

## **Authors' Note to Directors**

In casting *Kinky Boots*, it is critical to keep in mind that the core message of the show is inclusivity and acceptance. For this reason, it is important that the cast of your production be as diverse as possible. While we have always cast the role of Lola with a Black actor on Broadway and the West End, and while that is our strong preference for your production, we realize that the demographics of each individual high school (and other school-aged groups) in a given region can be limiting. In the event that you are not able to cast a Black actor as Lola due to the demographics/population of your school or group, we strongly encourage that Lola be played by a person of color and that other key roles be cast with BIPOC performers as well. (There is no limitation or preference in the casting of the other characters).

Also, in order to feature a diverse cast, consider whether there is a way to recruit and include actors/dancers from outside your immediate circle of performers (e.g., a nearby school or dance studio to partner with on the production) as this will only enhance the production for your performers and audiences alike.

Finally, please note that the actors playing the Angels should be male performers, as this is consistent with the authors' intent.

Break a leg,

Cyndi and Harvey