



Music by

- [Alan Menken](#)
- Lyrics by
 - [Jack Feldman](#)
- Book by
 - [Harvey Fierstein](#)

Based on the Disney film written by Bob Tzudiker and Noni White.

Newsies

National Tour Version

It's time to carry the banner on your stage with *Disney's Newsies!* Set in turn-of-the-century New York City, *Newsies* is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a band of teenaged "newsies." When titans of publishing raise distribution prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions and fight for what's right!

Based on the 1992 motion picture and inspired by a true story, *Newsies* features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken (*Little Shop of Horrors*, *Sister Act*) and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein (*Kinky Boots*). Featuring the now classic songs "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," and "Santa Fe," *Newsies* is packed with non-stop thrills and a timeless message, perfect for the whole family and every audience.

This is a National Tour Version; therefore, this will run somewhat different from our other Musical Theater Classes. Admission to this class will be by audition or instructor permission.

This class will require leads to enroll in *Newsies* Acting to work on lines with Mr. Weston (it meets directly after the weekly rehearsal).

Auditions to the class will be the 1st night of class. Auditions for roles will be the following week. Auditions will be held until all roles are filled.

Show Dates: April 1-3, 2022

Rehearsals Thursdays 6:00-7:30pm

Acting Class 7:30-8:00pm (only for acting leads)

Show April 1-3, 2022

Membership and Material Fees

- Membership (\$50) and Material Fee (\$60) must be paid before script and character analysis, and resume templates are sent to student.
- Fees will be refunded
 - If student is not admitted to the class AND
 - Materials are returned.
- Additional Fees: Playbill Fee \$35. Costume Fee: \$75
- Monthly Tuition \$105
- All roles above Ensemble will need to enroll in Newsies Acting Class
- Some Ensemble Roles will need intermittent Acting classes and will be advised of those at least 2 weeks ahead of scheduled class. Individual classes will be billed at \$5.00 per session.

Preparing for Auditions

Strong suggestion, watch the movie of the musical a few times. Study the roles. Analyze each role and see which character you identify with. Be realistic in deciding which role to audition for. Be sure you can look and act the part convincingly.

Research the story of the real Newsies. Learn about what life was like at that time. How did people live – how the Newsies differed from the Pulitzers; what was it like to be a woman at that time. Understanding the history will help you understand the characters, what makes them who they are, and thus, will help you to play that role convincingly.

Also research the roles. When auditioning for a role, the actor should have a great grasp of the character. We will send out a character analysis packet to those registered in a couple of weeks to help you dissect characters. Choose one or two to dig into, and then reflect upon how you would portray this character. Ask yourself if you would be believable as the character. And use this analysis to help you choose which role to audition for.

Roles that List Vocal Range: These roles require a singing audition. Student should be sure that they can sing in the stated range. They should prepare 16 bars of a song similar to the song in the show, but not the show song.

Roles that List Dance: Roles that list dance as a skill should be prepare for a dance audition that includes kicks, turns, rolls, leaps, and some tricks (cartwheel etc.) The dance sequences in this show require intermediate to advanced dance skills.

Roles that list Actor: Roles that list acting should prepare a monologue that demonstrates the personality of the role auditioning for.

Auditions for Class and Roles

1. All students auditioning should submit a Resume of previous roles and training
2. All Students should submit a headshot with their resume.
3. Students should have a good grasp of what the show is about
4. Student should have 1 or 2 roles they feel they would bring to life and be able to explain or demonstrate why that role suits them.
5. Those auditioning to be a “Newsie” or other role that lists dance should come prepared for a dance audition with proper dance clothes and shoes.
6. Those auditioning for parts with singing, should come prepared with 16 bars of music of a song similar to the one they will need to sing for the parts they choose.
7. Those auditioning for acting roles, should prepare a short monologue showing the type of character they will be auditioning for.
8. Ensemble may be cast as more than 1 role.

Jack Kelly

Sing, Dance, Act

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. Must have a great pop tenor voice and sense of physicality.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: A4

Age: 16 to 20

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Crutchie

Sing, Dance, Act

A dedicated newsie with a bum leg that's painful, but helps sell more papers. 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. Though his movement will suggest his bum leg, Crutchie should still be included in the dance numbers.

