WEST SIDE STORY Character Descriptions:

The Sharks – A Puerto Rican gang


ANITA - Feisty and assertive. She dispenses "older sister" advice to Maria and tries to shield her from the dangers of the gangs. Bernardo's girlfriend and Maria's friend. Strong Alto (belt). Range: F3 - D5. Strong dance background required.


CHINO - An angry and, at times, naive Shark who turns murderous and vengeful. Suitor to Maria and friend of Bernardo's. Speaking Role. Dancing/Singing required.

PEPE - Gang member, Dancing/Singing required. Baritone.

INDIO - Gang member, Dancing/Singing required. Tenor.

LUIS - Gang member, Dancing/Singing required. Baritone/Bass.

ROSAelia - Indio’s girlfriend, more demure, not too bright, Mezzo Sop.

CONSUELA - Tough, young. Pepe’s girlfriend, Alto.

FRANISCA - Young, Luis’ girlfriend, Soprano.

The Jets – A Caucasian gang

TONY - A romantic young man and former leader of the Jets, he has found a new lifestyle now that doesn’t involve gangs. Tony finds himself violently torn between his friendships and love. Falls in love with Maria and meets an unfortunate death. Genuinely sweet and sincere. Strong tenor voice. Range: Bb2 - Bb4. Limited dancing.


ANYBODYS - A spunky tomboy who is desperate to become a member of the Jets. The other Jets mock her for her ambitions, but generally appreciate her company. Full of
energy and heart. Speaking Role. Dance role.


**ACTION** - The most quick-tempered member of the Jets, always ready for a fight. Tenor.


**BABY JOHN** - The youngest Jet, is beaten up during the opening sequence. Tenor.

*The Adults*

**OFFICER KRUPKE** - The local beat cop. He has no patience for the gangs conflict and tries to keep tensions from erupting between them. A little dorky, he is regularly mocked by the local gangs. Speaking Role. No dance background.

**DETECTIVE SCHRANK** - A local police detective frustrated by the ongoing violence between the Jets and Sharks. Blunt, brash, racist, and unapologetic. Speaking Role. No dance background required.

**DOC** - The adult owner of the store where the Jets hang out. He tries to guide the Jets youthful angst and provides a safe haven for Tony. Old fashioned and wise in his ways. Speaking Role. No dance background.

**GLAD HAND** - Nerdy, overly cheerful and ill-equipped social director at the school dance (“Mambo”). Speaking role. No dance background.