

The Sun

Disney

# NEWSIES JR.

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ROAR ACADEMY'S Production of

Disney  
**NEWSIES**  
**JR.**

Music by

**Alan Menken**

Lyrics by

**Jack Feldman**

Book by

**Harvey Fierstein**

Based on the Disney Film

**Written by Bob Tzudiker and Noni White**

Originally Produced on Broadway by

**Disney Theatrical Productions**

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*All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia*

***“Now is the time to seize the day!***

***Answer the call and don't delay!”***

***Seize the Day with Disney's rousing musical that has thrilled and inspired young people for generations!***

Disney's NEWSIES JR is a shorter version of the 2012 Broadway musical, which was based on the 1992 film. Inspired by the rousing true story of newsboys in turn-of-the-century New York City. Newsies JR features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein.

When powerful newspaper publishers raise prices at the newsboys' expense, the charismatic Jack Kelly rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions. Together the Newsies learn that they are stronger united and create a movement to fight for what's right. Including the now-classic songs CARRYING THE BANNER, SEIZE THE DAY and SANTA FE, Newsies JR is a timeless story full of spirit and heart.



# **PRODUCTION COMPANY - ROAR Academy**

ROAR Academy has been providing high-quality, affordable tuition to young people aged 5-18 years in the performing arts for more than 11 years and they have a strong history of excellence and developing future theatre professionals.

ROAR Academy have been attending and actively engaged with JTF (Junior Theatre Festival) since 2016 and are also active participants in the SE Qld Drama Festival Circuit every year with a history of attaining excellence in all areas of drama.

Previous productions include – Into The Woods Jr, The Pirates of Penzance Jr, Annie Jr, Madagascar Jr, Peter Pan Jr, Aladdin Jr, The Lion King Jr, Back to the 80s, MOANA Jr, The Little Mermaid Jr, Rock of Ages School Edition, GREASE High School Edition, SPAMALOT School Edition

Currently in Production – ONCE ON THIS ISLAND JR (August 26 to September 4)

About to AUDITION – FROZEN JR (August 22) for a season at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre in February 2023

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

**Executive Producer / Director – Madeleine Johns**

**Musical Director – Helen Drew**

## **PERFORMANCES** - at Southern Cross Catholic College, Scarborough

- **Friday September 23 at 7pm**
- **Saturday September 24 at 2pm and 7pm**
- **Sunday September 25 at 2pm**

## **AUDITIONS** – at THEATRE 102 (102 Anzac Avenue, Redcliffe)

**Tuesday 23 August 6-9pm – by appointment (you will be given a one-hour block to attend either 6-7pm / 7-8pm / 8-9pm)**

**Please register on-line for auditions via the ROAR Website [www.roaracademy.com](http://www.roaracademy.com)**

## **REHEARSALS**

(Note - A full rehearsal schedule will be provided when the role offers are made)

September 10 (2-5pm)

September 19 to 23 (9am to 5pm) – workshop days

X2 additional weekend half days as required – again this will be confirmed when the role offers are made

## **FEES –**

**All students - \$295 for the package of workshop rehearsals, additional preparatory classes, t-shirt, programme, headshot and all costumes (except shoes) or \$250 if you are part of the JTF Team.**

(NOTE – we will double cast lead roles where appropriate. You will be expected to follow an ensemble track or additional lead track when not running your primary lead track – unless there are exceptional circumstances which will need to be discussed with the director)

## **CHARACTER BREAKDOWN**

### **JACK KELLY – male identifying**

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 very loyal Jack isn't afraid to use his voice to attain better conditions for the working kids of New York City. We are looking for an actor who can command the stage with ease, possesses strong vocal abilities and can exude Jack's tough-guy exterior and his big heart.

Vocal range – Top F5 / Bottom B3

### **KATHERINE PLUMBER – female identifying**

An ambitious young reporter, works hard to make a name for herself as a legitimate journalist at a time when women weren't taken seriously. Quick, funny and resourceful, Katherine should be a strong singer with excellent diction for her showstopping number "Watch What Happens". Katherine and Jack possess a strong bond and should demonstrate repartee when performing together.

Vocal Range – Top D5 / Bottom A3

### **CRUTCHIE (CASEY) – male identifying**

Jack's best friend and a dedicated Newsie with a "bum leg" from polio that causes pain, but helps sell more papers. Walking with the assistance of a crutch doesn't define the ever-positive newsie – we are looking for an actor who can portray Casey's goofy, sweet sense of humour and optimistic resilience. Crutchie is accustomed to modifying daily activities for their disability.

Vocal Range – Top F5 / Bottom A3

### **DAVEY – male identifying**

Les's straight-laced, bright big brother who 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 – we are looking for a strong actor and singer who can lead "Seize the Day" while smartly portraying the brains of the resistance.

Vocal Range – Top D5 / Bottom B3

### **LES – non-specific**

Davey's cheeky younger sibling – excited by the Newsies' freedom and loves their independent lifestyle. This pint-sized charmer should present as younger than the other Newsies. We are looking for a strong actor/singer/dancer with lots of charm and stage presence.

Vocal Range – Top F4 / Bottom B3

**MEDDA LARKIN – female identifying**

Inspired by vaudeville performer Aida Overton Walker – a big-voiced singer and star of the Bowery, offers her theatre as a safe haven for the Newsies. She is an astute entertainer with great comic delivery and a good friend to Jack and stands firmly behind the Newsies in their fight for Justice.

Vocal Range – Top D5 / Bottom G3

**JOSEPH PULITZER – male identifying**

A pompous businessman who owns the New York World Newspaper – headquartered in the New York World Building – 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. We are looking for a strong actor with an imposing presence.

**WIESEL – non specific**

Aka “Weasel” – a disgruntled paper-pusher who uses the Delancey brothers as his muscle. He runs distribution for the World and has little patience or sympathy for the Newsies. Looking for a strong actor.

**SPOT CONLON – female identifying****NEWSIES – Race, Albert, Muriel, Nancy, Specs, Pigtails, Hazel, Buttons, Tommy Boy, Romeo, Jo Jo, Scabs, Brooklyn Newsies**

The hard-working kids of New York City who go on strike for a livable wage. Find moments to showcase any talented tumblers or dancers within this group.

**OSCAR and MORRIS DELANCEY – male identifying**

Toughs who work distribution for the World – take the side of the publishers in the strike and are known to use their fists to make a point. Looking for strong actors.

**FEATURED ROLES****SEITZ – non specific**

The Editor of the World Newspaper – advises Pulitzer but ultimately admires the kids newspaper

**BUNSEN – non specific**

Pulitzer’s bookkeeper- helps Pulitzer come up with the idea to raise the Newsies’ price per paper

**HANNAH – female identifying**

Pulitzer’s secretary – a clever advocate for the Newsies

**SNYDER – non specific**

The crooked warden of The Refuge – a filthy and horrible juvenile reformatory. Is concerned only with catching enough kids to keep the government cheques coming. We are looking for a strong actor who can evoke an imposing and sinister presence.

**GOVERNOR TEDDY ROOSEVELT – male identifying**

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

**BOWERY BRIGADE – female identifying**

Group of Vaudeville performers in Medda’s act – Ada, Olive and Ethel have solos

**ENSEMBLE ROLES**

Scabs, Darcy, Dorothy, Bill, Police Officers, Working Children and Brooklyn Newsies – are featured roles for a diverse group of young performers.