

Faith Community Theatre presents:

Disney

NEWSIES

THE MUSICAL

Audition Information

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Welcome! We're thrilled about your interest in our production of Disney's Newsies! This packet contains everything you need to know for auditions on April 6-7.

Sign up for an audition slot at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D44A9A62CA4FF2-62797710-fctnewsies>

Please sign up for one timeslot per person. Come prepared with a short sample of a song that is not from Newsies (approx 1 minute) that you'll sing a cappella (without piano). You will also be asked to read from dialogue we'll provide.

Please note additional time will be required for dance auditions for all youth. Please allow an extra 10 minutes after your listed time. Note: all youth actors will need to attend a dance audition only to gauge skill level.

Note about Youth roles: we will be considering male or female actors for many youth roles. Auditions are open aged 10 and up.

Schedule/Important Dates:

Mon. 4/6 & Tues. 4/7 - Auditions, 6:30pm-9pm

Sign up on the Sign Up Genius: [FCT Audition Sign Up](#)

Wed. 4/8 - Callbacks 7pm-9pm (Callback list emailed Tues. evening 4/7)

Fri. 4/10 - Cast list announced via email

Sun. 4/12 - Final role acceptance or declination due by 5pm via email

Mon. 4/13- First all-cast meeting (scripts, intros, costume measurements and initial vocal rehearsal)

- Rehearsals are generally scheduled from 7pm-9pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-Noon on Saturdays. As we get closer to production, Fridays will be added. Not all cast members will be required at all rehearsals.

June Production Dates

Starting Monday June 1st, rehearsals are 7pm-10pm

Thursday June 4th, 7pm-9pm- Costume Fitting Night

Friday June 5th 7pm- 10pm - FULL RUN with Costumes and Mics

Saturday June 6th, 9am-1pm - FULL RUN

Monday June 8th 7pm- 10pm - FULL RUN

Tuesday June 9th. - FINAL DRESS with audience (we treat this as a performance)

Performances: Wednesday June 10th - Sunday June 14th. Performances are at 7pm for Wed-Sat and a 2pm matinee on Sat and Sun. Take note - there are TWO performances on Saturday June 13th.

Monday June 15th - Mandatory Strike

Disney's Newsies Synopsis:

Disney's Newsies is based on the 1992 musical film, originally inspired by the newsboys' strike of 1899 in New York City. With music by Alan Menken (a Disney legend), lyrics by Jack Feldman, and book by Harvey Fierstein.

It's NYC, 1899. Jack Kelly and his ragtag team of newsboys sell "papes" to make a living. But when powerhouse publisher Joseph Pulitzer raises the prices, the newsies form a union and organize a strike. Can a group of idealistic newsboys win against such a powerful foe? Featuring rousing songs like "Seize the Day," "Once and for All," and "The World Will Know."

Audition FAQs:

How do I sign up?

[FCT Audition Sign Up](#)

- Sign up for an audition time slot on the Sign Up Genius link

What should I prepare?

Read through the character options and choose one you're most interested in auditioning for. You will still be considered for all characters. Bring your best NY accent!

You will be asked to sing a song (without piano) for approximately 1 minute in length. We ask that you prepare a song that is **not** from Newsies.

What will the process look like?

When you arrive for your scheduled audition time, come in the main entrance to the church and check in at the welcome desk. We will let you know when to head into your audition. Please arrive at least 5 minutes before your scheduled time to fill out forms and check in.

Once you enter the choir room, the audition panel will introduce themselves and ask you for your audition form. You will sing your song selection and then read from a selection of dialogue from the show. After this is complete head back to the welcome desk where we will direct you to your dance audition.

Relax, have fun, and do your best! We've all been through the audition process ourselves and understand it can be nerve-wracking.

Thank you and good luck!

Directors

FCT Theatre Expectations:

Theatre should be a fun and welcoming experience for all, so we reserve the right to remove cast members from the production who do not meet expectations. We list these only to be completely transparent in our expectations; we do not typically encounter many issues. Participants will:

- Check their email regularly for information from the directors.
- Communicate all absences via email in advance. (Short notice exception for illness or emergency ONLY).
- Treat your fellow cast members and the building space with respect.

Character Breakdown:

Ages listed are the age of the characters, actor ages will vary.

