

DAZZLING DAMES OF BROADWAY: FROM THE 1930's TO THE 2020's

SYLLABUS

Note: Descriptions below include just a sampling of the Broadway productions in which these performers appeared. Videos of their performances may be from some of the productions listed as well as others not included on this list. The term "launched" is used to designate the decade in which each performer made her debut on Broadway.

Class 1: Dames Launched in 30's and 40's

Ethel Merman ("Anything Goes", "Annie Get Your Gun", "Gypsy")

Mary Martin ("South Pacific", "Peter Pan", "The Sound of Music")

Carol Channing ("Gentlemen Prefer Blondes", "Hello Dolly")

Class 2: Dames Launched in the 50's and 60's

Gwen Verdon ("Damn Yankees", "Sweet Charity", "Chicago")

Elaine Stritch ("Call Me Madam", "Company", "A Little Night Music" (revival))

Angela Lansbury ("Anytime Can Whistle", "Mame", "Sweeney Todd")

Class 3: Dames Launched in the 50's & 60's Continued

Barbara Cook ("Plain & Fancy", "Candide", "She Loves Me")

Class 4. Dames of the 70's, 80's & 90's

Patti Lupone ("Evita", "Gypsy" revival, "Company" revival)

Donna Murphy ("The Mystery of Edwin Drood", "Passion", "Wonderful Town" revival)

Sutton Foster ("Thoroughly Modern Millie", "Drowsy Chaperon", "The Music Man" revival)

Class 5: Dames of the late 90's through the First Decade of the 21st Century

Rebecca Luker ("The Phantom of the Opera" "The Secret Garden", "Show Boat" revival)

Kelly O'Hara ("South Pacific" revival, "The King & I" revival)

Marin Mazzie ("Ragtime", "Passion", "Kiss Me Kate" revival, "Spamalot" revival)

Kristin Chenoweth ("You're a Good Man Charlie Brown", "Candide" revival, "Wicked"continued.....)

Class 6: The two most celebrated and influential Dames of the 21st Century

Though one of these dames launched her Broadway career in the 1960's and the other in the 1980s, they have received more constant acclaim for their numerous musical theatre performances over the years than any of their fellow leading ladies:

Bernadette Peters ("Song & Dance", "Sunday in the Park with George", "Follies" revival)

Audra McDonald ("Ragtime", "Porgy & Bess" revival, "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill")

A brief look at our newest leading ladies, including Ariana Dubose, ("Pippin" revival, "Hamilton"), Joaquina Kalukango, ("Paradise Square"), and Annaleigh Ashford ("Sweeney Todd" revival.)