

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

7-8 Men / 8 Women (+ensemble of 5-6 Guys and 5/6 Gals)

GREASE is a high-energy show with a lot of physical movement and partner dance. As such, most roles involve some level of physical intimacy/touch. Intimacy occurs between multiple characters and includes kissing, embracing, and other moments of physical touch. Characters who engage in specific moments of physical intimacy and kissing are noted in character descriptions.

**DANNY:** The epitome of cool. The leader of the "Burger Palace Boys." Wellbuilt, nice looking, with an air of easy-going charm. Strong and confident. Nicer than he cares to admit. He has a bad rep as a troublemaker, and a real "lady killer". He spent his summer before senior year at the beach charming Sandy, and was a real gentleman, but was unaware that she'd be attending Rydell High and would blow his cover. He tries to keep Sandy's heart while still maintaining his bad-boy image, which he finds to be a problem. Actor must have a strong falsetto voice for "All Alone at the Drive-in."

(Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: tenor, D4–B5. This role requires onstage physical intimacy/kiss. Dancer.)

**SANDY:** The new girl in town and Danny's love interest. The sweet, wholesome, naive, attractive ingénue. An innocent and demure girl who transferred from an all-girls Catholic school to attend Rydell during her senior year. She spent her summer at the beach with Danny, unaware of the fact that he was a "Greaser" until running into him on the first day of school. She is shy and vulnerable, and doesn't fit in with the Greasers, yet she is still hopelessly devoted to Danny and can't decide whether to accept him as he is or leave him. Finds friendship in the most unlikely of places, the Pink Ladies who help her uncover her own social savviness. Looking for someone who possesses that fresh-faced "girl next door" sweet quality (without being saccharine) but can then transform before our eyes and cross over into "Pink Lady" territory. She must have a mixed voice that can handle the difficult chest belting and the pure head voice moments of the score's big powerhouse numbers!

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Soprano with high belt, A3–F#5. This role requires onstage physical intimacy/kiss. Dancer.)

**THE "PINK LADIES":** The club-jacketed, gum-chewing, hip-swinging girls' gang that hangs around with the "Burger Palace Boys." They all dance.

**RIZZO:** The leader of the Pink Ladies and is Danny's ex-girlfriend. She is tough and brave, and very forward. She doesn't like Sandy and the fact that she grabs all of Danny's attention. Throughout senior year, Rizzo finds ways to poke fun at Sandy and make her feel unwanted. Later, she and Kenickie start dating, and encounter problems. She may mug, chomp on her gum, and swaggers about spitting out sarcastic barbs, but underneath she is vulnerable (but never feels sorry for herself). The actress cast not only has to have the look and the sound, but she also has to have the heart. We're searching for an actress who can sass her way through Rizzo's badgirl scenes while still capture her softer side. Would be helpful if she is a gymnast (A full split, a clean cartwheel, etc.) to be shown off during "Look At Me I'm Sandra Dee" as well as lending her powerful and throaty voice to a brief reprise of "Greased Lightnin" as she climbs on top of Kenickie's dream car. We need a triple threat for this role!

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Alto A3–C5. This role requires onstage physical intimacy/kiss.)

- FRENCHY: A career-oriented dreamer. Good-natured but a little dumb. She is the first Pink Lady who goes out of her way to help her new neighbor, Sandy, feel welcome. Heavily made-up, fussy about her appearance-particularly her hair. Frenchy can't wait to finish high school so she can become a beautician. Eventually she drops out of high school to attend beauty school. Probably one of the most memorable of all of the Pink Ladies. Roller skating a plus. (Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Alto, A3–D5)
- **JAN:** Funny, loud, and the awkward member of the Pink Ladies. Enjoys a Twinkie (especially with dessert wine). Loud and pushy with the girls, but shy with boys. While she may not be rude to Sandy, she is somewhat indifferent or neutral. Her relationship with the Pink Ladies fosters an inner-strength and helps her to really grow up during this, her Senior Year. In addition to having Roger interested in her, she gains confidence. That gives a progression to the character as she achieves a sense of herself as an individual and finds herself ready to go off and face the world. Looking for a voice like you may find in any HAIRSPRAY 's Tracy Turnblad.

