



## A brief history of “On the Town”

*On the Town* premiered on Broadway on December 28th, 1944. The original production was notable for its diverse casting and intentional avoidance of racial stereotypes. Ivy was played by Sono Osato (a Japanese-American dancer), the ensemble included six black performers, and black conductor Everett Lee joined the production nine months into the run. This musical is typical of the post-WWII escapism that dominated Broadway over the years to come, but we believe it is relevant to our audience. The original production was an opportunity to show American audiences something they desperately wanted: their own community living their lives as if there was no war. By making three of the principal characters soldiers on leave, audiences were able to connect with these familiar characters in a real way without having to engage with the reality of war. This is the spirit of community healing and joy through art. It is our hope that our community can also find healing and joy in this production amidst a global pandemic. We are excited to honor the history of this production on our stage!

Here are some links where you can read more about the show:

[On The Town | Concord Theatricals](#)

[On the Town \(musical\) - Wikipedia](#)

We look forward to seeing you at auditions!