

JUST LIKE US

By Karen Zacarias
Directed by Gina Sandi-Diaz

AUDITION INFORMATION

WHO MAY AUDITION?

All roles will be cast with college students/actors.

WHAT IS THE PLAY ABOUT?

Based on Helen Thorpe's bestselling book, this documentary-style play follows four Latina teenage girls in Denver—two of whom are documented and two who are not—through young adulthood. Their close-knit friendships begin to unravel when immigration status dictates the girls' opportunities, or lack thereof. When a political firestorm arises, each girl's future becomes increasingly complicated. *Just Like Us* poses difficult, yet essential questions about what makes us American.

CAN I READ THE SCRIPT BEFORE THE AUDITION?

Yes, you may check out a perusal script from the Theatre Arts Department Office, S.A. 33 or 278-3987.

PRELIMINARY AUDITIONS FOR FALL MAIN SEASON PRODUCTIONS:

6:00 PM, Wednesday, August 22, John Wright Theatre

- One memorized monologue *no longer* than two minutes.
- Actors without a memorized monologue will be given material to read.

CALLBACK AUDITIONS FOR *JUST LIKE US*:

4:00 PM, Thursday, August 23, Woods Theatre

7:00 PM, Friday, August 24, Woods Theatre

WHEN ARE THE REHEARSALS?

Rehearsals tentatively begin on Monday, September 3

Usually, rehearsals are 7:00 - 10:00 PM, Monday - Thursday

Tech rehearsal: Sunday, Oct. 21 | 12:30 PM call for actors.

Dress Rehearsals: Oct. 22 - 25 | 6:00 PM call for actors.

WHEN & WHERE ARE PERFORMANCES?

Oct. 26 - 27, Oct. 30 - Nov. 3 @ 7:30 PM | 6:00 PM Actor Call

Oct. 28 @ 2:00 PM | 12:30 PM Actor Call

Dennis and Cheryl Woods Theatre

AVAILABLE ROLES:

10 women / 5 men

- **Helen Thorpe:** Irish-American woman, in her 40s. Married to the Mayor of Denver. She is a reporter writing on the girls' experience as immigrants.
- **Marisela:** Latina. Bilingual. Late teens. She is dramatic, emotional, colorful, loud. A straight-A student who also likes to party.
- **Yadira:** Latina. Bilingual. Late teens. She is the poised one: organized, serious, and very private.
- **Clara:** Latina. Bilingual. Late teens. The sensitive one. Sweet. No makeup. No boyfriend. Parents trust her with good reason.
- **Elisa / Zulema:** Elisa is the bossy one. If the four girls had been a sports team, Elisa would be their captain. Same actor will play Zulema, Yadira's younger sister.
- **Lucy:** White, Christian student from an affluent socio-economic background.
- **Fabian / Tom Tancredo:** Fabian is Marisela's hard working, sometimes grouchy father. He is a Spanish and non-English speaking father. A janitor at a supermarket who loves his family and worries about Marisela's wild ways in the US without legal status. Same actor will play Mr. Tancredo, a 2nd generation Italian-American Congressman born in a working class neighborhood in Denver who now represents a very affluent neighborhood in Colorado. The leading voice in Congress against illegal immigration. He is charismatic, smart, loud, affable, and very single-minded in his fervor against illegal immigration.
- **Josefa / Business Woman:** Josefa is Marisela's Mexican mother. Spanish, non –English speaking. She is a devoted mother and hardworking cleaning lady who looks after her four kids in the US. Same actor will also play a local business woman concerned that a ban on immigration will hurt Denver's economy.
- **Yolanda / Alma / Lisa Martinez:** Yolanda is the girls' hairdresser. She is cheerful, colorful, loud, friendly and has genuine concern for the girls' future. Same actor will play Alma, Yadira's mother and Lisa Martinez, a college professor aiding the girls in their quest for access to higher education.
- **Julio / Carlos:** Julio is one of Marisela's love interests. Latino, late teens. He is polite, 'sociable', fun, a good boy. Same actor will play Carlos. Carlos is Yadira's stepdad and Alba's husband. Also Latino. He is aggressive and explosive. The girls are intimidated by his presence.
- **Ramiro / Cop:** Ramiro is one of Marisela's love interest. Latino. In his 20s. He is a cowboy at heart who works as a mechanic and likes to party and dance. Same actor will play the cop that stops Marisela.
- **Cesar Mesquita / Federico Pena:** Cesar is the University of Denver Director of Diversity. He is trying to find ways to aid the girls enter college. Same actor will play Federico Pena, businessman, Former Cabinet member for President Clinton and the first Latino Mayor in Denver's history.
- **Tom Johnson / Mike McGarry:** Tom Johnson is a university recruiter interested in recruiting Yadira. Same actor will play McGarry, an anti-immigration political activist.
- **Mrs. Smith / Carol Vizzi:** Mrs. Smith is the girls' high school math teacher. Same actor will play Mrs. Vizzi, the mother of a murder victim committed by an illegal immigrant.
- **Ana / Cynthia Poundstone:** Ana is a classmate of Marisela who likes to compete with her. Same actor will play Mrs. Poundstone, a local fundraiser aiding the girls.