

TO: 4th-6th Graders & Parents

FR: Terese G. Evans - Music (tevans@stjamesgulfport.com)

RE: Auditions for our Spring Musical

Our 2025 spring musical is "Oliver!". "Oliver!" is the Broadway musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' novel, "Oliver Twist". This award-winning musical is a classic and "offers the most memorable characters and songs ever to grace the stage". Auditions will be January 22nd (Wednesday) and January 23rd (Thursday) from 3:00-5:30 in the Linda Kremer Fine Arts Bldg. Auditionees need only attend one of those days. If the auditionee is trying out for a singing role, they must have a prepared song (school Mass songs i.e. "This Little Light of Mine", "Go Out, Go Out" or songs from "Oliver!" are preferred). If auditioning for a dancing part, auditionees can prepare a group dance.

Below is a brief synopsis of "Oliver!" with a character breakdown:

"Consider yourself at home with Lionel Bart's classic musical based on the Charles Dickens novel, "Oliver Twist". The Tony and Olivier Award-winning show is one of the few musicals to win an Academy Award for Best Picture and is widely hailed as a true theatrical masterpiece by actors and audience members alike. The streets of Victorian England come to life as Oliver, a malnourished orphan in a workhouse, becomes the neglected apprentice of an undertaker. Oliver escapes to London and finds acceptance amongst a group of petty thieves and pickpockets (led by

the elderly Fagin). When Oliver is captured for a theft that he did not commit, the benevolent victim, Mr. Brownlow, takes him in. Fearing the safety of his hideout, Fagin employs the sinister Bill Sikes and the sympathetic Nancy to kidnap him back, threatening Oliver's chances of discovering the true love of a family. "Oliver!" is a musical theatre masterpiece, perfectly showcasing the talents of a large ensemble cast as they bring these classic characters and score to life."

Character breakdown

Oliver (singing)
an orphaned workhouse boy-innocent and trusting

Fagin (singing)
an elderly receiver-runs training academy for young
pickpockets-a comical opportunist

The Artful Dodger (singing)
Fagin's brightest pupil-bright and energetic

Bill Sikes (singing or talk-singing) a villain in his prime

Nancy (singing)
a graduate of Fagin's academy and Bill's girlfriend-loving and kind

Bet (singing)
Nancy's friend and member of Fagin's establishment,
idolizes Nancy

Mr. Bumble (singing) a large and pompous Beadle of the workhouse

Mrs. Corney (singing)
A sharp-tongued domineering widow, the workhouse mistress

Mr. Brownlow (non-singing)
An old gentleman of wealth and breeding. Kind

Mr. Sowerberry (singing) the undertaker

Mrs. Sowerberry (singing)
Mr. Sowerberry's wife and his overseer

Charlotte (non-singing)
The Sowerberry's bratty young daughter

Noah Claypole (non-singing)
Mr. Sowerberry's apprentice. A bully

Mr. Grimwig (non-singing) a doctor

Mrs. Bedwin (singing)
The Brownlow's housekeeper

Old Sally (non-singing)

A pauper

Charley Bates (non-singing) a boy in Fagin's establishment

Ensemble (singing, dancing and non-singing parts) - police, street vendors, Nancy's girlfriends, Bill Sikes' thugs,

townspeople, orphans, Fagin's pickpocket girls & boys, dancers, workhouse boys & girls

If you are interested in auditioning, please fill out the attached audition form (list conflicts) and bring the filled out form to auditions.

Any questions? tevans@stjamesgulfport.com

PRINT, FILL OUT AND BRING THIS FORM TO AUDITIONS:

| (PRINT NAME) |
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| (TELEPHONE #) |
| |
| I AM INTERESTED IN A SINGING ROLE |
| I AM INTERESTED IN A NON-SINGING ROLE |
| I AM INTERESTED IN GROUP ONLY |

THE SHOW DATES ARE 5/14 & 5/15. LIST ON THE BACK ANY CONFLICTS (i.e. vacations, sports, tryouts, dance, cheerleading/dance tryouts, doctor appointments etc.). REHEARSALS ARE AFTER SCHOOL 3-5pm (Mon.-FRI. depending on their role).