

New Griots '21 Cast Breakdowns

Note: If you have recently worked with Plowshares, you need not schedule an appointment for these auditions.

We are seeking both AEA and non-AEA actors.

Callbacks on all shows will be conducted at the discretion of the directors.

All rehearsal and reading time will be online and no more than 15 hours. Rehearsals will take place over the weeks before the scheduled reading of each respective play, and will be scheduled according to artist availability.

If you would like to submit to **New Griots '21**, please send a headshot and resume to Plowshares Casting at casting@plowsharestheatre.org by Wednesday, May 26. In your submission, please specify **WHICH ROLES** for which you would like to be considered.

All characters are African American unless otherwise identified.

I. Brothermine

BROTHERMINE explores the issues of trauma and mental illness through the fraught relationship of two brothers, one the caretaker/nurturer, the other--the traumatized recipient of that care. It is play that questions: What is our responsibility to each other? And how are matters of the heart reconciled, when love you need takes on a different shape and form than the love you're able to give.

Characters: (2 men)

Odin Smith – Jax's brother. A high school science teacher. Age: early 30s

Jax Smith – Odin's brother. Ex-Marine, Afghan war vet. Poet. Age: late 20s

II. Nothing to Lose

Set in Omaha, Nebraska six months after Hurricane Katrina. Two 13-year-old male cousins end up dead following a gang initiation gone wrong. TV newscaster Stephen Campbell struggles to come to terms with his inability to prevent the deaths. Campbell had been a mentor to the one of the youth, but his efforts to be a role model seem to have been in vain. The tragedy awakens Campbell's conflicting intra-racial views and threaten to tear apart what he treasures the most, his very own family.

Characters: (4 men and 3 women, 1 white female)

Melvin Whitaker – A tall gangly teenager. Quiet and methodical. Age: 13

Daevon Whitaker – Melvin's cousin. High strung. Plenty of energy. Age: 13

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Stephen Campbell – Evening news anchor. Smart and opinionated. Age: 36
Juanita Campbell – Midwest news correspondent. Age: 37
Pressley Franklin – Community Center Counselor. Age: 27
Roxanne Cleary – Daevon's mother. Age: 33
Priscilla Whitaker – Melvin's mother. Age: 27
Christine Morris – Caucasian, Morgue Clinical Aide. Age: 22

III. Crack the Door for Some Air

CRACK THE DOOR FOR SOME AIR explores the unjust reality of police brutality against Black women. It is the story of Tamara, a young Black woman who encounters the police while caring for her sick mother. A neighbor calls them to investigate a non-emergency situation and things don't go as planned.

Characters: (5 men and 3 women)

Tamara Johnson – Middle class, caregiver Age: 28
Mumia – Tamara's nephew. Age: 15
Jeff – Tamara's log-tome best friend and fiancé. Age: 29
Mama/Ms. Johnson – Tamara's mother. Age: mid-60s
Kayla – Mumia's girlfriend. Age: 15
B-Roll – Kayla's uncle. A leader of the D-Dogs. Age: 50s
Brother – First member of HABO. Age: 50s
Sylvester – A neighbor. Voiceover. Age: Undefined

**For more information regarding the auditions email
casting@plowsharestheatre.org**