ONCE

GIRL: (20s; woman) A practical, intelligent Czech immigrant whose warmth, resilience, and quiet optimism inspire those around her. Direct, witty, and deeply compassionate, she never seeks pity despite life's challenges. Must sing exceptionally well, play piano proficiently, and perform with an authentic Czech (Eastern European) accent. ADVANCED PIANO

GUY: (20s to early 30s; man) An Irish musician and songwriter at a crossroads in his life. Thoughtful, reserved, and quietly charismatic, he struggles to move forward after heartbreak while working in his father's vacuum repair shop. Must sing exceptionally well, play guitar proficiently, and perform with an authentic Irish accent. ADVANCED GUITAR

BILLY: (30s to 40s; man) The warmhearted owner of a Dublin music store where Girl plays piano. Outgoing, humorous, and fiercely loyal, he serves as both friend and protector. Must sing well, play guitar proficiently, and perform with an authentic Irish accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT GUITAR

REZA: (Late 20s; woman) A spirited, confident Czech musician with a vibrant personality and quick wit. Bold, expressive, and full of life, she brings energy and humor wherever she goes. Must sing exceptionally well, play violin/fiddle proficiently, and perform with an authentic Czech (Eastern European) accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT FIDDLE/VIOLIN

BARUSKA: (50s and older; woman) Girl's mother. A generous, welcoming Czech matriarch whose home is always open to family and friends. Warm, practical, and full of humor, she embraces life with enthusiasm. Must sing well, play accordion and/or piano proficiently, and perform with an authentic Czech (Eastern European) accent. PROFICIENT ACCORDION AND/OR PIANO (INSTRUMENTS A PLUS FOR THIS TRACK, BUT NOT REQUIRED)

BANK MANAGER: (30s to 40s; man or woman) A polished and reserved bank manager whose professional exterior hides a genuine love of music and performance. Must sing well, play guitar and cello proficiently, and perform with an authentic Irish accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT CELLO AND/OR GUITAR

DA: (50s and older; man) Guy's father. A hardworking, quiet man whose love and support are expressed more through actions than words. Must play guitar and ukulele and/or mandolin proficiently and perform with an authentic Irish accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT GUITAR, UKULELE & MANDOLIN (INSTRUMENTS A PLUS FOR THIS TRACK, BUT NOT REQUIRED)

SVEC: (20s to 30s; man) An eccentric but lovable Czech musician with an offbeat sense of humor and enthusiasm for life's simple pleasures. Must play guitar and drum kit exceptionally well and perform with an authentic Czech (Eastern European) accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT DRUM KIT – GUITAR A PLUS

EAMON: (30s to 40s; man) A recording studio manager who is pragmatic, guarded, and business-minded, but ultimately recognizes genuine artistry and talent. Must sing well, play guitar and piano proficiently, and perform with an authentic Irish accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT GUITAR & PIANO

EMCEE: (20s to 30s; man) The charismatic host of a Dublin pub open mic. Quick-witted, personable, and playful, with an easy rapport with both performers and patrons. Must sing exceptionally well, play guitar proficiently, and perform with an authentic Irish accent. PROFICIENT GUITAR

EX-GIRLFRIEND: (20s; woman) Guy's former partner, now living in New York. Warm, genuine, and compassionate, she remains an important part of his past. Must play violin proficiently and perform with an authentic Irish accent. ADVANCED TO PROFICIENT VIOLIN

ANDREJ: (20s; man) A kindhearted Czech musician with a hopeful spirit and big dreams. Though he works a day job at a fast-food chain, he remains committed to his passion for music and a better future. Earnest, optimistic, and genuine. Must play guitar and bass guitar exceptionally well, and perform with an authentic Czech (Eastern European) accent. ADVANCED-PROFICIENT BASS GUITAR & GUITAR

IVANKA: (5-9; girl) The sweet-natured, shy, and lovable young daughter of **Girl**. She is a comforting, gentle presence in her mother's busy, multi-generational Czech household. She represents the deep-rooted love, maternal motivation, and complex past that "Girl" carries with her through her journey in Dublin. CONFIDENT SINGER WITH WARM STAGE PRESENCE. (WILL CAST LOCALLY IN ST. LOUIS)

LES MISÉRABLES

JEAN VALJEAN: (35 to 45 years old; all ethnicities; man) Tenor, Low A to High B. Ages from his mid-thirties to early fifties over the course of the play. A man transformed by redemption, whose intelligence, compassion, and extraordinary strength are matched by his unwavering belief in mercy and forgiveness. Comfortable Mover.