NEWSIES

Jack Kelly Male, age 16-20 - The charismatic leader of the Manhattan newsies. Orphaned dreamer and artist. Fiercely protective of his best friend, Crutchie. Under his tough-guy exterior, Jack has a big heart and a sweet vulnerability. Leading role; must have a great pop tenor voice and sense of physicality; many solos and lines, some dancing, stage combat.

Davey Male, 15-20 - Brains of the resistance, and the book-smart counterpoint to the other newsboys. Leading role; must have a great contemporary tenor voice. Many lines, solo singing, dance. Tenor.

Crutchie Any, 13-17 - Though he uses a crutch, Crutchie doesn't let it define him. Jack Kelly's best friend and has a goofy-sweet sense of humor. Optimistic and resilient, Crutchie is the heart of the resistance. Leading role; must be able to dance enthusiastically, without encouraging stereotypes. Sings solo, many lines, stage combat. Tenor.

Les Male, 7-10 - Davey's cheeky younger brother, Les is inspired by the freedom and independent lifestyle of the newsies. Les is an intuitive salesboy and a pint-sized charmer. Leading role; should read as younger than the other newsies. Tenor.

Other Newsies - (Male or Female) Some of the hard-working kids of NYC that go on strike for a livable wage, function as a family. Featured roles; must create unique characters with physical and vocal details that distinguish them from the other newsies. Lots of singing and dancing.

FRIENDS/ALLIES OF THE NEWSIES

Katherine Plumber Female, 17-20 - The strong-willed daughter of Pulitzer, this young reporter drips smarts, opinions, and confidence. Leading role; must have great contemporary pop Mezzo-Soprano with a high belt and good diction.

Medda Larkin Female, 25-45 - Big-voiced saloon singer and star of the Bowery, offers her theatre as a safe haven for the newsies and is a friend to Jack. Featured role; Medda is in few scenes but packs a punch. Sings solo, limited dance, comedic actress required. Mezzo-Soprano.

Jacobi, Male or Female, 30-50, Owner of the Deli that is frequented by the Newsies. Non singing role.

Spot Conlin Male, 15-20- Proud leader of the Brooklyn newsies with an intimidating reputation. Featured in Act 2; the actor will double another character in Act 1. Short singing solo, some lines.

Mayor of New York (Adult)-Rebuffs Pulitzer's attempts to shut down the strike. Supporting role; will double in other roles. Some lines, no singing or dancing.

Governor Teddy Roosevelt (Adult)- Well-respected lifelong public servant. Supporting role; will double in other roles. Some lines, no singing or dancing.

PULITZER & HIS STAFF

Joseph Pulitzer Male, 35-50 - A pompous businessman who owns “The World” and is concerned solely with the bottom line. Katherine’s no-nonsense father, he is impolite and impatient. Featured role; sings solos, many lines, no dance. Baritone; range: C3-F4

Weisel (Adult)- “Weasel” runs “The World” distribution window. Assisted by the Delancey brothers who keep order. Wiesel is Pulitzer’s disgruntled paper-pusher. Exaggerated, cartoonish vocal and physical performance. Sings ensemble only, several lines, no dance.

Morris and Oscar Delancey -(Teen or Young Adult) Tough brothers who work at the distribution window and use their fists to make a point. Supporting roles; strong physical performance with self-control for stage combat. Several lines, no dance, stage combat.

Seitz, Bunsen, & Hannah - (Adult Roles) Pulitzer’s editor, bookkeeper, and secretary. Small supporting roles with a little singing, some lines, and limited dancing.

Synder -(Adult Male) Crooked and sinister warden of The Refuge (horrible orphanage). Concerned only with catching enough kids to keep the government checks coming. Several lines, no dance.

ENSEMBLE GROUPS

Many of these can be doubled with other roles.

Brooklyn (and other borough) Newsies - Spot Conlon’s gang, they add their support to the strike in Act 2. Sing ensemble, dance feature.

Bowery Beauties - Medda’s vaudeville dancers. Sing ensemble, dance feature.

Nuns - offer breakfast to the newsies. Small ensemble singing feature in Act 1.

Goons - Hired thugs who join the Delanceys to rough up the newsies end of Act 1. Stage combat, physical performance.

Policemen - Arrive during the strike riot, end of Act 1. Join the fight on Synder’s side and arrest newsies. Stage combat.

Kids at the Refuge - other kids incarcerated with Crutchie. Physical performance.