# Once on this Island Jr. (ages 6-18; all youth are cast)

With its poignant story and catchy Caribbean-flavored score, Once on This Island JR. is a highly original theatrical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's popular fairy tale, The Little *Mermaid*, and the Tony-nominated Broadway musical by the legendary writing team, Ahrens and Flaherty. Through almost non-stop song and dance, this full-hearted musical tells the story of Ti Moune, a peasant girl who rescues and falls in love with Daniel, a wealthy boy from the other side of her island. When Daniel is returned to his people, the fantastical gods who rule the island, guide Ti Moune on a quest that will test the strength of her love against the powerful forces of prejudice, hatred and even death.

### **Storytellers**

These four narrators tell the story of the Once On This Island Junior. They can be female or male. These four roles are perhaps the most difficult of the show. Not only do they sing the bulk of the show, they also tell the story, and focus the audience's attention on important events throughout the production. Excellent singers who can both act and handle the demands of a sizeable role. Must be able to sing in harmony and have great stage presence. Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: Ab4

### Mama Euralie

Mama is the symbolic mother of us all. She is loving, practical, funny and earthy. Strong singer an actress who pairs well with Tonton Julian.

Vocal range top: B5 Vocal range bottom: G4

## **Tonton Julian**

Tonton is the loving father to his adopted daughter, Ti Moune. Tonton is strong, practical, and supportive. He is faced with the difficult task of letting Ti Moune chase her dreams, even if it means that he may never see the daughter he loves again. Strong actor and singer who pairs well with Mama Euralie. It helps, but isn't necessary, to have a changed voice. Vocal range top: E5 Vocal range bottom: Bb3

## Little Girl / Little Ti Moune / Peasant Girl

Little Girl and Little Ti Moune can be played by the same actress. Strong actress with a dynamic stage presence who can portray a frightened girl, as well as a spunky, young girl who enjoys running and playing around. Vocal range top: B4

Vocal range bottom: E4

## Ti Moune

Ti Moune is the forcus of our story and is featured in solo songs and dance. The actress performing the role should have an excellent voice and be an excellent dancer. The music Ti Moune sings is written in a pop style, so the actress needs to sing this style of music. She must be a strong actress who is able to drive the energy of her scenes. Ti Moune performs a pivotal dance solo.

Vocal range top: Eb5 Vocal range bottom: G3

#### **Daniel Beauxhomme**

Daniel is the leading male character in Once on This Island JR. Strong actor, who can portray dramatic and exciting. Daniel should pair well with Ti Moune. Vocal range top: E5 Vocal range bottom: C4

# Daniel's Son

Actor and mover.

### Gatekeeper

The Gatekeeper needs a booming voice and strong stature. Confident actor who has a command of the stage and is capable of taking instruction for stage combat. Vocal range top: B4 Vocal range bottom: E4

## **Daniel's Father**

Unlike Tonton Julian, Daniel's father is not sympathetic or understanding of his son's wishes. Singer and actor. Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: A3

## Andrea

Andrea is Daniel's refined and beautiful fiancée. Daniel and Andrea have been promised to each other by their parents since birth. She is sophisticated, educated and the exact opposite of Ti Moune. The actress performing the role should have a good voice and be able to move gracefully. Andrea needs to come across as the ultimate snob. Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: Bb3

## Papa Ge

Papa Ge describes himself as "the sly demon of death." He is also the closest thing to a "bad guy" in Once on This Island Junior. The actor playing this role must be able to create a strong character and have an evil laugh! He should be a good singer, but he does not need to have a polished, pretty voice - in fact, the more unique his vocal quality is, the better. Papa Ge could also be portrayed by a girl.

Vocal range top: Ab5 Vocal range bottom: C#4

#### Asaka

Asaka is the Goddess of the Earth and sings one of the most popular and fun songs of the show, "Mama Will Provide." Excellent singer with an extensive range who moves well and has a robust personality. This performer should be played by a female who can create a fun character larger than life! Vocal range top: E5 Vocal range bottom: A3

#### Agwe

Agwe is the God of Water. Excellent singer and actor capable of driving the energy of his important scene and be a strong presence throughout the show. Vocal range top: E5 Vocal range bottom: C#4

#### Erzulie

Erzulie is the triumphant Goddess of Love. Graceful mover with a pretty voice. This is a perfect role for an actress who can be confident yet charming. Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: A3

#### Peasants, Villagers, Guests, Grands Hommes

Actors, singers, and dancers, and some of the performers have solos or dialogue.

#### Gossipers

Commanding actors and singers with solo singing.