

CASTING POST

Ethnocultural mandate or casting statement:

Pleiades Theatre is whole-heartedly committed to ensuring that all members of Canadian society can be equal shareholders in our work. Due to the nature of the work Pleiades Theatre does (Sharing 1st and 2nd Generation Canadian Stories), we must be inclusive in our practices. We also strive for authenticity in our productions and aim to have the communities whose stories we put on the stage be reflected in the creative and artistic teams we put together.

In a situation where a character has no prescribed heritage or characteristic (age, sex, etc.), we actively encourage all actors to apply. Where the story depends on a character with a specific heritage or characteristic, we will aim to cast actors who fit that requirement through a lived experience.

We encourage artists to submit their resumes to us at any time to introduce themselves to us. We are eager to meet everyone who is interested in working with us.

Pleiades is happy to audition and cast both CAEA and non-CAEA members.

SHARING 1ST AND 2ND GENERATION CANADIAN STORIES

Encourage 1st and 2nd generation storytellers (particularly artists of colour, but through intersectionality also deaf artists, artists with disabilities, artists living with mental illness, New Gen artists, 2SLBTQIAP artists, and Indigenous artists) to create:

INSPIRATIONS: new, relevant stories exploring their experiences;

TRANSLATIONS: sharing stories from other languages for all audiences;

ADAPTATIONS: exploring existing works through their lens.

Info:

The play centres on a Punjabi-Sikh family in Brampton. As such we are currently looking to cast actors with Punjabi heritage. Please let us know in your submission if you are of Punjabi heritage, and whether you can speak Punjabi. We also invite submissions from other South Asian actors for consideration. At this time we are seeking Toronto or GTA based actors only. This will be a CTA "G" House contract. Rehearsals and production will take place Spring 2025.

The descriptions below are those of the characters. Any mention of gender and age are simply guides for the actors and do not mean the actors have to conform to these descriptions, only that they are comfortable playing those descriptions.

- Mother - Female – late 40's early 50's – quiet but finds her strength through the play, intelligent, immigrated to Canada in her 20's with her husband but lost her sense of self in her relationship and as she raised her children. Desires to divorce her husband.
- Eldest Daughter - Female – early 30's – driven, stubborn, had lots of dreams & promise but lost her way, feels pressure of being the eldest child and keeping her family together.
- Middle Daughter - Female – late 20's – a practising lawyer, Type A personality, in classic middle child way craves attention of her mother and family. She has settled for a partner who doesn't fulfil her needs, but she would never tell her family that.
- Son - Male – early 20's – youngest of three, sensitive to the family around him, making discoveries about his identity. Very observant and learns how to defy the expectations placed on him. A magical inner-life.

- Senior Aunt Female – mid 50's to early 60's – Strong, self-assured, and a mentor to the Mother. She is widowed and childless, she feels a connection to the youngest members of the family.
- Uncle - Male – late 40's early 50's –Traditional. He can come off as very stern and harsh, but in reality he is struggling to cope with the death of his brother, he wants to keep his memory alive. He has a hard time emotionally connecting with the other family members.
- Junior Aunt - Female - late 40's early 50's – outgoing, seemingly confident, very proud and protective of her daughter. Keen on maintaining appearances. She has a deep desire to feel connected to her relatives, but has a hard time understanding their disruptive ways.
- Cousin - Female – late teens – very intelligent, honest, contemporary, calls it as she sees it. Frustrated with her parents and the way they view the world.

To submit, please send your headshot & resume in one combined pdf before July 6th at noon to info@pleiades theatre.org

The subject of the email should read:

Punjabi Casting - YOUR LAST NAME, Your First name

The pdf should be titled:

YOUR LAST NAME, Your First name - Character(s) you are interested in

In your resume, please do include your CAEA status (Pleiades is happy to audition and cast both CAEA and non-CAEA members.)

In your email:

Please include your availability for auditions in the week of July 8-14.

Please include your availability for recalls in the week of July 15-21.

Agent's submissions are happily welcomed. We ask that you submit each actor in a separate email following the above guidelines.

If selected for an audition, you will be asked to prepare a contemporary monologue of your choosing (from any play) plus a scene we will provide from the play. An audition may last 20 to 30 minutes as we will pair you with another auditionee to do the scene together. We do NOT require anyone to be off-book for any part of the audition process.

Accessibility: The audition space is accessible. Rehearsal and production venues are not know at this time.