

CASTING/AUDITION INFORMATION

Directed by Jenny Martin
Music Direction by Courtney Malone
Choreography by Collin Eten

Online registration for *Disney's Newsies, JR* opens December 1, 2022. Students aged 9-18, who register online, and pay the Production Fee by February 11, 2023, are eligible to participate in *Newsies, JR*. ALL students registered will be cast in the show, but all students are required to attend auditions.

Payment plans and scholarships are available. Email deo@parkwayplayhouse.com for more information.

Questions? [See our Parkway Junior Show FAQ here!](#)

PRE-AUDITION DANCE WORKSHOP:

Saturday, February 4 and Sunday February 5, 2023; 4-6pm. It is highly recommended that all students attend this workshop before auditions. Collin will be working with students to teach them dance techniques required for the show.

AUDITIONS:

Saturday, February 11, 2023, 2:00-4:30pm (students should plan to attend the full time). Students are *not* required to have a monologue, but should sing 30-60 seconds of a song from the show, be prepared to read from the script, as well as participate in a dance audition.

Sheet music and sides (portions of the script) will be sent to actors and their parents upon registration. Actors will be provided musical accompaniment at auditions. Actors should know the timestamp of their starting place in the song.

NOTIFICATION:

Casting will be complete by 8pm that day, and emailed to cast and parents.

1st REHEARSAL: Sunday, February 12, 2023 2:30-4:30pm.

REHEARSALS: Please carefully review rehearsal schedule before auditioning. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals at which they are called. Attendance is required during tech week and all performances.

Older Students (ages 9-18): Mondays and Thursdays, 5-6:30pm; Sundays 2:30-4:30pm

TECH WEEK: Sunday, April 30-Thursdays, May 4; 4:30-7:30pm

PERFORMANCE DATES: May 5, 6, 12 and 13 at 6:30pm.

SUMMARY OF SHOW:

It's time to carry the banner with *Disney's Newsies JR*.! You'll be doing flips for the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a band of young newsies in Manhattan. When titans of publishing raise distribution prices at the newsies' expense, Jack rallies young workers from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions and fight for what's right! Adapted especially for young performers, this musical features a Tony Award®-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award®-winner Harvey Fierstein, and includes rousing songs like "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," and "King of New York." *Newsies JR*. is packed with non-stop thrills and a timeless message perfect for the whole family and every audience.

CHARACTERS/CASTING NEEDS:

ENSEMBLE – includes NEWSIES of New York, RACE, ALBERT, MURIEL, NANCY, SPECS, PIGTAILS, HAZEL, BUTTONS, TOMMY BOY, ROMEO, JO JO, SCABS and others; the newsies' CUSTOMERS; citizens of New York of all stripes, including a WOMAN; the BOWERY BRIGADE, vaudeville performers, including ADA, OLIVE, and ETHEL; and corrupt POLICE OFFICERS, including the POLICE CHIEF; WORKING CHILDREN of New York City

JACK KELLY – a fiercely loyal and charismatic orphan who dreams of a life out west and boldly leads the Manhattan newsies

CRUTCHIE – a dedicated newsie and Jack Kelly's ever-optimistic best friend; named Casey, but known to most as Crutchie

KATHERINE – an ambitious young reporter who works hard to make a name for herself; courageously uses her voice to cover the newsies' strike

DARCY – Katherine's trustworthy photographer

MORRIS and OSCAR DELANCEY – toughs who work for the New York World; known to use their fists to make a point

WIESEL – a disgruntled manager of distribution for the World, often called "Weasel" by the newsies

LES – Davey's cheeky younger sibling who is inspired by the freedom of the newsies and loves their independent lifestyle

DAVEY – Les's straight-laced, bright older brother who acts as the brains behind the newsies' strike

JOSEPH PULITZER – a pompous businessman and Katherine's no-nonsense father; does not sympathize with the strikers, but comes to respect Jack

BUNSEN – Pulitzer's bookkeeper, helps come up with the idea to raise the newsies' price per paper

SEITZ – an editor who advises Pulitzer, but ultimately admires the kids' newspaper

HANNAH – Pulitzer's secretary who quietly looks out for the newsies

SNYDER – the crooked and sinister warden of The Refuge

MEDDA LARKIN – a big-voiced saloon singer and star of the Bowery who offers her theater as a safe haven for the newsies

PAT – the stage manager of Medda's theater

SPOT CONLON – the proud leader of the Brooklyn newsies with an intimidating reputation

DOROTHY and BILL – Katherine's friends whose parents own the New York Tribune and New York Journal, respectively; they help the newsies print the Newsies Banner

GOVERNOR TEDDY ROOSEVELT – a well-respected, lifelong public servant whom Jack admire