Gender: Any

Vocal range top: A4

Age: 13 to 17

Vocal range bottom: C3

Davey

Strong Singer/Actor, Moderate Dance

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.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: A4

Age: 15 to 20

Vocal range bottom: D3

Les

Sing/Act

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.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: Bb3

Age: 10 to 15

Vocal range bottom: Db3

Soprano Boy, unchanged voice

Newsies

Advance Dance

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.

Age: 13 to 20

Scabs

Three newsies who are hesitant to join the strike.

Gender: Any

Age: 10 to 20

Advanced Dance**Spot Conlon**

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

Gender: Any

Age: 17 to 20

Advanced Dance**Katherine Plumber****Sing, Dance, Act (TripleThreat)**

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. Though she only has a brief dance solo in “King of New York,” Katherine should have a great contemporary pop voice with a high belt – diction is key.

Gender: Female

Vocal range top: F5

Age: 17 to 20

Vocal range bottom: A3

Joseph Pulitzer**Sing/Actor**

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.

Gender: Male

Vocal range top: F4

Age: 35 to 50

Vocal range bottom: C3

Oscar and Morris Delancey**Dance Combat**

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.

Gender: Male

Age: 15 to 20

Goons**Dance Combat**

Assist the Delanceys in roughing up the newsies at the end of Act One.

Gender: Male

Age: 15 to 20

Ensemble Roles

Medda Larkin

Singer/Actor

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.

Gender: Female Vocal range top: E5
Age: 25 to 45 Vocal range bottom: F3

The Bowery Beauties

Female performers at Medda's Theater.

Sing/Dance

Gender: Female
Age: 18 to 30

Wiesel

Acting Role

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.

Gender: Male
Age: 35 to 50

Hannah

Pulitzer's practical and insightful secretary.

Gender: Female Age: 20 to 40

Actor

Nunzio

Pulitzer's barber.

Age: 30 to 50

Actor

Gender: Any

Guard

Actor

The Guard removes the newsies from Pulitzer's building.

Gender: Any

Age: 20 to 60

Seitz

Actor

Editor, advises Pulitzer, but ultimately admires the kids' newspaper.

Gender: Any

Bunsen

Actor

Pulitzer's bookkeeper, comes up with the ideas to raise the newsies' price per paper.

Age: 35 to 50

Gender: Any

Snyder

Actor

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.

Gender: Any

Age: 45 to 65

Mr. Jacobi

Actor

Allows the newsies to congregate in his restaurant to plan their strike – when he doesn't have any paying customers, that is.

Gender: Any

Age: 35 to 55

Policemen

Actor

Assist Snyder and turn against the newsies in the fight that concludes Act One.

Gender: Male (can be played by female)

Age: 20 to 60

Mayor

Actor

The Mayor of New York City rebuffs Pulitzer's attempts to shut down the newsies' strike.

Gender: Male (can be played by female)

Age: 45 to 60

Governor Teddy Roosevelt

Actor

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

Gender: Male

Age: 50 to 65

Ensemble

In the original Broadway production, the adult (non-newsie) ensemble comprised eight actors who doubled and understudied as indicated below. All other featured roles and understudies were cast from the ensemble of newsies. Feel free to follow these tracks or expand as your resources allow.

FEMALE ENSEMBLE 1 - Nun / Hannah / Bowery Beauty / Katherine understudy

FEMALE ENSEMBLE 2 - Nun / Woman / Bowery Beauty / Medda understudy

FEMALE ENSEMBLE 3 - Nun / Medda Larkin

MALE ENSEMBLE 1 - Wiesel / Stage Manager / Mr. Jacobi / Mayor / Pulitzer understudy

MALE ENSEMBLE 2 - Seitz / Roosevelt understudy

MALE ENSEMBLE 3 - Bunsen / Male Ensemble 1 understudy

MALE ENSEMBLE 4 - Nunzio / Guard / Policeman / Roosevelt

MALE ENSEMBLE 5 - Snyder / Pulitzer understudy

Gender: Any