THEATRE UTDANCE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS

Disney

NEWSIES

THE BROADWAY 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.

Originally produced on Broadway by DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

Directed by CHRISTOPHER TREVIÑO, Music Direction by MARK MULLINO, and Choreography by MICKI SABA

Harry W. Bass Jr.
School of Arts, Humanities,
and Technology

NEWSIES is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com
The University of Texas at Dallas’
Harry W. Bass Jr. School of
Arts, Humanities, & Technology
Production of

Disney's
NEWSIES
THE MUSICAL

Music by
Alan Menken

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Jack Feldman

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Harvey Firestein

Based on the Disney Film written
by Bob Tzudiker and Noni White

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Orchestrations by Danny Troob
Incidental Music and Vocal Arrangements by Michael Kosarin
Dance Arrangements by Mark Hummel

Projections Content is provided through a special arrangement with Broadway Media
(www.broadwaymedia.com)

Disney’s NEWSIES
Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
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423 West 55th Street, New York, NY 10019
Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684
www.MTIshows.com

Performance Length: 130 minutes (2 hours and 10 minutes),
with one 15 minute intermission.

Time and Place
Summer 1899, Manhattan.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this Production is strictly prohibited.
No food or drink is allowed in the Performance Hall or Theatre.
**Director’s Note**

The one reason that I look at the Director’s note in any production is to see why or what the reason for them picking the show they did and why now. So… we have to go way back to begin to understand when and how I was introduced to Newsies. I was attending Arlington High School (Go Colts!) and joined the Yearbook staff and our teacher Ms. Lina Davis would show the 1999 *Newsies* movie and I would fall in love with the story, characters, and anthem that is the behemoth “Seize the Day!” I learned a lot from Lina, and unfortunately she passed away while I was still in school and it was a major loss to the our community. Although, I am so thankful that she did introduce the movie to us years ago that combined my love for journalism and theatre.

I love what the show stands for and was so surprised that our country (not super because there we have done a lot that we should not be proud of…) depended so much on child labor a little over a century ago. How could we have been so negligent to put children in harms way? How was this possible? Why was no one standing up for the children? Now, I know that our show is loosely based on history of the Newsboys of the day… but I also know that the characters were created from multiple specific Newsboys of the time. I love the story because the Newsies eventually get the upper hand and are able to have leverage to hold over Pulitzer. They determine that they are stronger and more resilient if they join forces together to stand up to the big tycoons of the time period.

So, why do this show now? I believe that as a country we are at a new birth of protecting workers rights and standing up for the people who make this country run and help by working for an actual living wage that their able to afford to live, support themselves, and have extra for any emergencies. It starts with how we treat people and care for the people who work jobs and protecting them by making safe working conditions, a max or cap on hours that is paid at a regular wage, being offered overtime pay or time off for hours that are worked above 40 hours a week. I’m glad that we have unions in the country… we are able to stand together and have rights to bring up to executives that we need to feel supported and treated fairly. So many unions lately have been standing up and protecting the rights of workers all around our country and world.

My hope for the future would be that we expand unions and further protect every worker who needs it. We need to be more aware and open about how much we get paid and talk about our mental and physical health and the effects that our work week puts on us. We are more resilient as we stand together and up for each other, especially in this moment when we are told to keep quiet about our wages and benefits that are offered to us. Of course, I am particularly interested in protecting artists rights and making our industry more aware of fatigue, weekly hour maximums, and minimum pay requirements for individuals.
Artists live off of their work and should have more rights as they request to be paid for services that are offered to a business or individual. In many cases, each artist is their own... marketing director, accounts receivable and payable, secretary, support staff, and human resources department. We thrive off of the wages we make from events and our work, we are just now starting to recover from the pandemic. This makes it even more important for us to stand up for ourselves to demand to be paid for the work we put in.

