



Artists Repertory Theatre

26/27 Season

Equity Principal Auditions

*Comedies for a World On Fire*

Equity Principal Auditions will be June 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am to 6:00pm, at Artists Repertory Theatre, 1515 SW Morrison in Portland. Equity members can email [casting@artistsrep.org](mailto:casting@artistsrep.org) for an audition appointment. Non-Equity members can be added to a wait list for appointments available the morning of June 6, or can come wait in person for openings. We will try to fit in as many non-Equity artists as possible, but there is no guarantee of being seen. All auditioners should prepare a short (2 minutes or less) contemporary, comic monologue.

**Play titles link to a read-only version of the play.**

***Marsha Blovotnik and the Marvelous Magical Chicken Soup* by Dan Kitrosser**

Contract span: September 29 – November 22, 2026

Callbacks will be held on June 15, 2026

*Marsha Blovotnik is angry. So angry! The whole world is fakakte, but for this Socialist Jewish Lesbian, it's her sister Janice who really burns her tuchus. She invited herself over for Shabbos dinner and then arrived three minutes early! Who does that?! But then a mysterious ancestor gives Marsha a pot of magical chicken soup with the power to cure the whole world's woes – if only Marsha can cool down enough to share a bowl of soup with her sister. Marsha Blovotnik and the Marvelous Magical Chicken Soup is a buoyant, crackling comedy about how to live in a dumpster fire.*

**ROLES:**

- **THE CHORUS** (any age/gender) is a storyteller, trying to and sometimes failing to tell the story. The Chorus might have the officiousness of a Greek Chorus, but also the desire to unpack.
- **MARSHA BLOVOTNIK** (60s/70s), a lesbian jewish socialist! No! A Socialist Jewish Lesbian! No! A Lesbian Socialist Jew! Thrice divorced, she runs The People's Theater, her father's socialist theater company, out of her house. A ballabusta, a cassandra, a fighter, a radical – and she's probably wearing comfortable shoes.
- **JANICE BLOVOTNIK LEVY** (60s/70s), a Jewish suburban mother. Her primary occupation has been homemaker for her two children. She holds her tongue as much as she can, but that doesn't mean she has any less to say than her sister. She keeps her politics to herself, which is the true opposite of her sister.
- **JONATHAN BLOVOTNIK LEVY-** (30s/40s), a Jewish gay millennial. A doted on son and nephew, while also being quite the shlemiel. Currently a "businessman" (whatever that means!) and married to his successful husband, Jonathan's obsequiousness and

people pleasing has led to major panic disorder. He also has two cats, which are never on stage.

- **LILITH DUBROVNIK-MENDELBAUM**, formerly LILITH DUBROVNIK-MENDELBAUM-BLOVNIK (20s-60s), an actress, over the top, chews the scenery, but with a fierce devotion to her craft.

#### THE ANCESTORS:

- **A GENERAL JEWISH RELATIVE**, a ghost or dybbuk of an Ashkenazi, East Coast, American, but also vaguely Eastern European Jew, who brings with them a pot of soup. *(To be played by same actor as JONATHAN)*
- **ANOTHER JEWISH RELATIVE**, a ghost or dybbuk of an Ashkenazi, East Coast American but also vaguely Eastern European Jew, who begs everyone to stay put. *(To be played by same actor as LILITH)*
- **THE FATHER**, a fiercely angered holocaust survivor, socialist, and artist. And most importantly, a father. A twinge of an Eastern European accent, but he's also lived (and died) in America. *(To be played by same actor playing The Chorus)*

#### Slay by Yussef El Guindi

Contract span: January 5 – February 28, 2027 (plus workshop in Fall, dates TBD)

Callbacks will be held August 10, 2026

*Hossam and Rachel's dog, Albert, has been acting strange—growling, lashing out, running away—but why?! Hossam is an arts journalist (recently fired), and Rachel is an optometrist (her eyes are on Gaza), they have a loving home! In search of answers, the couple consult a pet therapist. According to her, Albert's altered behavior has more to do with the political climate. He's a conservative. As tensions sizzle at home, the three are pulled into a maelstrom with deadly consequences. Slay, a world premiere play by Yussef El Guindi, is a quick-witted dark comedy about the absurd nature of our times. And the complicated nature of pet ownership.*

**NOTE:** SLAY will be workshopped in Fall, 2026. Actors cast in the production will also be a part of the workshop, and actor tracks (combinations of roles) will be set at that time. Dates for workshop will be finalized by August 10 callbacks.

#### ROLES:

- **HOSSAM** (he/him, Egyptian-American, 20s/30s), a neurotic art critic. After being let go from his old job, he's relieved his new, mysterious boss, SKIP SYKLER (definitely not a fake name) recognizes his brilliance. Very willing to lie to get out of a socially awkward situation. Also plays KEVIN.
- **RACHEL** (she/her, any race, Jewish, 20s/30s), a passionate and task-oriented activist. HOSSAM's girlfriend, and an optometrist by day. Organizes for Palestine and truly believes in the cause, sometimes at the expense of her relationships.
- **IBRAHIM** (he/him, Sudanese-American, 20s to 50s), an Uber driver trying to make it work in the US. His brother and sister in law were recently killed back home in Sudan, and he is in a period of deep grief and shock. Warm, honest presence. Also plays OLIVER.

- **ERIN** (she/her, any race, 30s to 40s), a pet therapist. Suffocatingly bureaucratic. Does not approve of the political atmosphere of Hossam and Rachel's home, and believes it may be contributing to Albert's bad behavior. Strong comedic timing. Also plays JEN and POLICE OFFICER.
- **ALBERT** (he/him, canine, middle aged), Hossam and Rachel's resentful and often infantilized dog. He is disgusted with his silly, stupid, millennial dog parents... if only he could resist their belly rubs... Nobody can see that he is meant for greater things. Strong comedic timing. Also plays SKIP SKYLER.

**Other characters:**

- **OLIVER**, HOSSAM's old boss. Charming, fun guy, a good boss. Gets straight to the point.
- **SKIP SKYLER**, HOSSAM's new boss. Definitely not a fake name. Charming, friendly, manipulative. Up to something.
- **JEN**, a waitress at a coffee shop. Hates her job.
- **KEVIN**, a masked agitator who disrupts a vigil.
- **POLICE OFFICER**, just doing her job. As slowly as possible. Dog lover.

***Eulogy, or How to Plan Your Own Funeral (and have fun doing it!)* by Brendan Healy**

Contract span: March 30 – May 9, 2027

Callbacks will be held in Fall, 2026, dates TBD

*Brendan Healy is like a trick birthday candle: his flame just won't blow out. Diagnosed with a terminal illness as a baby, he was supposed to die by 5, then 8, then 16, and on and on. Somehow, he can't get to the dying part!. Now, he invites you to a memorial service like no other, as he shares a lifetime of experience navigating the healthcare system, managing love and student loans, and planning his own funeral. A warm, heartfelt comedy about mortality, survival, and joie de vivre*

This production will be an immersive theatre piece with light audience participation. The rehearsal period will be shorter than is typical.

**ROLES:**

- **Brendan Healy** will be played by Brendan Healy (precast)
- **Chorus 1** (he/they, any race/ethnicity)
- **Chorus 2** (she/they, any race/ethnicity)

**Chorus 1 & 2 will play a variety of roles, including:**

A doctor giving an educational presentation // An elderly priest on death's door // A Viking archer // A keening Irish mourner // Wholesome American youths, male and female, featured in a 1950s-style film for high school health class // A bride // A pulmonologist // Members of a funeral procession // Members of a dance troupe // Other roles as needed