



EXTRA – EXTRA Read All About It! JRT to hold Auditions for Disney's Newsies!

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Auditions will be held inside the theatre, Sunday, April 22, at 3:00 p.m. and Monday, April 23, at 7:00 p.m. Casting Male and Female Roles ranging from ages 10 – 60. See Ages below Cast descriptions.

This is a main stage show and not a junior version.

Auditions will consist of dancing, singing and cold readings.

Dance: Dance auditions will consist of both a tap and a jazz section. Auditioners should bring dance shoes if they have them, and shoes that they can move and turn in if they do not. Please wear clothing that you are comfortable moving in, and expect portions of the dance audition to be fairly energetic. Those auditioners with dance or gymnastics training will be given the opportunity to demonstrate special skills, such as pirouettes, fouetté turns, barrel rolls, splits, leaps, toe touches, tilts, hand springs, walk overs, etc.

Vocals: If you would like to be considered for one of the principal roles, you must come prepared with a vocal audition. You may bring sheet music or sing a' cappella. Please keep music selections in the style of the show and no longer than 32 measures (1/2 minute long). Sheet music should be in a 3-ring binder and clearly marked for the accompanist.

Cold Readings: Sides will be provided to look over before taking the stage.

This is a big commitment, please bring your calendars and be prepared to list any conflicts or potential conflicts during the rehearsal process. If you have conflicts with tech week or any performances, we will be unable to cast you.

Rehearsal will begin in full force in June and continue all summer. There will be a tentative rehearsal schedule provided at auditions. If we know about conflicts ahead of time, we can work around them. Performance dates are August 17 – September 9 on Thursday – Sunday.

If you have any questions, please contact Janette Gaines at jrteducation@gmail.com.

Casting

Cast Size: Large 21 +

Dance Requirements: Heavy

Character Breakdown

Jack Kelly

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

Age: 16+

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Crutchie

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: Both

Age: 16+

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: C3

Davey

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

Age: 16+

Vocal range top: A4

Vocal range bottom: D3

Les

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 sales boy and a pint-sized charmer. He should present as younger than the other newsies.

Gender: Male

Age: 10 to 15

Vocal range top: Bb3

Vocal range bottom: Db3

Newsies

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.

Gender: Male [may cast female but will play a male character]

Age: 14+

Scabs

Three newsies who are hesitant to join the strike.

Gender: Both

Age: 16+

Spot Conlon

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

Gender: Both

Age: 18+

Katherine Plumber

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

Age: 17+

Vocal range top: F5

Vocal range bottom: A3

Darcy

The upper-class kid of a publisher who sides with the newsies. Will double as a newsie.

Gender: Both

Age: 16+

Bill

The son of William Randolph Hearst who joins the newsies' cause. Will double as a newsie.

Gender: Male

Age: 16 to 25

Wiesel

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

Oscar and Morris Delancey

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: 16+

Goons

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

Gender: Male

Age: 16+

Joseph Pulitzer

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

Age: 35 to 50

Vocal range top: F4

Vocal range bottom: C3

Snyder

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: Both

Age: 45 to 65

Medda Larkin

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

Age: 25+

Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: F3

The Bowery Beauties

Female performers at Medda's Theater.

Gender: Female

Age: 18 to 30

Ensemble

Various roles. Those cast will likely play multiple roles. These actors should be able to sing ensemble, act and dance.

Age: 14 +