Our cast, crew, production team, and band members soar well over 60+ faculty, staff, students and many more in our support team of Admin, Creative, and Events staff. We have rehearsed for over 150+ hours on a Sunday thru Thursday rehearsal schedule. A big thank you goes out especially to all of them for their help in getting this show put in motion and doing a lot of the behind the scenes work for us. I also am so proud of our cast, they have taken this show on while also managing jobs, projects, exams, and classes. Thank you to all of their friends, family, partners, and professors that have supported them and offer assistance understanding their busy schedules. Thank you also to my co-horts, Micki Saba (our choreographer) and Mark Mullino (our music director) for your wisdom, guidance, beautiful work on helping them move more easily and sound so well blended...if you have a chance please let them know too. I also would like to express my thanks to Alex Lorrain-Hill who has been a great collaborator and works tirelessly to help make my crazy ideas come to fruition. I also would like to thank our administration who supports us, our students, by facilitating our support staffs, and helping financially support our production so that we are able to give our students the same experience as local theatre artists. Also, thank you to all our patrons for coming out to support us, please pay it forward and help us out by getting the word out about this production and our department.

Enjoy the show!
**Newsies - Production Staff**

Director: Christopher Treviño+
Musical Director: Mark Mullino
Choreographer: Micki Saba
Assistant to the Choreographer: Kaitlyn Weirich
Fight Choreographer: Jeremy Stein
Technical Director: Alex Lorrain-Hill
Assistant Technical Director: Courtney Amaro
Scenic Designer: Bryan Wofford
Lighting Designer: Courtney Amaro
Sound Designer: Peyton Lawrence
Costume Designer: Michael Robinson
Stage Manager: Bonnie Abbott
Assistant Stage Manager: Sterling Hudgens

**King of New York - Choreographed by Melissa Johnson**

**Additional Projections Content (List out Scenes) created by Lyn Zhang**

+Denotes a member of Actor’s Equity Association

**Technical Crew**

Qlab Programmer & Operator: Kaleb Castro
Sound Engineer: Max Lowery
Sound Board Operator: Peyton Lawrence
Video Content Editors: SHLAKJDHFK
Lighting Board Operator: Rae Courtney
Spot Operators: Kate Castro, Steve Arimokwu, Anthony Nguyen, McCayla Taylor
Backstage Crew: Sterling Hudgens, Sam Tschaekofske
Student Assistants: Bonnie Abbott, Peyton Lawrence, Matthew Stokes, Kaleb Castro, Kate Castro, Steve Arimokwu, McCayla Taylor, Jacob Rush II, Anthony Nguyen

**Event Staff**

Events and Box Office Manager: Evan Ricks
Events Coordinator: Chinweolu Greer
Student Assistants: Kade Fitzpatrick, Marissa Hernandez, Dejah James, Jofiel Zapata, Zade Creel, Damian Noriega, Brian Gamboa, Ammaarah Arab, Prisha Gandhi, Nalleli Martinez

**Special Thanks**

Dr. Nils Roemer, Dr. Jonathan Palant, Dr. Catherine Parsoneault, Chinweolu Greer, Evan Ricks, Sally Mendiola and the Bass Communications Team, Dallas Costume Shoppe, UTD Mercury, Collin Theatre Center, WaterTower Theatre, Tommy Hull, Cameron Hefty, ProFormance Systems, Ryan McGinnis, Richardson ISD Fine Arts, Frisco ISD Fine Arts, Van Austyne ISD Fine Arts, Garland ISD Fine Arts, Allen ISD Fine Arts, UTD Dining Services, UTD Student Affairs
NEWSIES - Cast

