

Character Guide

Newsies

Setting: New York City 1899

Synopsis: Jack Kelly and the other “Newsies” sell “papes” (newspapers) in New York City. The Newsies buy the newspapers from the publishers and then sell them to their customers. When the publishers raise the cost of the newspapers, the Newsies cannot make enough money so they decide to organize a strike. A strike is when a group of workers refuse to work as a form of protest. The Newsies strike for lower cost of the papes and higher pay. Jack dreams of moving to Santa Fe for a better life but he decides to stay in New York with his friends. Newsies is inspired by the true story of the Newsboys Strike of 1899 in New York City.

Notes:

“Newsies” are people who sell newspapers.

“Papes” was a nickname for newspapers.

Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst were powerful newspaper publishers.

Characters (*some actors play multiple roles)

Newsies



Jack Kelly



Crutchie



Davey



Les



Race



Albert



Specs



Henry



Finch



Romeo



Elmer/Bowery
Beauty*



Mush



Buttons/Scab/Nunzio*



Tommy Boy



Jo Jo/Scab*



Spot Conlon

Friends of the Newsies

				
Katherine Plumber	Darcy/ Newsie*	Medda Larkin	Bowery Beauty/Mayor/ Newsie *	Bowery Beauty/Nun/ Woman/Newsie *

The Opposing Forces

			
Wiesel/Bill*	Morris Delancey/Guard*	Oscar Delancey*	Joseph Pulitzer
			
Seitz/Nun*	Bunsen/Newsie*	Hannah/Newsie*	Snyder/Nun/Newsie*

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The Charles Seller Foundation's production of Newsies will benefit Justin Corino, a 3-year-old boy from Bloomfield NJ. He was diagnosed in August of 2022 with T-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. To learn more about the Charles Seller Foundation, please visit:

<https://thecharlessellerfoundation.com/>

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