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Alto, A3-C5)

• MARTY: The "beauty" of the Pink Ladies who is devoted to boys and high fashion. And not necessarily in that order. She tends to be a little more on Rizzo's side when it comes to Sandy, seeing her as "too pure to be pink' but gives her a bit of leeway. Would like to try a Marilyn Monroe wanna-be who balances looking older than the other girls and acting sophisticated but betrays her real age when she opens her mouth and "falls on her face".

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range Alto, C4–C5. This role requires onstage physical intimacy/kiss.)

**THE "BURGER PALACE BOYS":** A super-cool, D.A.-haired, hard-looking group of high school wheeler-dealers... or so they think. They all dance.

• **KENICKIE:** The car-loving second-in-command of the Burger Palace Boys. As Danny's best friend, he shares a lot of the same views and reputation with Danny. Has an off-beat sense of humor. Tough-looking, tattooed, surly, avoids any show of softness. However, when it comes to big issues, he is man enough to admit mistakes and step forward to correct them. He spends a lot of his time working and fixing up his car, "Greased Lightning." Toughlooking, tattooed, surly, avoids any show of softness. Has an off-beat sense of humor. Looking for a singer with an edge to his voice who will be able to blow out "Greased Lightening" like you've never heard it on a community stage.

(Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Tenor, C4–F5. This role requires onstage physical intimacy/kiss. Dancer.)

• **DOODY:** Youngest of the guys, nicknamed after "Howdy Doody" because of his supposed red hair and freckles (Looking forward to emulating that "look" with wig and make-up, if needed). He likes to play the guitar the other guys tend to pick on him because of his youthful persona. Doody is small, boyish, and open as a book, with a captivating smile and above it all has a hero-worshipping attitude toward the other guys. He can't find words to express how much he likes Frenchy. Yet locked inside is a powerhouse tenor who can bring down the house with the "Magic Changes" love ballad (see Sam Harris).

(Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Tenor, D4-A5. Would be great if the actor cast can also play the guitar.)

• **ROGER:** The "anything-for-a-laugh" stocky type. Full of mischief, half-baked schemes and ideas. A clown who enjoys putting other people on. Because he has a big appetite and a good sense of

- humor it makes him a perfect match for Jan. He is called "Rump" because he likes to "moon" people. Powerhouse vocals.

  (Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Tenor, D4-A5)
- **SONNY:** A braggart and wheeler-dealer who thinks he's a real lady-killer. Other boys mock him because of his Italian-looks, shiny black hair and dark oily skin. A braggart and wheeler-dealer who thinks he's a real "Ladies' Man." He is often caught in the act and subsequently punished by Miss Lynch. Also saw it played as a gawky Chris Farley type which really worked well. Up to the actor to make these choices.

(Male Identifying, All ethnicities. Range: baritone, G3-A5)

MISS LYNCH: An aggressive disciplinarian, forever catching naughty boys like Sonny. Very comical role for a "character actress" who can play a nononsense, serious, English teacher that openly "sings" during "It's Raining On Prom Night" and "Born To Hand Jive." Looking for a real "character" actress who can capture the essence of this old maid English teacher that nobody likes (especially Sonny) with innate improv skills with a gift for "crowd work". She has an entirely "improvised" scene at the top of the show, and in Act II she hams it up at the "Night in the Tropics" dance when she consumes a wee bit too much "punch". This helps Miss Lynch loosen up and compete alongside the students in a very respectable rendition of the "Hand Jive".

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Flexible vocal range. Light movement.)

**PATTY:** A stereotypical captain of the cheerleading squad found at any middle-class American public high school. She's a bit of a pain and unpopular with the Pink Ladies and can twirl a baton. This beauty-queen is attractive and athletic and student council vice president, and as peppy and air-headed as can be. She befriends Sandy immediately (but yet this presents a bit of a rivalry because she is also interested in Danny). She is disliked by the Greasers. Aggressive, sure of -herself, given to bursts of disconcerting enthusiasm. Catty, but in an "All-American Girl" sort of way.

