

Dreamgirls Character Breakdown.

EFFIE WHITE – African American woman, 20-30. Vibrant young woman who is as oversized in talent as she is in person. Effie is the true powerhouse in the group, a soaring singer whose voice overpowers and transcends Deena's and Lorrell's. She is smitten with Curtis from the start and is overcome with anger and jealousy when she senses his growing attraction to Deena. Effie should be full-figured, and her size carries with it a true sense of sexuality. Must have a huge gospel belt voice. Must move very well.

DEENA JONES – African American woman, 20-30. The young, thin, beautiful member of the dreams. Happy singing backup to Effie until Curtis puts her in the lead and grooms her as star of the group. Mezzo, big full belt. Must move very well.

LORRELL ROBINSON – African American woman, 20-30. The third member of The Dreams. Sexy, flirtatious girl from the projects of Detroit who has been singing with her best friends Effie and Deena for years. Carries on an affair with Jimmy Early, who refuses to leave his wife for her. Soprano, on top of most triad harmony, big full belt. Must move very well.

CURTIS TAYLOR, JR. – African American man, 30-40. Handsome, and very sexy. Slick car salesman who becomes the Dreams' manager. Has a appreciation of R & B music and a sense of what it sells. Motivated by dreams, he takes over the management of Jimmy Early's career and also oversees the rise to stardom of The Dreams. Initially warm and approachable he becomes hardened by wealth and power and the need to control everything and everyone. Baritone. Must move well.

JAMES "THUNDER" EARLY – African American man, 30-40. James Brown-like R & B star. The Dreamettes become his backup singers. Has an affair with Lorrell. Charismatic, sexy, high energy. Rock and R & B tenor. Must move well.

C.C. WHITE – African American man, 20-30. Effie's songwriter brother; writes all the dreams hit songs. Endearing and soft-spoken, he tries to do what's best but slowly gives up his ideals to Curtis' controlling vision. High baritone. Must move well.

MICHELE MORRIS – African American woman, 20s. Effie's replacement in the dreams. Thin and beautiful, she sings bottom in the harmonies. Mezzo soprano, big belt. Must move well.

MARTY – African American man, 30-45, street savvy, long-time manager who oversaw Jimmy's career and rise to R & B stardom. Represents an earlier age of black entertainment. At odds with Curtis and his ideas and schemes. Later oversees Effie's comeback. Baritone. Should move.

1 CAUCASIAN MAN AND 2 CAUCASIAN WOMEN - Strong singers who move well to play Dave and The Sweethearts (Pat Boone singer and his backup girls who sing the all American pop version of "Cadillac Car". Will play other ensemble roles such as reporters, press agents, etc.

1 CAUCASIAN MAN – Strong singer, character actor to play Frank, the press agent and various supporting roles.
Must move well.

Ensemble of male and female (African American/Muticultural/Caucasion) singer/dancers to play various supporting roles: must be strong singers and move very well. All ensemble members should possess unique and vivid personalities and have the ability to play a wide variety of characters. Wayne and Tiny Joe Dixon will be cast from this ensemble.