Dakota Britvich ................................................................. Jack Kelly
Megan Lemonds ............................................................... Katherine Plumber
Ethan Saet ................................................................. Davey
Lyn Zhang ................................................................. Crutchie
Axel Kennedy ................................................................. Les
Adam Thomas ............................................................. Pulitzer
Victoria Omagbon ......................................................... Medda, Nun, Ensemble
Zai McDaniels .............................................................. Snyder, Ensemble
Felicia McClellan ......................................................... Nun, Bowery Beauty, Buttons, Ensemble
Lauren Rodriguez ......................................................... Nun, Bowery Beauty, Mush, Ensemble
Troy Murray ............................................................... Wiesel, Mr. Jacobi, Mayor, Stage Manager
Eli Slack ................................................................. Morris Delancey, Roosevelt
Anthony Hembree .... Oscar Delancey, Bill, Audience Member, Ensemble
Abbi Boyd ................................................................. Race, Ensemble
Samyu Pokala ............................................................. Nun, Bunsen, Ensemble
Sierra Blood ............................................................... Elmer, Ensemble
Eve Golish ................................................................. Tommy Boy, Goon, Ensemble
William Nguyen ......................................................... Darcy, Policeman, Guard, Ensemble
Allee St. Amant ............................................................ Henry, Goon, Ensemble
Mies Quatrino ............................................................. Albert, Goon, Ensemble
Grace Kohl ................................................................. Specs, Hannah, Ensemble
Lily Eakle ................................................................. Ike, Seitz, Refugee, Goon, Ensemble
Kyle Hurst ............................................................... Romeo, Nunzio, Spot Conlon, Ensemble
Camille Coopwood ...................................................... Scab 1, Dance Ensemble
Kaitlyn Weirich ......................................................... Scab 3, Refugee, Dance Ensemble
Marissa Distin ............................................................ Dance Ensemble
Jessica Godwin ......................................................... Scab 2, Dance Ensemble
Corrine Johnson ......................................................... Finch, Woman, Dance Ensemble
Pao Rodney-Hernandez .............................................. Refugee, Dance Ensemble
Leia Sing ................................................................. Refugee, Dance Ensemble
**Understudies**

Ethan Saet ................................................................. Jack Kelly
Lauren Rodriguez .......................................................... Katherine Plumber
Abbi Boyd ................................................................. Crutchie
Troy Murray ............................................................... Pulitzer
Samyu Pokala ............................................................ Medda
Mies Quatrino ............................................................. Les

*Understudies substituting for listed cast will be announced at the time of the performance*

**UTDance Ensemble:**

Camille Coopwood, Marissa Distin, Jessica Godwin,
Corrine Johnson, Grace Kohl, Victoria Omagbon,
Pao Rodney-Hernandez, Leia Sing, Kaitlyn Weirich

**Orchestra**

Mark Mulino ............................................................... Piano
Bill Klymus ................................................................. Percussion
Jay Majernik .............................................................. Drums
Sal Bollinger ............................................................... Bass
Dennis Langevin .......................................................... Guitar
Katie McCoy ............................................................... Violin
Bill Zauner ................................................................. Cello
Phil West ................................................................. Trumpet
Curtis Swike ............................................................. Trombone
Mark Alewine ........................................................... Reeds
NEWSIES – Scenes and Musical Numbers

Act I

Prologue: Rooftop, Dawn
   “Santa Fe (Prologue)” .................................Jack, Crutchie

Scene 1: Newsies Square
   “Carrying the Banner” ............................Jack, Newsies
   “Carrying the Banner (Tag)” ........................Jack, Newsies

Scene 2: Pulitzer’s Office, Afternoon
   “The Bottom Line” .......................Pulitzer, Seitz, Hannah, Bunsen
   “Carrying the Banner (Reprise)” ....................Jack, Newsies

Scene 3: Street Corner

Scene 4: Medda’s Theater
   “That’s Rich” ........................................................Medda
   “I Never Planned on You/Don’t Come a-Knocking” .....Jack, Bowery Beauties

Scene 5: Newsies Square, Next Morning
   “The World Will Know” ..............................Jack, Davey, Les, Newsies

Scene 6: Jacobi’s Deli and Street, Afternoon
   “The World Will Know (Reprise)” ............................Newsies

Scene 7: Katherine’s Office
   “Watch What Happens” ........................................Katherine

Scene 8: Newsies Square, Next Morning
   “Seize the Day” ................................................Davey, Jack, Newsies

Scene 9: Rooftop
   “Santa Fe” .........................................................Jack

