

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

# Cinderella

**Audition rehearsals** are: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Jan. 6-8, 2:25pm-2:55pm

**AUDITIONS: Wednesday, Jan. 14 from 2:30-4:30pm & Thursday, Jan. 15 from 2:30-4:30pm.**

**Cinderella will play March 27th & 28th, 2009**

CBMS 2008-2009

## Cast of Characters

**Cinderella** is an extremely good-natured girl despite the unpleasant environment in which she lives. As apparent in the song "In My Own Little Corner," she has a vivid fantasy life that helps her escape the dispirited reality of her everyday existence. Cinderella is an obedient child but does not allow her stepfamily's demeaning treatment of her to make her feel inferior. By returning to the palace in hopes of reconnecting with the Prince, Cinderella is taking her destiny into her own hands, proving her self-sufficiency.

The **Prince** is a warm and sensitive young man without pretensions. He is in no hurry to marry, preferring to find a bride in his own time. Despite his misgivings about the ball his mother has planned, he goes along with it so as not to hurt her feelings. When he meets Cinderella, he is insightful enough to realize that she is different from the other maidens at the ball. He is comfortable and able to share his feelings with her.

The **Stepmother**, unlike in some versions of the story, is not really evil. She is self-absorbed and focused on the needs of her own daughters at Cinderella's expense. She tends to ignore Cinderella unless she needs something done, such as packages to be carried or the fire stoked. She does not pay enough attention to Cinderella to see her good qualities and is self-deluded about the qualities of her own daughters. Even after they have made fools of themselves at the ball, the Stepmother holds on to her belief that the Prince might choose one of them for his bride.

**Joy** and **Portia** have been named in direct opposition to their true demeanors, for we will never see a genuine smile cross Joy's face, and it is obvious Portia isn't bright enough to be a great lawyer like her namesake. Like their mother, their attitudes toward Cinderella are indifferent and inconsiderate rather than downright cruel. They think of her as a nuisance unless she's doing chores. They are also somewhat resentful of her good nature. There is also a rivalry between Joy and Portia, one always trying to outdo the other while vying for their mother's affection and attention.

The **Godmother** is a down-to-earth woman who initially does not seem to possess any magical qualities whatsoever. (You'll note that Hammerstein chose to identify her simply as "Godmother" rather than "Fairy Godmother.") She's a realist, challenging Cinderella's notions of wishes and dreams. Only when Cinderella has demonstrated her determination and resolve does the Godmother lend her magical assistance.

The **King** and **Queen**, although royalty, are very much a normal married couple. They are concerned about their son's happiness but disagree on how to deal with him. The Queen is convinced that all he needs is to meet the right girl and that he'll do so at the ball she has arranged. The King goes along with her plans because his wife has her heart set on it, but he is not enthused. Like any couple, they occasionally bicker but there is never any doubt about their love for each other.

The **Herald** is the official spokesman for the royal family. It is his job to deliver the news of the day to the townspeople. In the first scene of the musical, he is especially delighted to announce the ball because he knows the townspeople will be thrilled. However, he is very formal, as befits an employee of the royal family, and so to some extent he tries to hide his excitement.

Chorus includes **Townspeople, Palace Staff, Maidens, Horses, Footman** and **Coachman**.

## **Cinderella - Musical Numbers**

SCENE 1: The Public Square

*The Prince Is Giving a Ball!*

[The Herald and Townspeople]

SCENE 2: The Stepfamily's Home

*In My Own Little Corner*

[Cinderella]

SCENE 3: The Royal Parlor

*Your Majesties*

[The King, Queen, Chef and Palace Staff]

SCENE 4: The Stepfamily's Home

*Fol-de-rol*

[The Godmother]

*Impossible*

[The Godmother and Cinderella]

*The Transformation*

[The Godmother, Cinderella, Horses, Coachman and Footman]

*It's Possible!*

[Cinderella and the Godmother]

*Finale Scene 4*

[Cinderella, the Godmother, Horses, Footman and Coachman]

SCENE 5: The Palace Ballroom

*Gavotte*

[The Prince and Palace Guests]

*Ten Minutes Ago*

[The Prince, Cinderella and Palace Guests]

*Stepsisters' Lament*

[Portia and Joy]

SCENE 7: The Stepfamily's Home

*When You're Driving Through the Moonlight*

[Cinderella, the Stepmother, Portia and Joy]

*A Lovely Night*

[Cinderella, the Stepmother, Portia and Joy]

SCENE 8: A Street in the Kingdom

*The Search*

[The Herald and the Maidens]

SCENE 9:

*Wedding Finale: "It's Possible!"*

[The Company]