

DISNEY'S Newsies

MAIN CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

AGES 10+

Some actors may be asked to play multiple roles.

Traditionally 8m/2f with a flexible ensemble.

Jack Kelly

Age to be played: 16-20

Vocal Range: Tenor (Bb2/A4)

The charismatic leader of the Manhattan newsies, is an orphaned dreamer and artist who yearns to get out of the crowded streets of New York and make a better life for himself out West. Fiercely protective of his best friend, Crutchie, and strongly loyal, Jack isn't afraid to use his voice to attain better conditions for the working kids of New York City. Though living on the streets has given him a tough-guy exterior, Jack has a big heart and can demonstrate a sweet vulnerability – especially when it comes to bantering with a certain female reporter.

Katherine Plumber

Age to be played: 17-20

Vocal Range: Mezzo-Soprano (A3/F5)

An ambitious young reporter, works hard to make a name for herself as a legitimate journalist in a time when women aren't taken seriously. Quick, funny, and resourceful, she boldly captures the voice of a new generation rising in her coverage of the newsies' strike. While she generally has no time for cocky, streetwise young men, she makes an exception for Jack Kelly.

Crutchie

Age to be played: 13-17

Vocal Range: Tenor (C3/A4)

A dedicated newsie with a bum leg that's painful, but helps sell more papes. Though he walks with the assistance of a crutch, Crutchie doesn't let it define him; when in a jam, Jack Kelly's best friend relies on a goofy- sweet sense of humor and optimistic resilience. Crutchie is the heart of the resistance.

Davey

Age to be played: 15-20

Vocal Range: Tenor (D3-A4)

Les's straight-laced, bright big brother starts selling newspapers to help his family earn a living, but becomes swept up in the fervor of the strike. A leader in his own right who is learning to use his voice to uplift others, Davey is the brains of the resistance.

Les

Age to be played: 10-15

Vocal Range: Tenor (Db3/Bb3)

Davey's cheeky younger brother, is inspired by the freedom of the newsies and loves their independent lifestyle. A precocious and natural newsie, Les is an intuitive salesboy and a pint-sized charmer. He should present as younger than the other newsies.

Joseph Pulitzer

Age to be played: 35-50

Vocal Range: Baritone (F4/C3)

A pompous businessman through and through, owns the World and is concerned solely with the bottom line. Katherine's no-nonsense father, Pulitzer doesn't sympathize with the strikers, but he does eventually – and grudgingly – respect Jack.

Medda Larkin

Age to be played: 25-45

Vocal Range: Mezzo-Soprano (F3/E5)

Inspired by vaudeville performer Aida Overton Walker, this big-voiced saloon singer and star of the Bowery offers her theater as a safe haven for the newsies. An astute entertainer with great comic delivery, she's a good friend to Jack and stands firmly behind the newsies in their fight for justice.

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FEATURED ROLES

Newsies

Age to be played: 13-20

Including Albert, Buttons, Elmer, Finch, Henry, Ike, Jo Jo, Mike, Mush, Race, Romeo, Specs, Splasher, and Tommy Boy, are some of the hard-working kids of New York City that go on strike for a livable wage.

Wiesel

Age to be played: 35-50

Or "Weasel," runs the distribution window for the World and knows most of the newsies by name. Assisted by the intimidating Delancey brothers, who keep order by any means necessary, Wiesel is Pulitzer's disgruntled paper-pusher.

Spot Conlon

Age to be played: 17-20

The proud leader of the Brooklyn newsies, boasts an intimidating reputation and a short singing solo in "Brooklyn's Here."

Governor Teddy Roosevelt

Age to be played: 50-65

A well-respected lifelong public servant, inspires Jack to stand up to Pulitzer.

Snyder

Age to be played: 45-65

The crooked and sinister warden of The Refuge, a filthy and horrible orphanage, is concerned only with catching enough kids to keep his government checks coming.

Hannah

Age to be played: 20-40

Pulitzer's practical and insightful secretary.

Oscar and Morris Delancey

Age to be played: 15-20

Tough brothers who work at the distribution window for the World, take the side of the publishers in the strike and are known to use their fists to make a point.

Ensemble

Various ages from 15-65

Play a variety of roles including publishers, photographers, barbers, Bowery beauties, goons, nuns, stage manager, policemen and other characters.

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SHOW COMMITMENTS

Actors are asked to be available for at least 90% of rehearsals and ALL tech and show days. If you have prior commitments, please let the team know at your audition so they may take that into consideration.

REHEARSALS - March 26 - April 27 2023

Saturdays and Sundays - 2:30pm to 10pm

Tuesday to Thursday - 6:30pm to 10:30pm

TECH WEEK - April 29 - May 4 2023

Saturday and Sunday - 1pm to 11pm

Monday to Thursday - 5pm to 11pm

SHOWS- May 12- June 3 2023

Tuesday to Sunday- 7:30pm

Saturday and Sunday- 2pm

STUDENT MATINEES

Tuesday to Friday- 10am

SET STRIKE

Saturday, June 3, 2023 - post closing show

Show dates will be confirmed prior to tech week.