



Disney  
**NEWSIES**  
**THE MUSICAL**

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 is produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International*

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***SEIZE THE DAY!***

Set in New York City at the turn of the century, *Newsies* is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a ragged band of teenaged "newsies," who dreams only of a better life far from the hardship of the streets. But when publishing titans Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst raise distribution prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack finds a cause to fight for and rallies newsies from across the city to strike for what's right.

*Newsies* is inspired by the real-life "Newsboy Strike of 1899," when newsboy Kid Blink led a band of orphan and runaway newsies on a two-week-long action against Pulitzer, Hearst and other powerful newspaper publishers. Timely and fresh, the fictionalized adaptation of *Newsies* addresses age-old themes of social injustice, exploitative labor practices and David-versus-Goliath struggles as the young learn to harness their power against a corrupt establishment. High-energy with non-stop thrills, the stage version introduces eight brand-new songs by the original team of Menken and Feldman while keeping many of the beloved songs from the film, including "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," "King of New York" and "Santa Fe."

## CAST, CREW, & ORCHESTRA REQUIREMENTS

SUMMER ARTS INTENSIVE is open to high school and college-aged performers, technicians and orchestra musicians and is an experience not exclusive to artists of the West Fargo School District.

<b>ACTING COMPANY:</b>	Cast of 20+ Actor/Singer/Dancers (see breakdown of roles)
<b>TECHNICAL CREW:</b>	A crew of 6-8 individuals will be needed in the areas of Sound, Lights, Stage Management, Costumes, Hair/Makeup, in addition to a scenery build crews
<b>ORCHESTRA:</b>	Orchestration includes: BASS, DRUMS, PERCUSSION, GUITAR, VIOLIN, CELLO, KEYBOARD (I & II), TRUMPET, TROMBONE, REEDS

## CAST AUDITIONS/CALLBACKS

**Sunday, April 22** = DANCE auditions: 5:30-7:30pm; VOCAL auditions: 7:30-9:30pm

**Monday, April 23** = DANCE auditions: 4:30-6:30pm; VOCAL auditions: 6:30-8:30pm

**Wednesday, April 25** = ACTING/VOCALS Callbacks: 4:30-7:00pm; DANCE Callbacks: 7:30-9:00pm

There is no sign up necessary for dance auditions but sign-up in 20-minute group slots is asked for vocal auditions. To schedule an audition, please use the sign-up form posted at [www.westfargotheatre.com](http://www.westfargotheatre.com).

For the audition, prepare a musical theatre song cutting approximately 60-90 seconds in length—an accompanist will be provided. Please make considerations for style and time period of the audition selection as appropriate to the show. Likewise, pieces that show ranges of acting and vocal ability are encouraged and preferred.

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your audition time to allow time to fill in the audition form and conflict calendar. If you have a headshot/small photograph of yourself and/or a resume, please bring this along.

Auditions will be held in the Black Box Theatre at Sheyenne High (800 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, West Fargo). For more information, please contact NEWSIES director, Adam Pankow, at [apankow@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:apankow@west-fargo.k12.nd.us).

## TECH CREW & ORCHESTRA

**TECH CREWS:** Interested crew members will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with experienced technical mentors/designers. Scenic and Costume builds and design implementation will occur primarily during daytime hours on a schedule similar to cast rehearsal schedules. Flexibility will be necessary for some areas (particularly lighting) which may utilize evening or weekend hours for specific needs.

If interested in being a part of the crew, please email Kerry Horst at [khorst@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:khorst@west-fargo.k12.nd.us)

**ORCHESTRA:** Enthusiastic musicians who are eager to keep improving their playing skills over the summer months are invited to be a part of this dynamic pit orchestra lead by a team of veteran teachers/mentors.

If interested in being a part of the orchestra and to schedule an audition, please contact orchestra director, Jason Carlson, at [jcarlson@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:jcarlson@west-fargo.k12.nd.us).

Please prepare a 30 second piece to perform. There will also be some sight-reading. Experienced musicians are encouraged to audition on more than one instrument. Percussionists are strongly encouraged to show their ability on a variety of instruments.

## REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES

**CAST:** June choreography workshops will be held during the month of June on select evenings. Vocal sing throughs for featured characters may also be held in June as need and schedule warrants.

Regular rehearsals will be held Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> (1:00-4:00pm) and Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup> (9:00am-3:00pm). Beginning Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, a structured Monday-Thursday from 9am-4:30pm schedule will be used for the duration of the rehearsal process. Technical rehearsals (beginning July 23<sup>rd</sup>) will require evening availability. Additionally, cast members are encouraged to assist with marketing events and set construction as needed. Rehearsals will be held at West Fargo Sheyenne High School.

