. The Ballroom is on the first floor, to the left down the hallway once you enter, accessible via ramp.

Sunday, February 25th from 2:00pm to 6:00pm

220 York Ballroom: The 220 York Street Ballroom is located at 220 York Street (down the alley past the drama school) and is accessible via ramp. The Ballroom is on the first floor, to the left down the hallway once you enter, accessible via ramp.

Dance Calls:

Dance Call #1: Friday, February 23rd from 1:00pm to 2:15pm

Crown Down: Crown Down is located in the basement 305 Crown Street. The building is accessible via ramp through the parking lot in the back. The basement level, including room 001 (Crown Down) is not ADA accessible. Please reach out to our stage manager Naomi (naomi.schwartzburt@yale.edu) for any questions regarding accessibility.

Dance Call #2: Friday, February 23rd from 2:15pm to 3:30pm

Crown Down: Crown Down is located in the basement 305 Crown Street. The building is accessible via ramp through the parking lot in the back. The basement level, including room 001 (Crown Down) is not ADA accessible. Please reach out to our stage manager Naomi (naomi.schwartzburt@yale.edu) for any questions regarding accessibility.

Dance Call #3: Saturday, February 24th from 12:30pm to 1:45pm

220 York Ballroom: The 220 York Street Ballroom is located at 220 York Street (down the alley past the drama school) and is accessible via ramp. The Ballroom is on the first floor, to the left down the hallway once you enter, accessible via ramp.

AUDITION PROCESS

Timeline

February						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Audition Information Session (3pm in WLH 119)
19	20 Self-tape form opens for submission	21	22	23 Dance call #1 + #2 In-Person Auditions #1 + #2	24 Dance call #3 In-Person Auditions #3	25 In-Person Auditions #4 + #5 Dance call #4
26 Self-tapes close at 11:59PM	27	28 Callback notifications by EOD	29			
March						
				1 Callbacks	2 Callbacks	3 Callbacks
4	5	6 Casting calls	7	8	9 SPRING BREAK	10 SPRING BREAK

Audition Information Session: Sunday, February 18th at 3pm in WLH

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This information session is completely optional, but is a great opportunity to ask us any questions about the audition process for this musical. We especially recommend coming if this is your first time auditioning. Attendance at this info session will not impact any casting decisions.

In-Person Auditions

How to Sign Up

For a **vocal audition**, please sign up for a 10-minute slot on our [Yale College Arts page](#) and select “Audition for Legally Blonde.” Please note that you must be signed into your Yale College Arts account in order to sign up for an audition slot.

For a **dance call**, please sign up for a 75-minute dance call using this [SignUpGenius](#). All dance calls are capped at 30, but if no slots work for you, please contact Naomi (naomi.schwartzburt@yale.edu).

Prior to your audition, please fill out [this audition form](#) and [this optional demographic form](#) which is anonymous and does not impact casting and will not be seen by members of the casting team. Please fill out the audition form even if you are submitting a self-tape.

What to Prepare

Vocal Audition:

Prepare a 32-bar cut (~90 seconds) of a musical theater song of your choosing. Memorization is not required. We will then give notes and ask you to perform the song again. There will be time for a vocal warm-up upon arrival.

If you are unsure what song to prepare, please refer to the end of this audition packet for a list of suggestions, as well as sheet music and recordings.

If you would like to be accompanied at your audition, please bring a printed copy of your sheet music or email a PDF to our music director Sophie at sophie.dvorak@yale.edu. If you would like assistance with finding sheet music, please reach out to Sophie at least 24 hours before your audition.

Dance Call:

The dance call, like much of *Legally Blonde*, will be very high-energy, performance-based, and cheerleading-inspired. We are looking for athletic dancers who focus on being controlled and hitting sharp images. But most of all, dancers who can lean into the camp and have fun with the choreography (because it is fun)! Sell it!

The 75 minute dance call will consist of a short warm up, us teaching the combination to the whole group, and eventually seeing small groups perform. You can find a walkthrough of the choreography [here](#) and the full dance [here](#). These videos are for those of you who are sending a self-tape or simply if you want to get a vibe of the choreo. You do not need to learn the dance ahead of time; we encourage you to just bring yourself and your energy and learn with us in the moment!

Self-Tape Option

Vocal Audition:

Record yourself performing a 32-bar cut (~90 seconds) of a musical theater song of your choosing. Memorization is not required. You can sing a capella or perform along to a karaoke track.

If you are unsure what song to prepare, please refer to the end of this audition packet for a list of suggestions, as well as sheet music and recordings.

Name your recording “[YOUR NAME]_[LEGALLY BLONDE]_[VOCAL]” and submit on [this google form](#). Please reach out to Naomi at naomi.schwartzburt@yale.edu if you are experiencing any difficulties naming or uploading your file.

Dance Call:

The dance call, like much of *Legally Blonde*, will be very high-energy, performance-based, and cheerleading-inspired. We are looking for athletic dancers who focus on being controlled and hitting sharp images. But most of all, dancers who can lean into the camp and have fun with the choreography (because it is fun)! Sell it!

