

#### WELCOME!

Thank you for auditioning for Newsies! We are beyond excited to welcome you to our family of theater-lovers. This show means a lot to all of us!

Please know that we **gladly welcome to this show anyone who has never done theater before**! Any level of experience is fine. We are mostly looking for people who are passionate about making the characters and show come to life!

This is an ensemble show with a traditionally large cast of male roles. Our vision for this show is to include gender diversity and gender-bend many of the "newsboys" to "newsgirls."

We also welcome and encourage actors of all races, gender identities, sexual orientations, and religions to audition for all roles. Do not feel limited at all.

This is a dance-heavy show, but **all dance abilities are encouraged** to audition! Plenty of characters do little to no dancing. There are parts available for all!

We are **calling all dancers who have never done theater before** to come and audition. We are looking for people like you!

Auditions can be very stressful. If you need any accommodations or feel like you wish to discuss any concerns about this process, please don't hesitate to contact our stage managers Eula (eula.doele@yale.edu) and Sasha (alexandra.schoettler@yale.edu), or our director Roy (roy.kohavi@yale.edu).

# THE SHOW

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Based on the 1992 motion picture and inspired by the true story of the Newsboy Strike of 1899, Newsies tells the story of Jack Kelly, a rebellious newsboy who dreams of a life as an artist away from the big city. After publishing giant Joseph Pulitzer raises newspaper prices at the newsboys' expense, Kelly and his fellow newsies take action. With help from the beautiful female reporter Katherine Plumber, all of New York City soon recognizes the power of 'the little man.'''

#### PRODUCTION

The show's production dates are:

April 20, 2023 - 8pm April 21, 2023 - 8pm April 22, 2023 - 2pm April 22, 2023 - 8pm

Location TBD; times may change

Auditions for Newsies are in the January casting cycle. Rehearsals will begin in the spring semester in the first week of February.

### Please contact us if you have any questions about the show, the audition process, or finding any of the audition rooms.

<u>Contact info:</u> Please reach out to Eula (eula.doele@yale.edu) or Sasha (alexandra.schoettler@yale.edu).

#### Meet the Production Team

#### Director- Roy Kohavi (roy.kohavi@yale.edu):

Roy is a first-year in Saybrook from Seattle, Washington and Tel Aviv, Israel. He is currently involved in two other theatrical productions at Yale and is a member of "The Fifth Humor," a sketch-comedy group. Roy is a 21-year-old who gapped before starting college, devoting time to projects such as working as an LGBT youth leader. Roy attended a performing arts high school. As a theater major, he studied playwriting, acting, and directing. After falling in love with directing, he eventually directed many shows at his school, a community theater, and an overnight summer camp.

#### **Other Production Team Members**

- Producers Piper Jackman (piper.jackman@yale.edu) and Elka Wade (elka.wade@yale.edu)
- Assistant Producer Zahra Virani (zahra.virani@yale.edu)
- Music Directors Andrew Liu (andrew.liu.kl883@yale.edu) and Zeph Siebler (zeph.siebler@yale.edu)
- Stage Managers Eula Doele (eula.doele@yale.edu) and Sasha Schoettler (alexandra.schoettler@yale.edu)
- Graphic Designer Sasha Spiegel (sasha.spiegel@yale.edu)
- Costume Designer Langdan Zhu (langdon.zhu@yale.edu)

We are actively accepting positions for the Prod team! **Please contact us if you are interested**.

**<u>Contact info:</u>** Please reach out to Eula (eula.doele@yale.edu) or Sasha (alexandra.schoettler@yale.edu).

#### **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. Vocal range: A4 – Bb2

**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.

Vocal range: F5 - A3

**Crutchie**- Jack Kelly's goofy and optimistic best friend. He works with the assistance of a crutch, but he doesn't let that define him. Vocal range: A4 - C3

**Davey**- The brains of the resistance, he is Les's big brother who starts selling newspapers to help his family earn a living, but becomes swept up in the fervor of the strike. Vocal range: A4 - D3

**Les**- Davey's cheeky younger brother, is inspired by the freedom of the newsie and loves their independent lifestyle. Vocal range: Bb3 - Db3

**Spot Conlon**- The proud leader of the Brooklyn newsies who boasts an intimidating reputation.

**Newsies ensemble**- Hard-working kids of NYC that go on strike to earn a livable wage. Three of the newsies are the "scabs" and are hesitant to join the strike.