Intermission
Act II

Entr’acte

Scene 1: Jacobi’s Deli, Next Morning
   “King of New York” ..........................Katherine, Davey, Les, Newsies
   “King of New York (Tag)” ............Katherine, Davey, Les, Newsies

Scene 2: The Refuge
   “Letter from the Refuge” ..............................................Crutchie

Scene 3: Medda’s Theater
   “Watch What Happens (Reprise)”...Davey, Jack, Katherine, Les

Scene 4: Pulitzer’s Office and Cellar
   “The Bottom Line (Reprise)” .......................Pulitzer, Seitz, Mayor

Scene 5: Brooklyn Bridge and Newsies Square
   “Brooklyn’s Here” ....................................................Spot Conlon, Newsies

Scene 6: Rooftop
   “Something to Believe In” ............................Jack, Katherine

Scene 7: Pulitzer’s Cellar
   “Seize the Day (Reprise)” ..................................................Newsies
   “Once and For All” .........................Jack, Katherine, Davey, Newsies

Scene 8: Pulitzer’s Office, Next Morning
   “Seize the Day (Reprise 2)” ..................................................Newsies

Scene 8: Newsies Square
   “Finale Ultimo (Part 1)” ....................Jack, Katherine Newsies
   “Finale Ultimo (Part 2)” ..............................Jack, Newsies
   Bows.................................................................Company
Creative Team Biographies

Christopher Treviño (Director) holds a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts from The University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music and a Master’s of Fine Arts from The University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Chris has designed or operated lighting for venues across the country, including Sea World-San Diego & San Antonio, Dead White Zombies, Cincinnati Ballet, Collin County Ballet Theatre, Santa Fe Opera, Opera New Jersey, ABC News/WFAA-TV, Nevada Ballet, Nevada Conservatory Theatre, Collin Theatre Center, Stagedoor Manor, Six Flags Over Texas, and many more. He has also served in many roles for the non-profit organization, Junior Players. Those roles includes Co-Producer, Director (As You Like It), Assistant Director (Little Shop of Horrors & American Idiot), Projections Designer, Lighting Designer and Technical Advisor. He is currently in his tenth year and serves as an Assistant Professor of Theatre at The University of Texas at Dallas where he teaches Technical Theatre, Musical Theatre, and classes. He also serves as an Equity Stage Manager where his previous credits include, A Gentlemen’s Guide to Murder, The Bridges of Madison County, The Play that Goes Wrong, and Goin’ Hollywood at WaterTower Theatre. His recent lighting design credits include, CCBT’s Nutcracker at the Eisemann Center and the Credo Community Choir concerts at Moody Performance Hall. He previously directed Bent and Green Day’s American Idiot at UT Dallas. He would love to thank his family, friends, and all his cast, crew, band, production team, and support staff that made this show possible!

Mark Mullino (Music Director) has worked extensively throughout the Metroplex and the United States as a musical director and actor. Locally, Mark has directed/musical directed/conducted at Junior Players, Firehouse Theatre, WaterTower Theatre, Dallas Theatre Center, Uptown Players, Plano Repertory Theater, Lyric Stage, Labyrinth Theater, Collin Theater Center, Flower Mound Performing Arts Theater, Family Arts, Our Productions and Theater Arlington. Mullino has received numerous Column Awards and Leon Rabin Awards and nominations. In addition to musical directing and acting, teaches musical theater at KD College, maintains a private studio and is an artist. Mullino is the President and co-founder of Dallas Young Artists. He received his Bachelors in Music from Hardin-Simmons University.

