

Roles in “Newsies”

River’s Edge Theatre

Musical Theatre Production

2018/2019

Note: These descriptions are subject to slight changes based on what we discover through the audition process.

The Teenagers/Young Adults

Character Name & Age	Singing requirements	Dance requirements	Notes	Speaking solo
Jack Kelly	Soloist	Athletic	Gender specific: Male	***
Katherine Plumber	Soloist	Possible tap solo	Gender specific: Female	***
Crutchie	Soloist	Disability portrayed with respect and defiance	Best friend to Jack	***
Davey	Soloist	Athletic	the brains/leader	***
Les	Soloist	Possible tap solo	Younger/smaller than the other newsies	**
Spot Conlon	ensemble	Acro	Brooklyn’s best	*
Alley	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Buttons	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Elmer	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Finch	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Henry	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Ikey	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Jo Jo	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
MK	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Mush	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Race	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*

Romie	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Specs	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Splasher	ensemble	maximum	newsie	*
Sam	ensemble	some	newsie crosses picket lines	*
Boots	ensemble	some	newsie crosses picket lines	*
Junior	ensemble	some	newsie crosses picket lines	*
Darcy	ensemble	minimal	Upper class publisher's kid who sides with the newsies	*
Billy	ensemble	minimal	Filthy rich - a young Hearst, who joins the newsies	*
Oscar Delancey	ensemble	fight choreo	young distributor, against the newsies	**
Mo Delancey	ensemble	fight choreo	young distributor, against the newsies	**
Tibbo	ensemble	fight choreo	Goon hired to fight newsies. Key to fight scene that finishes Act 1	
Ripley	ensemble	fight choreo	Goon hired to fight newsies. Key to fight scene that finishes Act 1	

The Adults

Wiesel (Weasel)	minimal	minimal	Adult Paper Distributor (will be cast in more than one role)	**
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Medda Larkin	soloist	soloist	gender specific - female A big star of the vaudeville stage	**
Bella	back up to Medda	beautiful routine with Medda	a Bowery Beauty	
Stella	back up to Medda	beautiful routine with Medda	a Bowery Beauty	
Suzie Q	back up to Medda	beautiful routine with Medda	a Bowery Beauty	
Janey	ensemble	minimal	stage manager and Medda's assistant	*
Sister McGovern	trio of singers	minimal	(will be playing two roles)	
Sister McEwen	trio of singers	minimal	(will be playing two roles)	
Sister O'Donnell	trio of singers	minimal	(will be playing two roles)	
Mr. or Ms. Jacobi	minimal	minimal	Deli owner who sympathizes with newsies cause	*
Snyder	minimal	minimal fight scene	terrible crook who runs the Refuge	*
Officer Starkey	minimal	fight scene	cop	
Officer Finnegan	minimal	fight scene	cop	
Mayor Van Wyck	minimal	minimal	gender specific - male NYC Mayor 1899	*
Governor Teddy Roosevelt	FINALE	minimal	gender specific - male A very specific character with a famous, recognizable way of speaking!	**

Joseph Pulitzer	Soloist	minimal	gender specific - male Rich publisher of power and influence	***
Seitz	Soloist	minimal	gender specific - male The World's editor	**
Bunny	Soloist	minimal	Pulitzer's book keeper (accountant)	**
Hannah	Soloist	minimal	Pulitzer's smart secretary	**
Nunzio/Nunzia	ensemble	minimal	Pulitzer's barber (will be cast in more than one role)	*
Lucky	ensemble	minimal	Guard at <i>The World</i> Headquarters (will be playing two roles minimum)	
Lewis Hine	ensemble	minimal	Journalist/ Photographer who captures the front page image of the strike (will be playing more than one role)	

Count'em all! There are 50 roles.

Most will be double cast: The cooperative ensemble culture at River's Edge theatre requires you to collaborate with your "twin", and to support each other.