



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 19, 2024

CONTACT: **Joanna Penalva**,  
Director of Marketing + Communications  
315.443.2636 (o) | [jlpenalv@syr.edu](mailto:jlpenalv@syr.edu)

**Matthew Nerber**  
Marketing Content + Publications Manager  
315.443.9839 (o) | [mjnerber@syr.edu](mailto:mjnerber@syr.edu)

## **SYRACUSE STAGE ANNOUNCES YOUTH AUDITIONS FOR LIVELY IRISH MUSICAL *ONCE***

Local Youth Actors Aged 4 - 9 Years Invited to Open Auditions for the role of Ivanka



SYRACUSE, NY – Syracuse Stage is seeking local youth actors to audition for the role of Ivanka for its upcoming production of **“Once,”** directed by Melissa Crespo.

Auditioners should note that the production schedule for “Once” includes morning student matinees in addition to regularly scheduled matinee and evening performances. The production runs May 1 through 19 and cast members must be available for rehearsals beginning on April 9 at Syracuse Stage. Rehearsals are not held on Mondays.

Young actors will not be required to be at all rehearsals. Rehearsals for youth actors will generally be held weekdays after 4 p.m. and during the day on weekends. This is a non-AEA role. The role will be cast with more than one actor to alternate performances.

Auditions will be held at Syracuse Stage (820 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY, 13210) on Saturday, March 2, 2024, from 12:00-2:00PM.

**Please contact Julia Rakus, at [jcrakus@syr.edu](mailto:jcrakus@syr.edu) to sign up for an audition slot.**

### **The Opportunity:**

#### ***Once***

Book by Enda Walsh

Music and Lyrics by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová

Based on the motion picture written and directed by John Carney

Directed by Melissa Crespo

Choreographed by Fatima Sowe

Scenic Design by Rodrigo Escalante

Costume Design by Jerry Johnson

Lighting Design by Matthew Webb

Sound Design by Jacqueline R. Herter

#### ***Seeking casting for:***

IVANKA: Any ethnicity, young girl aged 4-9. GIRL's daughter, Czech born. Seeking a versatile actor with sweet-natured temperament. No speaking lines but may be required to sing. Ability to sing and/or play an instrument is a plus, **but not required.**

Auditions will be held in-person on Saturday, March 2, 2024, from 12:00-2:00PM. **Please contact Julia Rakus, at [jcrakus@syr.edu](mailto:jcrakus@syr.edu) to sign up for an audition slot**

#### **Notes:**

- Actors are required to bring a picture and resume.
- Please be prepared to sing a verse of any song, a cappella, if you feel comfortable doing so.
- Actors of all ethnicities are strongly encouraged to audition.

#### **About the Show**

A folk-rock musical based on the award-winning film *Once*. Guy, a heartbroken musician busking for coins on the streets of Dublin, meets Girl, a Czech immigrant with a complicated history. Despite their differences, Guy and Girl find common ground in a genuine love of creating music together. With a cast of musician-actors who accompany themselves, *Once* is a uniquely theatrical experience.

#### **About Syracuse Stage:**

Founded in 1974 and celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season, Syracuse Stage is the non-profit, professional theatre company in residence at Syracuse University. It is nationally recognized for creating stimulating theatrical work that engages Central New York audiences and significantly contributes to the artistic life of Syracuse University, where it is a vital partner in achieving the educational mission of the University's Department of Drama. Stage's mission is to tell stories that engage, entertain, and inspire people to see life beyond their own experience. Each season, 70,000 patrons enjoy an adventurous mix of new plays, and bold interpretations of classics and musicals, featuring the finest theatre artists. In addition, Stage maintains a vital educational outreach program that annually serves more than 15,000 students from 14 counties. Nationally, Syracuse Stage is a member of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for American theatre; The League of Resident Theatres (LORT), the largest professional theatre association in the country; the Professional Non-Profit Theatre Coalition (PNTC), independent venues, promoters, and festivals representing every state, Washington, D.C., and Guam. Regionally, Syracuse Stage is a member of the Arts and Cultural Leadership Alliance (ACLA), Center State CEO, the University Hill Corporation, and the East Genesee Regent Association.

###

Syracuse Stage | Artistic Director: Robert M. Hupp | Managing Director: Jill A. Anderson  
820 E. Genesee St. | Main: [315-443-4008](tel:315-443-4008) | Box Office: [315-443-3275](tel:315-443-3275) | [www.SyracuseStage.org](http://www.SyracuseStage.org)