Micki Saba (Choreographer) has been on the faculty at UT Dallas since 1995. She holds a BFA in Dance from Southern Methodist University and an MFA in Performance Studies/Dance from the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee. Her credits include performing, choreographing and/or teaching for Dancers Unlimited Repertory Company, Henderson State University/Arkadelphia, Arkansas, Dance Masters of America/Tulsa, Oklahoma, Dancemakers Concert/ Milwaukee, WI, Youth American Grand Prix Competition/Dallas and NYC, Regional Dance America/Dallas, Phoenix, Houston, Danspace Project at St. Marks Church/NYC, Dancers’ Responding to Aids Benefit in Bryant Park NYC, The Dallas Opera, the Arkansas Ballet and the Dallas Morning News Dance Festival. Some of her musical theater credits include choreography for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Little Women, Carrie, Avenue Q, The Rocky Horror Show, American Idiot, Urinetown and Jesus Christ Superstar. Her choreography was presented with The Brookhaven Choral Society on a two-week tour in eastern Europe. Micki has been the Artistic Director for Hathaway Contemporary Dance Project since 2013 and a resident choreographer for Collin County Ballet Theater since 2001. She would like to thank all the wonderfully talented artists in Newsies who are both on and off stage.
Creative Team Biographies

Courtney Amaro, (Lighting Designer) Courtney is a lighting designer with experience working in a variety of shows across the theater and live events industry. Recent credits include Winsor and Gertie, Let the Right One In, The Effect, The Seagull, and Judgement at Nuremberg. Courtney received a B.S. in Theater Technology and Design from Northwest Missouri State University and an M.F.A. in Entertainment Design from Southern Methodist University. In July, Courtney was hired as the Assistant Technical Director of Theater at UT Dallas.

Alex Lorrain-Hill, (Technical Director) Alex is in his sixteenth year at the University of Texas at Dallas and his eleventh year as Technical Director. Alex received his BA in Art and Performance from UT Dallas in 2007 and began serving as Assistant Technical Director in 2008 before he moved into the role of Technical Director. Recent credits with UT Dallas include American Idiot, Oedipus the King, The Rocky Horror Show, Phoebe in Winter and Little Shop of Horrors. In addition to UT Dallas, Alex has worked professionally with Shakespeare Dallas, Premiere Entertainment Services, Junior Players and New York Stage and Film's Powerhouse Theater.

Bonnie Abbott (she/her) is an ATEC senior with a focus in motion design with a Visual Arts minor. She has worked for the UT Dallas Theatre as a technical assistant for three years, working most recently on Dream Play and Winsor and Gertie as the stage manager. During that time, she has also created motion design content for shows at the Dallas OMNI Hotel, Moody Performance Hall, and the Kessler Theatre. She has great passion for the intersection of technical arts and live performance and is honored to be a part of the stories it tells.

Peyton is a senior in the school of AHT with a concentration in audio engineering. She is excited to be working behind the University Theater console again for Newsies! Previous regional credits include: Amélie, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Down in the Face of God, Winsor and Gertie, Dream Play, and A Year With Frog and Toad. Awards include the Betty Lynn Buckley Award and Schmidt and Jones award for scenic design. Post graduation, she plans on continuing a career in theatrical sound. Peyton would like to thank her family, friends, cats, and partner for all of their love and support!
Sierra Blood (she/her)      Elmer, Ensemble

Sierra is getting her bachelors of science in psychology and a minor in exercise sciences. She has been in theater for 6 years and dancing for 8. She has performed in dream play as the daughter here at UT Dallas, Bebe in A Chorus Line, and dance ensemble in Mamma Mia! She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her!

Abbi Boyd (they/them)        Race, Ensemble, Crutchie u/s

Abbi Boyd is excited to play Race in Newsies. Abbi is a second year at UT Dallas studying Visual and Performing Arts while minoring in Film. Abbi is a well rounded performer doing martial arts, dance, singing and always learning new things. Abbi wishes to “make headlines” as a non-binary performer and to live a full life. Lastly, Abbi wants everyone to take care of themselves and enjoy the show! P.S, no real cigars were used on stage as far as y’all know.

