

Christmas Wonderland 2026

“FULL CAPACITY: A Code Joy Christmas”

CHARACTERS

Below is a brief description of the principal and featured characters. Ages listed are suggested playing ages only. The director may cast performers outside these ranges based on audition, vocal ability, chemistry, and overall production needs.

ELI (*Male • Playing Age: 9–13*)

A remarkable young boy receiving ongoing cancer treatments at Mercy General Hospital. Though physically weak, Eli possesses extraordinary wisdom, kindness, humor, and unwavering faith. Throughout the evening, he quietly transforms the lives of everyone he encounters by sharing the Christmas story and reminding them that God is with them. Curious, joyful, compassionate, thoughtful, mature beyond his years.

***DR. EVAN CARTER** (*Male • Playing Age: 40–60*)

The respected senior attending physician in the Emergency Department. Brilliant, driven, and deeply committed to his patients, Carter carries the weight of every life that enters the hospital. The anniversary of his younger brother's death has left him emotionally guarded, believing he alone must keep others alive. Controlled, driven, emotionally guarded; Serious with dry, understated humor.

***LUCY BENNETT** (*Female • Playing Age: 45–65*)

A veteran emergency room charge nurse whose calm presence steadies both patients and staff. Lucy has experienced profound personal loss but has chosen compassion over bitterness. She serves as the emotional heart of the ED and becomes Eli's greatest advocate. Warm, grounded, wise, gently humorous.

***MADISON** (*Female • Playing Age: 20–30*)

A nursing intern whose enthusiasm often exceeds her confidence. Madison desperately wants to do everything right but constantly second-guesses herself, creating many comedic moments. Energetic, awkward, lovable, sincere, from insecurity to purpose.

MR. SCHWARTZ (*Male • Playing Age: 80+*)

Assertive, sharp, perceptive, opinionated; Fast, biting humor – sometimes with grounded wisdom. Becomes the surprising voice of spiritual clarity late in Act 2.

MR. WHITMER (*Male • Playing Age: 80+*)

Boisterous, opinionated, somewhat cantankerous; Fast, biting humor – sometimes with grounded wisdom. Long-term friend of Schwartz.

MRS. ALVAREZ (*Female • Playing Age: 60–80*)

Recently widowed and spending Christmas Eve alone for the first time, Mrs. Alvarez arrives at the ED carrying both physical pain and deep loneliness. Guarded, Irritable and gruff at first, sharp, lonely.

MARCUS (*Male • Playing Age: 35–60*)

Environmental Services supervisor. Dry humor, perceptive, grounded. Observational wisdom and subtle leader.

***TASHA** (*Female • Playing Age: 20–50*)

A member of the Environmental Services team (plays off Marcus) with enormous enthusiasm and even bigger dreams. Tasha believes she's capable of much more than anyone realizes and longs to be given greater responsibility. Comedic energy, expressive, energetic, out-spoken, hilarious.

HARPER LANKSTON (*Female • Playing Age: 9–14*)

David and Lindsey's daughter. ED Patient. Bright, observant, and wonderfully honest. Harper often notices what the adults miss and becomes one of Eli's closest friends. Observant, caring, sensitive; carries family tension.

LINDSEY LANKSTON (*Female • Playing Age: 35–45*)

Harper's mother. Strong-willed and fiercely protective of her family. The strain of uncertainty has created tension in her marriage. Frustrated, emotionally exhausted, longing to be seen.

DAVID LANKSTON (*Male • Playing Age: 35–45*)

Harper's father. Practical and protective, David believes his responsibility is to keep everything under control. Beneath that strength lies fear he has never shared with his family. Driven, emotionally distant, controlling.

BOLD PATIENT (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 25-65*)

Strong, controlling, loud.

WHINY PATIENT (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 25-65*)

Whines about everything.

IMPATIENT PATIENT (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 25-65*)

Overly impatient and stressed.

PAINED PATIENT (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 25-65*)

Yells out in pain.

MR. TURNER (*Male • Playing Age: 40–70*)

Patient with possible heart attack.

MRS. TURNER (*Female • Playing Age: 40–70*)

Wife of possible heart attack patient.

SANTA MAN (*Male • Playing Age: 35–65*)

In an attempt to make a grand entrance to a Christmas party, he fell off the roof and ended up in ED. Funny, outgoing, optimistic.

ELF TEENAGER (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 13–20*)

A teenager working in full elf costume, they bring youthful energy and quick wit.

WHITNEY (*Female • Playing Age: 20–60*)

A woman who brings her dog into the ED, in panic mode.

BEN (*Male • Playing Age: 20–60*)

Whitney's husband or fiancé helping bring dog into ED.

DOCTOR (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 30-60*)

Resident physician

NURSE (*Male or Female • Playing Age: 30-60*)

Staff nurse

EXTRAS/CHORUS (Doctors, nurses, patients, visitors, etc.): (*M/F • Playing all ages*)

NATIVITY (*non-speaking roles*)

MARY (*Female • Playing Age: 14–20*)

JOSEPH (*Male • Playing Age: 14–20*)

SHEPHERDS: (*M/F • Playing all ages*) – With animals

3 FLYING ANGELS: (*M/F • Playing Age: 16-30*)

KING 1, 2 & 3 (*Male • Playing Age: 30–70*)

****Requires solo ability***