**Joseph Pulitzer**- Katherine's no-nonsense father, a pompous businessman who doesn't sympathize with the strikers. Vocal range: F4 - 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.

**Medda Larkin**- Big-voiced saloon singer and star of the Bowery offers her theater as a safe haven for the newsies. Vocal range: E5 - F3

**Wiesel**- runs the distribution window for the *World* and knows most of the newsies by name. Assisted by the Delancey brothers.

**Oscar and Morris Delancey**- Tough brothers who take the side of the publishers in the strike and are known to use their fists to make a point.

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

**Featured characters** - The show has plenty of other featured characters. Some of which are non-singing and/or non-dancing roles!!

#### **AUDITION TIMELINE**

Info Session: Wednesday, January 18th: 8:00 PM- 9:00 PM @ WLH 204

Audition Slots:

Friday, January 20th: 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ **WLH 209** Saturday, January 21st: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM @ **WLH 210** Sunday, January 22nd: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM @ **WLH 210** Monday, January 23rd: 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM @ **WLH 210** 

Dance Slots:

Sunday, January 22nd: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM **@LC 211** Sunday, January 22nd: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **@LC 211** Tuesday, January 24th: 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM **@LC 211** Tuesday, January 24th: 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **@LC 211** 

Callbacks: Wednesday, January 25th & Friday, January 27th @ WLH 207

> Casting Day: Sunday, January 29th starting at 12:00 PM!

## AUDITION PROCESS

#### Here is the **checklist** for the Audition process:

 Fill out the Audition Form- https://forms.gle/TAdCD6XYa8QcPfqz9

 Sign up for an Audition at YCA!
 Sign up for a Dance Call through Signup Geniushttps://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ABAC29A3FDCF8-newsies
 4. Attend your audition and dance call.
 If called back, prepare and attend your Callback!
 6. Await for a call on Casting Day!

#### AUDITION

Please prepare 32 bars (around 1:30 minutes) of a musical theater song or Disney song of your choice.

Please bring the sheet music to the audition and bring 2 copies if you do not have the song memorized. If you have trouble accessing sheet music or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of our music directors- Andrew (andrew.liu.kl883@yale.edu) or Zeph (zeph.siebler@yale.edu).

At your audition, there will first be a quick warm-up before you perform your song. You might get asked to sing the song a second time following notes by the music director.

Finally, you will be asked to read a short side of your choosing. The sides are attached separately.

**Please note:** If you are sick, or cannot attend the audition slots for any reason, please contact roy.kohavi@yale.edu so we can arrange for a possible alternative video submission.

#### Dance Call

Since Newsies is a dance-heavy show, the dance call is an opportunity for you to showcase any dance skills you have!

The dance call is a one-hour workshop with our choreographer . You will learn a small part of a number from the show, and then you will have the chance to dance freestyle for a bit! This is your opportunity to show off any special dance talents you have: jumps, spins, kicks, back handsprings, cartwheels, you name it!

There is no need to prepare anything for the dance call. Please bring water, clothing you feel comfortable moving in, and great energy!!

Please note:

- You **don't need dance experience** to be in this show. There are plenty of amazing non-dance roles.
- That being said, if dancing is your number one skill, this is the show for you! Please do not feel discouraged if you feel you aren't as great of a singer. There are many roles that require little to no singing. Those of you who can only dance- come audition and show us what you got!

#### Callbacks

Callbacks are a fantastic opportunity for us to get to know you better as a performer and for you to showcase any other skills you have!

We will call you back for a specific role (or multiple roles) that we think would be a great fit for you! For the callback please prepare:

- 1. A cut of one of the character's songs in the show
- 2. A side or a scene with other characters

All the callback materials will be sent to you ahead of time. It will be helpful, but absolutely not required, if you can have the song cut memorized. The sides do not need to be memorized, but please review them ahead of time and think about how you can embody the character.

Thank you so much for auditioning for Newsies! We are incredibly excited to see you!