Dakota Britvich (he/him)         Jack Kelly

Dakota Britvich is beyond thrilled to put the newsie cap on once again, now as one of his dream roles. Dakota is a senior at the Bass School pursuing graphic design and a minor in performing arts. He has most recently been seen at The Firehouse Theater’s production of Newsies as Spot Conlon/Ike. Some favorite roles include Telly (Godspell) at Lewisville Playhouse and Lord Pinkleton (Cinderella) at Theater Coppell. He sends all his love and appreciation to his friends and family for supporting him in all things theater. Seize the Day and Santa Slay (IG: @dakotabritvich)

Camille Coopwood (she/her)        Scab 1, Dance Ensemble

Camille is a jack of all trades performer, having spent her whole life on stage. She started out dancing from the young age of two and spent her middle and high school careers playing the alto saxophone. Now Camillle ventures down a new stage, musical theater as this is her first show on a new stage and she hopes to see many more performances in her future.

Marissa Distin (she/her)       Dance Ensemble

Marissa Distin, Junior, math major – STEM education minor – dance minor. She is excited to be in her first production at UT Dallas. She began dancing at 2 and it’s been a part of her life ever since. She has previously been part of the Collin College Dance Ensemble (1 year) and the Studio C Stars Dance Team (10 years). She was also active in theater productions at Wylie ISD Cooper JH, Squee Kids, and Texas Family Theater. She has been an assistant dance teacher for 5 years. She plans to become a middle school math teacher and a dance teacher.
Cast and Crew Biographies

Anthony Hembree (he/him)  Oscar Delancey, Bill, Audience Member, Ensemble

An aspiring lawyer, Anthony Hembree is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in business administration. He holds a high passion for theatre and occasionally acts when his schedule permits it. He has previously played Grayson Montoya in UT Dallas’ #Voiced and Groom in Townview’s production of Blood Wedding.

Kyle Hearst (he/him)  Romeo, Nunzio, Spot Conlon, Ensemble

Kyle is an ATEC major with a focus in animation and game design and is also a Theatre minor. This is his third year at UT Dallas and second performance on campus. He has been involved in theatre for roughly nine years, and has done numerous plays and musicals. His previous musicals were In The Heights, Godspell, and Beauty and the Beast. His last performance was as The Lawyer in the UT Dallas production of Dream Play. He has also been a part of the UT Dallas improv classes and performed at two of the end of semester improv showcases.

Corrine Johnson (she/her)  Finch, Woman, Dance Ensemble

Corinne is excited to make her acting debut in UT Dallas’s production of Newsies! She is also thrilled to be a part of the UT Dallas Dance ensemble for the show! Her previous dance training includes ballet, pointe, modern, jazz, and tap. She performed in her dance company’s spring production from 6th grade to 12th grade. Her favorite roles include Chip in Beauty and the Beast, field mouse in Thumbelina, and Ariel in The Little Mermaid. She wants to thank her family (especially her mom) and friends for their unwavering support and encouragement.

Axel Kennedy (he/him)  Les

Axel Flynn Kennedy is thrilled to join the cast of Newsies! He is a 6th grader at St. Mark’s School of Texas and is in his second year of theater training with Our Productions Theatre Co.’s Young Artist Training Program (YATP). Axel has been seen in multiple productions around Dallas. Credits include: YATP: You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown (Schroeder), Garland Summer Musicals’ The Music Man (Children’s Ensemble), and Interlochen Center for the Arts The Boy at the Edge of Everything (The Boy/Colin Gillespie). Axel’s most recent community credit: Beauty and the Beast. He thanks his friends and family for supporting him.
Grace Kohl (she/her)  
Specs, Hannah, Ensemble

Grace Kohl is a theater major here at The University of Texas at Dallas. This is her first musical with UT Dallas, but it is her second show overall. She transferred here last semester and joined the UTDance Ensemble, and was a part of the Composition Jumpstart show 2023. She has been dancing and doing theater since she was three years old. She loves to perform, and it has always brought her so much joy. She is so grateful for all the amazing people she has met throughout this experience, and the lifelong friendships she has been able to create.

