

UNICORN · COLONIAL · PLAYHOUSE
BERKSHIRE
THEATRE GROUP

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For Immediate Release, Please:

**Berkshire Theatre Group Announces
Local Non-Equity Casting for
Community Production of *1776***

Pittsfield, MA — Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG) and Artistic Director, CEO Kate Maguire are pleased to announce a local non-Equity casting call for its upcoming community-centered production of *1776*, featuring music and lyrics by Sherman Edwards and book by Peter Stone, based on a concept by Sherman Edwards. The production will be directed by David Adkins, with music direction by Erin White and choreography by Kathy Jo Grover, and will be presented at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield.

Director David Adkins has been a longtime collaborator with Berkshire Theatre Group, appearing in numerous productions over the past three decades. As BTG's Artistic Director of Education and Training, he has taught, coached and directed a wide range of programs and productions. He most recently appeared in *Metamorphoses*, directed by Isadora Wolfe. His extensive career includes work on and off Broadway, at major regional theatres across the country and on television, with credits including *New Amsterdam*, *Madam Secretary*, *Homeland*, *The Americans*, *The Good Wife* and *Law & Order*.

Berkshire Theatre Group seeks local non-Equity actors of **all ethnicities, gender identities and backgrounds** for its upcoming production of *1776*. High school, college and pre-professional actors are encouraged to submit.

Submission Instructions

Interested performers should submit an unlisted video link (YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive or similar platform) including:

- One (1) short classical or contemporary dramatic monologue and
- One (1) song demonstrating vocal and acting range

Total submission time should not exceed two (2) minutes. Selections from *1776* are welcome. Please ensure links are viewable without access requests.

Submissions should be sent to auditions@berkshiretheatre.org by **Friday, March 27 at 5pm**. For questions or assistance with recording or submitting, please contact the same email.

Callbacks

Callbacks will be held **Friday, April 3 from 5–9:30pm** at The Colonial Theatre (111 South Street, Pittsfield, MA). Selected actors will be invited to attend a scheduled time slot. Callbacks are by appointment only. No walk-ins will be accommodated. Actors will prepare a song cut from *1776* and may be asked to read from the script.

Rehearsal & Performance Schedule

Rehearsals begin **Tuesday, May 26, 2026**, and will be held evenings and weekends in Pittsfield.

Performance schedule:

- Previews: July 2–3
- No performance: July 4
- Opening: July 5
- Closing: July 16

Please note that cast members may be asked to participate in special events on July 4. This is a non-equity production. A weekly travel stipend will be provided.

About the Production

This community-centered production of *1776* reimagines the iconic American musical as a shared civic exploration, bringing local artists together to examine the ideas, conflicts and compromises that shaped a nation. Featuring its celebrated score and witty, thought-provoking book, the production delves into the debates and bold personalities behind the signing of the Declaration of Independence, inviting audiences into the messy, deeply human process of democracy in action. With energy, humor and heart, this staging offers a vibrant theatrical experience that resonates across generations.

Character Breakdown

All roles are open to actors of **all races, ethnicities and gender identities**. Principal roles include John Adams, Abigail Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Martha Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Dickinson, Edward Rutledge, Richard Henry Lee, Roger Sherman and the Courier. Featured and supporting roles include members of the Continental Congress and additional characters integral to the story.

For a full character breakdown and additional details, please visit berkshiretheatregroup.org.

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About Berkshire Theatre Group

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG).

Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide-ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Each year, BTG produces and presents performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through its Education Program, serves over 10,000 Berkshire County school children annually. BTG is proud to offer the only approved curriculum-based theatre educational programming of its kind in the region, integrating the arts directly into classroom learning and enriching students' academic and creative development.

In July 2020, Berkshire Theatre Group was the first company in the United States to earn approval from Actors' Equity Association to produce a musical (*Godspell*) in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2028, Berkshire Theatre Group will celebrate 100 years of theatre.