JAVERT: (35 to 50s; all ethnicities; man) Baritone, Low F to F♯. Ages approximately 17 years over the course of the play. A relentless inspector driven by duty, discipline, and an uncompromising belief in justice. "Humble and haughty, like all fanatics...a dreamer of stern dreams." Must be comfortable flying at heights. Comfortable Mover.

COSETTE: (18 to 25 years old; all ethnicities; woman) Soprano, B♭ (below Middle C) to High C with belt. Must be able to float a B♭ with a contemporary musical theatre sound, not operatic. Gentle, optimistic, and full of quiet strength. Raised with love after a difficult childhood, she embodies hope, innocence, and kindness. Comfortable Mover.

FANTINE: (25 to 35 years old; all ethnicities; woman) Mezzo-Soprano, G♭ to E♭. A devoted mother whose fierce love for her daughter drives every sacrifice. Once radiant and hopeful, life's hardships have left her determined, vulnerable, and resilient. Comfortable Mover.

MARIUS: (20 to 30 years old; all ethnicities; man) Tenor or High Lyric Baritone, Low A to A♭. An earnest young idealist and romantic hero. Intelligent, compassionate, and courageous, he is driven by both love and his convictions. Comfortable Mover.

EPONINE: (20 to 28 years old; all ethnicities; woman) Mezzo Belt, F♯ to E. A streetwise young woman shaped by hardship but defined by resilience. Beneath her rough exterior lies a loyal heart capable of deep, selfless love. "Amid the grime and shame, she preserves traces of pride, a spark of love." Comfortable Mover.

THENARDIER: (30 to 45 years old; all ethnicities; man) Baritone, C to High G♭. A cunning opportunist with broad comedic instincts and a dangerous edge. A charming con artist who can shift effortlessly from entertaining host to ruthless manipulator. "Knows how to do a little of everything, all of it badly." Comfortable Mover.

MADAME THENARDIER: (30 to 45 years old; all ethnicities; woman) Alto/Mezzo Belt, G♯ to D. A formidable survivor with a sharp wit and dark sense of humor. "Loves nothing but her children, fears nothing but her husband." Tough, resourceful, and unapologetically self-serving. Comfortable Mover.

YOUNG COSETTE: (8 to 12 years old; all ethnicities; girl) Child Soprano, A♭ (below Middle C) to E♭. A frightened but gentle child who has endured neglect and hardship with remarkable resilience. Beneath her timid exterior is a hopeful spirit longing for love, safety, and belonging. Must have a clear, expressive singing voice and strong emotional honesty. (WILL CAST LOCALLY IN ST. LOUIS)

GAVROCHE: (9 to 12 years old; all ethnicities; boy) Child Voice (Unchanged), B♭ to G. A fearless, quick-witted street urchin with boundless energy, humor, and heart. Independent, resourceful, and fiercely optimistic despite a life of poverty, he becomes an unlikely hero through his courage and unwavering loyalty. Strong comic timing and confident stage presence required. (WILL CAST LOCALLY IN ST. LOUIS)

YOUNG ÉPONINE: (8 to 12 years old; any ethnicity; girl) Child Soprano, A♭ (below Middle C) to E♭. A spirited but vulnerable child growing up in a world of poverty, neglect, and emotional hardship. Beneath her tough, streetwise exterior is a lonely, sensitive girl who longs for love, acceptance, and connection. Must have a clear, expressive singing voice, strong character instincts, and the ability to convey both resilience and emotional vulnerability. (WILL CAST LOCALLY IN ST. LOUIS)

Stages St. Louis encourages and actively seeks actors of all Ethnicities, Nationalities and Gender. STAGES strives to cultivate an inclusive environment which welcomes differences of ethnicity, religion, sexuality, income, or any other divisions with generosity and openness among its artists, audiences, leaders, and community. Through support and understanding of our differences, we can recognize our commonalities.

STAGES encourages performers of all ethnicities, races, gender identities, ages, body types, and abilities to audition.

When a gender is included in a character description, it refers only to the gender identity and/or presentation of that character as scripted by the playwright and not that of the performer.