Megan Lemonds (she/her)  
Katherine

Megan Lemonds is a senior getting her bachelor's in visual and performing arts with a concentration in theater. She has been performing on stage her entire life and her favorite roles include Maude (Winsor and Gertie), Mother (A New Dress for Mona), Officer (Dreamplay), Ensemble (American Idiot), Nala (The Lion King), Ursula (The Little Mermaid), Sharpay (High School Musical 2), and Ensemble (Heathers). She hopes to continue performing after she graduates. She would like to thank the cast, crew, her Dad, and her cats.

Felicia McClellan (she/her)  
Nun, Bowery Beauty, Buttons, Ensemble

Felicia is very excited to do another show with UT Dallas Theater. Some of her past acting credits include Shelby in The Prom, Ensemble in Spongebob the musical, and Ensemble in American Idiot. She is studying animation and theater and is currently a junior at UT Dallas. She would like to thank her friends and family for all their love and support.

Zai McDaniels (he/him).  
Snyder, Ensemble

Isaiah (Zai) McDaniels is an Actor/Performer who lives in Dallas TX and has done past productions such as GODSPELL, Ragtime, Beauty and the Beast, as well as some stage plays. Pumped now to Seize the Day in Newsies, Zai's excited for everyone to see it and would like to thank friends, family, the cast, crew, and the whole production team for all of their support in achieving this dream to be a part of this amazing show!
Cast and Crew Biographies

Troy Murray (he/him)  Wiesel, Jacobi, Mayor, Stage Manager, Pulitzer u/s
Troy Murray, a Las Vegas native, is a master’s marketing student at UT Dallas and is elated to be in Newsies! During his time at UT Dallas, Troy has portrayed St. Jimmy in American Idiot, Reggie in First Date, Greta in Bent, and Riff Raff in The Rocky Horror Show. Troy also performs locally, some of his most recent credits being Igor in NTPA’s Young Frankenstein, Danny in GCT’s Snapshots, and Roger in ACT’s Curious Incident...Night-Time. If you enjoy his performance tonight, come see him in Pocket Sandwich Theatre’s production of Ebenezer Scrooge as Bob Cratchit later this month! IG: @teeroy.murray

William Nguyen (he/him)  Darcy, Policeman, Guard, Ensemble
William Nguyen is excited to be a part of UT Dallas’ production of Newsies. He has done several musicals in high school as a choir member. He is studying Computer Information Systems and Technology and plans to become an information security analyst.

Victoria Omagbon (she/her)  Medda, Nun, Ensemble
Victoria is a sophomore, majoring in psychology and minoring in criminology. This is her second musical at UT Dallas and her first time with a lead role. This is also her third semester in the dance ensemble. She hopes to continue to step out of her comfort zone and explore new possibilities in the theater. Victoria wants to thank the cast & crew, her friends, and her family for their continuous support!

Samyu Pokala (she/her)  Nun, Bunsen, Ensemble, Medda u/s
Samyu Pokala is a junior getting her bachelor’s in psychology and minors in political science and performing arts. She has been performing for six years and some of her favorite roles include Ursula (The Little Mermaid) and Uzo (Godspell). She hopes you all enjoy the show and she would like to thank her car for enduring all her singing at stoplights, her cast, family, and friends!

Mies Quatrino (they/them)  Albert, Goon, Ensemble
Mies Quatrino is a senior at The University of Texas at Dallas, set to graduate in December 2023 with a degree in Visual Performing Arts - Theatre. Mies has performed across multiple stages in DFW. Previous roles include Diana in Cara Mia’s 2022 revival & 2023 tour of Crystal City 1969, Ariel in The Tempest at Shakespeare Dallas (2022), and Julia in Curse of the Puerto Ricans at Bishop Arts Theatre Center (2022). Currently, Mies is directing a play they wrote titled I’m Still a Theatre Kid which performs Nov 11-12 at the Stone Cottage Theatre in Addison TX. For more information on Mies, visit miesquatrino.squarespace.com
Cast and Crew Biographies

Pao Rodney-Hernandez (she/her)  Refugee, Dance Ensemble

Paolaenid (or Pao like the onomatopoeia) is a senior psychology major. She is a trained dancer from a young age. She aspires to be a neuropsychologist in the future.