**ORCHESTRA:** Rehearsals will begin Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and will typically follow a Monday-Thursday from 6-8:30pm rehearsal schedule during the duration of the regular rehearsal process. Technical rehearsals (beginning July 23<sup>rd</sup>) will require additional evening availability. Regular rehearsals will be held at West Fargo's Cheney Middle School.

NEWSIES will be performed July 27, 28, 30, 31 at 7:30pm and July 29 at 2:30pm for a total of five performances. Strike will follow the last performance and/or on Wednesday, August 1 as needed.

## PARTICIPATION FEES

Both high school and college cast members will be assessed a fee of \$275 for their participation in Summer Arts Intensive.

Crew and Orchestra members will be asked to pay a \$50 fee for their involvement.

*Flexible payment plans and tuition scholarships may be available upon request and on a per need basis.*

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

### Male Characters:

**JACK KELLY:** Handsome, passionate and charismatic leader of the Newsies. A street-smart kid with a dark artistic soul right beneath the bluster. Not a blowhard. This kid's the real thing.

**DAVEY JACOBS:** A thinker. Raised in a home as opposed to the other Newsies, Davie is the book-smart counterpoint to the other boys. The voice of reason.

**LES JACOBS:** The fearless kid brother of Davey. Excited by everything the world has to offer and eager to join in the adventure. Fun is this kid's middle name.

**JOSEPH PULITZER:** Publisher of *The World*. A no-nonsense newsman.

**CRUTCHIE:** A slight, sickly boy with a huge heart. He walks with the aid of a crutch due to a bad leg, but that doesn't hold him back from being right in the middle of any mischief. A real charmer.

**WIESEL:** Runs the distribution window of *The World*. Also plays MR. JACOBI, a deli owner, and MAYOR, the mayor of New York City.

**SEITZ:** Pulitzer's editor. Also plays SNYDER, warden of The Refuge, BUNSEN, Pulitzer's book keeper, and STAGE MANAGER, the stage manager at Medda's theatre.

**NUNZIO:** A barber. Also plays THEODORE ROOSEVELT, the Governor of New York, a GUARD and POLICEMAN.

**Female Characters:**

**KATHERINE PLUMBER:** The strong-willed daughter of Pulitzer. This young lady drips smarts, opinions and confidence.

**MEDDA LARKIN:** A vaudeville star of the Bowery variety. Risque, tough, with a big voice and GREAT comic delivery. Also plays NUN.

**BOWERY BEAUTY:** Showgirl at Medda's theatre. Also plays NUN, FEMALE CUSTOMER, and NEWSIE.

**HANNAH:** Pulitzer's secretary. Also plays BOWERY BEAUTY, NUN, and NEWSIE.

**Newsies Ensemble:**

**SPOT CONLON:** Leader of the Brooklyn newsies.

**RACE:** A newsie with a penchant for betting.

**SPECS:** A newsie. Also plays BILL, the son of William Randolph Hearst.

**AL, BUTTONS, HENRY, FINCH, ELMER, IKE, JOJO, MIKE, ROMEO, MUSH, SPLASHER, TOMMY:** Newsies.

**BROOKLYN NEWSIES:** Newsies from Brooklyn.

**DARCY:** Upper class son of a publisher. Also plays NEWSIE.

**MORRIS DELANCEY:** A heavy at *The World's* distribution window. Also plays NEWSIE.

**OSCAR DELANCEY:** Morris's equally tough brother. Also plays NEWSIE.

*\*\*The NEWSIES ENSEMBLE will be comprised of both male and female dancer/singer/actors\*\**

**ABOUT SUMMER ARTS INTENSIVE**



SUMMER ARTS INTENSIVE is led by local arts educators and professionals committed to focused, individualized training. With Theatre Arts experiences supporting novice, emerging, and advanced young artists, SUMMER ARTS is designed to stretch personal and creative talents while promoting a holistic understanding of theatre production and performance.

Now in its eighth year, previous shows include: PIPPIN (2011), A CHORUS LINE (2012), CHICAGO (2013), ONCE ON THIS ISLAND JR. and SPAMALOT (2014), SHREK JR. and RENT (2015), and HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR. and HAIR (2016), and WILLY WONKA JR. and GREASE (2017). Last year's productions featured approximately 120 cast, crew and orchestra members representing all middle schools, high schools and colleges in our region.

SUMMER ARTS INTENSIVE is a perfect way to be involved in a rewarding, artistic endeavor while still enjoying the many other activities that summer brings. Our programs make it possible for participants and their families to have both art *and* summer.



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