

For Immediate Release

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Announcing Auditions For Rock Musical LIZZIE at Oregon Contemporary Theatre

June 29 & 30, 2025

EUGENE, OREGON – Oregon Contemporary Theatre (OCT) is holding auditions for its first show of the 25/26 season, the rock musical ***Lizzie***. Roles are available for four female actors, descriptions listed below. To schedule an audition, please review the audition information and complete the registration form, linked here. For questions, please call the OCT Administrative Office at (541) 684-6988.

Auditions will take place on Sunday, June 29th at 4 pm & Monday, June 30th at 7 pm. Callbacks will be held Tuesday, July 1st at 7 pm. Auditions will take place at Oregon Contemporary Theatre, 174 W Broadway, Eugene. All auditions are by appointment. Alternative digital audition options are available through the registration form for anyone unable to attend the scheduled in-person auditions. Digital auditions must be submitted by Sunday, June 29th.

Lizzie has music & lyrics by Steven Cheslik-deMeyer with lyrics, book, & additional music by Tim Maner, and music & additional lyrics by Alan Stevens Hewitt. OCT's production is directed by Brian Haimbach, with music direction by Brian McWhorter of Orchestra Next.

About *Lizzie*:

*In the heat of late summer 1892, Andrew Borden and his wife are found murdered in their house. The main suspect in the murders is Andrew's youngest daughter from a previous marriage, Lizzie Borden. Using a searing rock score, and based on the historical record, **Lizzie** explores the heady and heated days leading up to the murder and Lizzie's controversial acquittal of all charges and the creation of a new American myth.*

Actors will be asked to sing a one-minute or 32-bar selection of a rock or contemporary musical theater piece. Auditioners are asked to bring their own recorded accompaniment. Auditioners may use music from the ***Lizzie*** score. If you are unable to attend in-person auditions on June 29th or 30th, you may submit a video audition during

the registration process. The video audition should be a one-minute, or 32-bar music selection as above. The **Lizzie** creative team requests auditioners to please not submit a close-up video; instead, use a full body shot that demonstrates their ability to sell the song in performance. Digital video auditions should be submitted by Sunday June 29th. Remote auditioners should be prepared to participate in a Zoom callback on Tuesday, July 1, at 6 p.m.

SCHEDULE

Rehearsals begin on Sunday, August 24, 2025. Sunday – Thursday evenings from 6 to 9pm.

Tech week begins September 28 - October 4 (including previews on October 1 & 2 and a rehearsal on the afternoon of Saturday, October 4)

Performance dates include:

October 4 at 7:30 pm (Opening), October 5 at 2:00 pm (matinee)

October 9, 10, 11 all at 7:30 pm, October 12 at 2:00 pm (matinee)

October 16, 17, 18 all at 7:30 pm, October 19 at 2:00 pm (matinee – planned closing)

October 24 & 25 – possible extension

AUDITION REQUIREMENT

Actors will be asked to sing a one-minute or 32-bar selection of a rock or contemporary musical theater piece. Auditioners are asked to bring their own recorded accompaniment. Auditioners may use music from the LIZZIE score.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Lizzie

Female

Rock mezzo with a strong high belt and head voice. F#3-F#5 (belt to A5 if possible.)

She can turn on a dime from fragile, broken, meek and obedient to conniving, sinister, furious, and terrifying. She is a wounded animal backed into a corner, terrified but enraged. We find her at the moment she realizes she has nothing to lose. She is transformed through an act of unspeakable transgression, turning her historical infamy into an ascension to legend.

Content: Must be comfortable with simulated physical intimacy as well as navigating mature themes with references to sexual assault and suicidal ideology.

Alice

Female

High mezzo lyric/mix/belt: G3 (w/F#3 pick-up/ghost-notes in one number) – A5 (legit soprano)

The Bordens' next-door neighbor. A luscious pear: the sensuous mother-sister-lover sorely lacking in Lizzie's life. She appears to Lizzy in her greatest moments of need and attempts to lead her away from a path of destruction and toward one of love, truth, and affection. Lizzie may have true feelings of affection for her, or she may be using Alice's feelings to build an alibi.

Content: Must be comfortable with simulated physical intimacy

Emma

Female

Rock Alto/mezzo belt: F#3-D5

Is the older sister, eclipsed by the younger. She must content herself by playing a motherly Lady Macbeth to Lizzie, dripping her own hatreds into Lizzie's ears over the years, stoking the fires of Lizzie's rage, disappearing when the deeds must be done, and suffering with guilt afterwards. Emma is a woman who has come to see that every opportunity for happiness has passed her by. She's furious, but she's also desperately sad.

Bridget

Female

Contralto/low alto: F3 (w/E3 pick-up/ghost-notes in one number) – Eb5 (E5 option in one ad lib)

Is the Borden's Irish maid. She may be a Banshee, called to wail at the Bordens' door. She always seems to know what is going to happen and does things one step before anyone else. She's put upon, angry, and as resentful of the Borden sisters as she is of the parents. Bridget is the Sex Pistols rock and roll nihilist; ready to fuck things up because she knows that's the only way anything is ever going to get better