Please use the instructional video to learn the dance. You can find a walkthrough of the choreography [here](#) and the full dance [here](#).

Name your recording “[YOUR NAME]_[LEGALLY BLONDE]_[DANCE]” and submit on [this google form](#). Please reach out to Naomi at naomi.schwartzburt@yale.edu if you are experiencing any difficulties naming or uploading your file.

Callbacks

You’ll hear back about callbacks by the end of day 2/28. We will provide relevant callback materials via email! There will be both group and individual callbacks. **Callbacks will be held March 1-3**, and specific times and locations will be provided in the email notifying auditionees of their callback.

Please know if you don’t receive a callback, it does *not* mean we aren’t interested in casting you!

Casting Calls

We intend to make casting calls on Wednesday, March 6th. There is a section on [the audition form](#) inquiring about your availability that day, which will be used to create a schedule for when during the day casting calls will be made. To the best of our ability, we hope to follow a traditional casting cycle model (YDC approved!). We will keep all auditionees updated as we learn more about when calls will start and when you should have your phones nearby.

Notes on Casting

Commencement is a fantastic opportunity to bring people from across Yale’s campus together. We’re equally excited to see auditionees who have done lots of theatre at Yale and those who

have yet to be in a Yale show! What's important to our team is what you bring to this audition room — your preparation and willingness to try new things.

Please note that availability to rehearse before commencement *will* be considered in our casting process. We want to make this as smooth a process as possible, and having proper time to rehearse is absolutely integral to making this show the best that it can be.

Also note that one member of the Dramat Board (either Policy Director - AJ Walker, Vice President - Meridian Monthly, or Outreach Coordinator - Maya Evans) will be present at all auditions and callbacks to ensure that auditionees are treated fairly and that all participants follow Dramat Guidelines. They won't be evaluating your audition!

Note on Accessibility

The Dramat is committed to accommodating any access needs; please do not hesitate to reach out to comm@yaledramat.org with any questions or concerns regarding accessibility.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

Prior to the commencement period, we will be rehearsing all music and some choreography. We expect actors to be familiar with their music before coming to rehearsal and to utilize the resources provided to them ahead of time. During the semester, we expect up to 6-8 hours a week (varies per week) of rehearsing for Elle, Emmett, Warner, and the Delta Nus. For all other roles, we expect 2-5 hours a week (varies per week). We ask that you be mindful of your other time commitments this semester. Given the short timeline of the commencement period itself, it will be very important that all actors dedicate time to work on any material from choreography and music rehearsals on their own time. **The cast should be off-book by the start of the commencement period!**

We will spend most of the days leading up to the Commencement performances rehearsing in order to stage a successful musical on a short 10-day timeline. Actors should come to rehearsals on time and be focused while we are working. Additionally, all members of the cast should be treated with equal respect, regardless of the size of their role. In addition to being kind to each other, we also expect actors to be kind and respectful to the production team. Given the intensity of rehearsals during this 10-day period, we will strongly enforce breaks in the rehearsal room.

Actors should communicate any conflicts with stage management. The stage manager will also play an active role in acting as a liaison for actors to talk to if they feel that they're being harmed, unheard, or otherwise feel unable to communicate a problem to the director. To that end, we also hope to facilitate an open line of communication between actors and the producer in case they want or need a second advocate outside of the rehearsal room.

We encourage actors of all gender, racial, and ethnic identities to audition for all roles.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Elle Woods

she/her, age 18-25, F#3-F5.

President of UCLA's chapter of Delta Nu. Follows her ex-boyfriend to Harvard Law and realizes that she has more to offer than just a pretty face and a bubbly personality.

Staged Intimacy: kisses Emmett, Warner, and Callahan*

Emmett Forrest

he/him, age 20-25, A2-A4

Hardworking teacher's assistant at Harvard Law School who falls for Elle.

Staged Intimacy: kisses Elle

Warner Huntington III

he/him, age 20-25, A2-G#4

Elle's opportunistic ex-boyfriend.

Staged Intimacy: kisses Elle

Paulette Buonufonte

she/her, age 35-45, G3-A5

Elle's caring hairstylist and friend. Yearns to marry a handsome Irishman.

Staged Intimacy: kisses Kyle

Vivienne Kensington

she/her, age 20-25, A3-Ab5

An uptight law student and Warner's fiancée who initially dismisses Elle, but grows to be her friend.

Professor Callahan

he/him, age 45-55, A2-F#4

A sleazy and manipulative law professor at Harvard who is highly successful, but completely immoral.

Staged Intimacy: kisses Elle*

Brooke Wyndham

she/her, age 25-35, A3-G5

Former Delta Nu sister. Exercise video mogul. Energetic and charismatic, yet currently on trial for murder.

Margot

she/her, age 18-25, Ab3-F5

One of Elle's sorority sisters.

Serena

she/her, age 18-25 Ab3-F5

One of Elle's sorority sisters.