Lauren Rodriguez (she/her)        Nun, Bowery Beauty, Mush, Ensemble, Katherine u/s

Lauren Rodriguez is a 19 year old majoring in Critical Media Studies and minoring in performing arts. She has been doing musical theatre since the age of 4 and has no plans of stopping! Some recent credits include Ensemble in SpongeBob the Musical (GPAC), and Alysha in American Idiot (UT Dallas). When not on stage, Lauren can be found on a film set as Projects Director for UTDTV, dressing up as Princesses for birthday parties, or tap dancing in the kitchen. Lauren would like to thank her family/friends for always supporting her. She would also like to thank sweet Ashley, for being the light of her life.

Ethan Saet (he/him).                    Davey, Jack u/s

Ethan Saet is excited to be a part of UT Dallas’ production of Newsies. He has done several musicals throughout middle school and high school. Some of his favorite roles include Caractacus Potts in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Scar in The Lion King, Aladdin in Aladdin, and many more. He is studying Biology in pursuit of a career in cardiology.

Leia Sing (she/her)           Refugee, Dance Ensemble

Leia Sing is delighted to return to UTDTheatre as a member of the UTD Dance Ensemble. Past shows include American Idiot (2022) as a UTD Dance Ensemble member and We Will Rock You (2020) as an ensemble member. She is currently a junior majoring in Information Technology Systems and minoring in dance. Until this year, she has considered being a part of a Newsies production as only a “dream” show, so huge thank you to Chris, Micki, Mark, and the cast and crew for making this dream possible and working so hard to put together this show!

Eli Slack (he/him)        Morris Delancey, Roosevelt

Apollo Elias (Eli) Slack, he/him, is a local fine artist with a passion for performance. He last took to the stage as the Robert in the 2023 production of Winsor & Gertie here at UT Dallas. Before that, he performed in Rome, at the American University of Rome during his studies abroad. His primary forms of expression are design and illustration, as he is an ATEC major with a focus in visual development. He hopes to move into a career in the animation industry, where his passion for acting will be able to be represented through his art.
**Allee St. Amant (she/her)  Henry, Goon, Ensemble**

Allee is a freshman here at UT Dallas majoring in Biology/ Premed. She has done theatre for several years in the past, but this is her first show at UT Dallas. Some previous roles include Emma in *Emma the Musical*, Grace in *Annie*, Katherine Hawks in *Soup Du Jour*, and Amy in *Little Women*. In addition to performing, Allee is an active member of Alpha Epsilon Delta, a medical honors society, and works at Camp Mystic in which she teaches drama. Allee would like to thank her mom for being her biggest supporter and rock.

**Adam Thomas (he/him).**  

Adam Michael Thomas is a graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma's musical theatre program whose previous roles include: Jud Fry in *Oklahoma!* (Rockwall Summer Musicals) Franz Liebkind in *The Producers* (Stolen Shakespeare Guild), Karl in the *Giant in Big Fish* (UCO), and Bill Austin in *Mamma Mia!* (Tulsa Community College). Adam would like to thank his friends and family for their continuing support.

**Kaitlyn Weirich (she/her)  Scab 3, Refugee, Dance Ensemble**

Kaitlyn Weirich is a senior studying history and visual and performing arts with a concentration in dance. She is also in the Fast Track program, meaning that she has started her master’s degree in history. This is her sixth semester in the dance ensemble and her third time in a musical. She has been dancing for fourteen years. Kaitlyn also works for the Harry W. Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology and loves encouraging people to contribute to the arts. She is so grateful to be a part of the dance ensemble and hopes that everyone enjoys the show!

**Lyn Zhang (she/her)**  

Lyn is beyond excited to be joining UTDTheater for her debut performance! She is a senior majoring in ATEC with a graphic design concentration. Lyn is an active member of the campus organization Strings Attached, where she is both a performer and serves as their lead marketing officer. Lyn looks forward to continuing her theater career post-graduation. She would like to thank her family, friends, partner, and cats for making this possible!
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