

Genesis Theatre

Howard & Ashley Pippin, Executive Directors

AUDITION INFORMATION

American Son

by Christopher Demos-Brown

Directed by Fred Sternfeld

ABOUT THE PLAY

A Florida police station in the middle of the night; a mother searching for her missing teenage son. *American Son* is a gripping tale of an estranged biracial couple caught in our national divide, with their worst fears hanging in the balance.

American Son premiered on Broadway at the Booth Theatre on November 4, 2018 and has also been made into a Netflix movie.

More info about the play & film is at [this Wikipedia link](#).

PERFORMANCES

December 6-8, 2024; Friday and Saturday at 7:00pm, Sunday at 2:00pm. There is a possible second weekend of performances December 13-15, 2024.

AUDITION PREPARATION, DATES & SUBMISSION

- Please present a memorized monologue from a contemporary play, and/or you can act several of these monologues (no need to memorize) below. The total time of your selections should be 2-4 minutes. A list of selections from the script [are at this link](#). Additionally, to help with your preparation [here is a link to a pdf of the script](#). There will be printed out copies of these at the auditions for you to use.

In Person

- The in person auditions are by appointment and will take place on Thursday, September 26, 6:00 - 9:00 pm.
- To make an appointment, email director Fred Sternfeld with a preferred date & time window, a picture & resume (if available) and a filled out [audition form](#) (Info on resume does not need to be repeated on your form) to fsternfeld@gmail.com. Please ALSO bring your printed out picture, resume and audition form with you to your audition.
- Auditions will be held at Summit Art Space, 140 E. Market St., Akron, Oh 44308

Video Submission

- Please send an unlisted link from YouTube or Vimeo, a picture & resume and a filled out audition form (Info on your resume does not need to be repeated on your form) to

fsternfeld@gmail.com by Tuesday, September 24, 2024.

CALLBACKS

Callbacks are by invitation and will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2024 from Noon - 3:00pm.

CAST REQUIREMENTS & BREAKDOWN

1 female, 3 males. (Descriptions are from the script)

- **KENDRA ELLIS-CONNOR** - Black, female, mid thirties to early fifties. A professor of psychology and the mother of a teenage son. Recently separated from her White husband. Emotionally raw but trying to keep it together behind a professional facade. Exceptionally intelligent and self-possessed.
- **SCOTT CONNOR** - White, male, late thirties to fifties. Kendra's estranged husband. An FBI agent of predominantly Irish ancestry. Takes pride in his family's long tradition of military service. Though rigid in his views he has a warm, sensitive side and is a deeply loving and devoted father.
- **OFFICER PAUL LARKIN** - White, male, mid-twenties to thirty. An intelligent, congenial young police officer with bold career ambitions who lacks actual life experience.
- **LIEUTENANT JOHN STOKES** - Black, male, fifty to mid-sixties. A tough, no-nonsense career police officer who is used to having people listen when he talks. He has paid his dues. He knows the rules and has no hesitation enforcing them.

REHEARSALS

There will be 4-5 weeks of staging and development rehearsals starting in early to mid November of 2024. Rehearsals are tentatively scheduled for Saturday and Sunday afternoons and Monday and Wednesday evenings, 4 times a week. There will be additional rehearsals the last ten days before the opening. Rehearsals will take place at Summit Art Space, 140 E. Market St., Akron, Oh 44308. There will be a gathering in October for a meet and greet, potluck meal and a read through at director Fred Sternfeld's house near Chagrin Falls.

CASTING COMMUNICATION

All auditioners will be contacted by phone or email to inform them of casting decisions.

COMPENSATION

There are no AEA contracts available for this production. Actors will be paid a stipend.

FRED STERNFELD, DIRECTOR

Fred is pleased to make his directing debut at Genesis Theatre. He is no stranger to Akron, having directed *Of Mice and Men* and *Towards Zero* at Coach House Theatre. Other recent productions include *Little Women* at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, *Fireflies* and *Other Desert Cities* at Clague Playhouse, *Tuck Everlasting* and *Death of a Salesman* at French Creek Theatre, *Mamma Mia!* at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, *Good People* at Aurora Theatre and *You Can't Take It With You* at Karamu House Theatre. Fred is widely represented on Northeast Ohio stages through diverse projects, garnering numerous honors and awards, some of which are listed here: *Next to Normal* at French Creek, *Company* & *A Little Night Music* at Fairmount Performing Arts, *The Glass Menagerie*, *West Side Story* & *The Miracle Worker* at TrueNorth, *Yellowman* at Karamu, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and *Peter Pan* at Beck Center, *Ragtime*, *A Shayna Maidel* and *Man of La Mancha* at the JCC and *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Sound of Music* at Cain Park. His

next project is ***The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*** at Clague Playhouse. Additionally, he and his wife Randi produce shows on Broadway and regionally: ***Be More Chill***, ***The Secret Garden*** and an upcoming new musical written by Jerry Zucker (film: Airplane, Naked Gun, Ghost) currently titled ***Intermission! The Musical!*** www.fredsternfeld.com.