Pilar

she/her, age 18-25, Ab3-F5

One of Elle's sorority sisters.

Kyle / Dewey / Grand Master Chad

he/him, age 20-45, D3-E4

Paulette's dream man in the form of a UPS delivery guy. Paulette's awful ex-long term boyfriend. Fraternity brother trying to entice Elle away from her LSAT studying in "What You Want." All in one track.

Staged Intimacy: kisses Paulette

Ensemble

All genders. All voice parts. Includes many featured roles with meaningfully large solo parts (Enid Hoopes, Sundeep Padamadan, Mr. and Mrs. Woods, the Judge, the iconic saleswoman, etc.). Sorority sisters, frat brothers, Harvard Law admissions committee, Harvard Law students, bend and snappers, and more.

*This instance of intimacy constitutes as sexual harassment and is non-consensual within the plot.

MEET THE TEAM

PRODUCER: Abby Asmuth (she/her)

JE '26, English

Abby couldn't be more excited to be putting on this show! Some favorite Yale credits include *Afterparty*, *10:59*, *Crush...ed*, and *Little Women*. Outside of theater, she also writes and produces film, edits for WKND, and advises for Matriculate. As *Legally Blonde*'s producer, she's the primary contact point for any questions you may have about the audition process — please feel free to reach out with any and all questions at comm@yaledramat.org!

Qualifications include: “So Much Better” as #24 on her 2023 Music Replay

DIRECTOR: Alastair Rao (he/him)

Saybrook '26, History

Alastair cannot express how excited he is to work with everyone to build the world of *Legally Blonde*. On campus, he's worked on shows like *Godspell*, *The Last Five Years*, and *delicacy of a puffin heart*. Outside of theatre, you can find him volunteering with Yale Dems or pretending to study in the Elm. He already wants to be your friend!

Qualifications include: elementary and middle school obsession with this show (would love to talk about [MTV's The Search for Elle Woods](#) with you)

STAGE MANAGER: Naomi Schwartzburt (any)

Pauli Murray '24, TDPS & Astronomy

Despite owning zero pink clothing, Naomi is *seriously* excited to be stage managing commencement, is getting *whipped into shape* as you read this, and is *positive* that *Legally Blonde* will be a blast! At Yale, they have stage managed shows including *Great Comet* and *Girls Aren't Funny*, and they served on the board of the YDC for two years as VP and Casting Cycle Coordinator. They are thrilled to cap off their Yale theater career with one final musical.

Qualifications include: is kenough

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Sophie Dvorak (she/they)

TC '25, Music

Sophie is beyond thrilled to be on the team of *Legally Blonde!* On campus, Sophie can be found in rehearsal for various endeavors, from the Yale Glee Club to the Opera Theatre of Yale College. Favorite on-campus productions include *Godspell* and *West Side Story*. She can't wait to get to know you all in the audition room, and is ready to get "serious" about this production.

Qualifications include: took the LSAT

CHOREOGRAPHER: Thomas Kannam (they/them)

Hopper '26, TDPS & ER&M

Thomas is extremely excited to be co-choreographing this show! On campus they have been involved in many undergraduate productions as a performer, stage manager, and choreographer. They also work at the AACC (go asians!) and the Hopper College Aide's Office (go hop!)

Qualifications include: Thomas' 7th grade production of *Legally Blonde Jr.*

CHOREOGRAPHER: Amara Neal (she/her)

Hopper '26, Economics & TDPS

Amara is so excited to be a part of this show! Some of her most recent projects include performing in *The Colored Museum* and choreographing for *West Side Story*. On campus, she also does comedy, consulting, and Harvest (apply to be a leader!).

Qualifications include: No hard skills but many soft skills (including enthusiasm and drive)

A DRAMAT POLICY REPRESENTATIVE:

One member of the Dramat Board (either Policy Director - AJ Walker, Vice President - Meridian Monthly, or Outreach Coordinator - Maya Evans) will be present at all auditions and callbacks to ensure that auditionees are treated fairly and that all participants follow Dramat Guidelines. They won't be evaluating your audition!

If you have any questions for the policy team, don't hesitate to reach out:

AJ Walker | policy@yaledramat.org | (646) 630-3446

Meridian Monthly | vp@yaledramat.org | (713) 325-3630

Maya Evans | outreach@yaledramat.org | (347) 405-3772

SUGGESTED AUDITION SONGS

These pieces may be sung in the octave that is most comfortable for you. The designated voice parts refer to the written octaves. If you would like additional help choosing an audition song, please email our music director Sophie at sophie.dvorak@yale.edu.

“The Starry Night” from *Starry* (tenor)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)

“Carrie” from *Carrie* (mezzo)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)

“Fight For Me” from *Heathers* (alto)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)

“Good Thing Going” from *Merrily We Roll Along* (tenor)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)

“If I Can’t Love Her” from *Beauty and the Beast* (baritone)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)

“Stupid with Love” from *Mean Girls* (mezzo)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)

“Hold On” from *The Secret Garden* (alto)

[Recording](#)

[Sheet Music](#)