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Alto, D4-A4. Dancer. This role requires onstage physical "Comic" intimacy/kiss with Vince Fontaine.)

**EUGENE:** Rydell High's class valedictorian and the resident archetypal BOOKWORM (complete with getting slammed in a locker). This applepolisher, who is a bit smug and pompous (but gullible) befriends Sandy. Physically awkward, with weak eyes and may be played with a high-pitched voice. Up to the actor.

(Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Tenor, A3–E5. Dance.)

**VINCE FONTAINE:** A typical, popular, "teen audience" radio disc jockey. Slick, egotistical, fast-talking and a veteran "greaser." The actor cast must have innate improv skills with a gift for "crowd work" since they will open our show leading a half an hour improvised preshow involving the entire audience getting them pumped-up and ready to have a really good time. Vince also covers various scene changes with Top 40 radio patter!

(Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Flexible vocal range. This role requires onstage physical "Comic" intimacy/kiss with Miss Lynch.)

**"CHA-CHA" aka CHARLENE DIGREGORIO:** Cha Cha's real name is "Charlene", and she is the best dancer St. Bernadette's ("with the worst reputation"), the neighboring rival all-girl's school. Kenickie takes her to the dance as a blind date when Rizzo refuses to go with him. Can be played slovenly, loud-mouthed and homely, or as a fiery and over-the-top personality. Either way the role is a comic character actresses dream because she is presented as the best dancer. Together she and Danny win the "Hand Jive" dance contest. This role has been known to steal the show in many productions.

(Female Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Alto, C4–C5. Dance.)

**TEEN ANGEL:** Frenchy's suave and slick guardian angel who advises her choices about high school and beauty school. A good-looking falsetto-voiced, Fabian-look-alike clearly influenced by "Earth Angel" by The Penguins. A singer who would have caused girls to scream and riot back in 1958. NOTE: It is possible that within the context of the play, DOODY can play TEEN ANGEL and Frenchy envisions him as her fantasy, but it has also been played by EUGENE to great success as well as VINCE FONTAINE. All depending on the vocal talents of our actors.

(Male Identifying, all ethnicities. Range: Tenor, E4–F5)

**ENSEMBLE**: Students at Rydell High School, Beauty School Dropout, Greased Lightning. Loud, energetic, variety of personalities.

(All genders, all ethnicities, SATB. Dance.)

- CHOIR Sings the Rydell High Alma Mater at the top of the show
- "SQUARES" Featured in various parts of the show Opening, Leaf collecting, end of Act I chase through the Lockers, then accomplish the seemingly impossible task of synchronizing more than a dozen spinning, glow-in-the-dark hula hoops. Also appear in "Finale."
- "FACULTY" Coach Calhoun, Mrs. Murdock (Automotive repair), Nurse Wilkins, Mrs. Overton (the lunch lady), Principal McGee, Blanche, etc. Opening #, chaperones at the dance, Beauty School Dropout.
- CHEERLEADERS A group of gossipy girls that twitter when they laugh. Must be able to do a precision cheer segment.

- FOOTBALL TEAM The Rydell High Ringtails in full uniform and athletic pads.
- "SUMMER NIGHTS" GUYS and GALS on the bleachers and at the cafeteria
- TEENY BOPPERS An imaginary throng of Doody's admirers as he imagines he is a big rock 'n' roll star during "Those Magic Changes"
- THE HEART-BEATS Boys in military uniforms appear during "Freddy My Love"
- GREASERS Appear in "Greased Lightnin" while the GUYS offering an unspoken explanation of their buffed-up arms as they toss real tires effortlessly around the stage, and the GALS dancing triumphantly in hopes of getting a spin in Kenickie's dream machine.
- STRAIGHT A's Eugene's Doo-Wop group that sings "Shakin' At the High School Hop, and the end of "It's Raining on Prom Night" at the prom (written as 4 Men but may be 2 Men/2 Women Eugene is one of them)
- ANGEL CHOIR Beauty School angels during "Beauty School Dropout" (GUYS and GALS)
- COUPLES sing from their cars during "Alone At the Drive-in"
- OFFSTAGE VOICES "Hopelessly Devoted to You" and "Look At Me (Reprise)"