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The Tamanend Players of Tamanend Middle School proudly present the production of



Music byLyrics byBook byAlan MenkenJack FeldmanHarvey Fierstein

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

### March 7 and 8, 2025

Director & Choreographer

Lighting & Sound Director

**Music Director** 

Stage Crew Director & Choreographer Mrs. Christy Wilhelm

Ms. Maria Vitacco

Mr. Ian Sanchez

Mrs. Nicole Laird

# **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**Jack Kelly Katherine** Plumber Crutchie Medda Larkin Davey Les **Joseph Pulitzer Bunsen** Seitz Hannah Race Albert Muriel Wiesel **Morris Delancey Oscar Delancey** Snyder **Dorothy** Bill

John Rody Olivia Felegyhazi Colin Barry Grace Leigh David Sills Keira Brennan William Kurek Trevor Matczak Colin Novick **Bella Fetterolf** Tyler Higdon **Ryan Muller** Mena Murphy Maddie DiFulvio Samet Sagiri George Mehaffey Matthew Killenbeck Naina Rastogi-Wilson **Ben Fisher** 

# **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Darcy	Brianna Moynihan
Spot Conlon	Ariella Black
Specs	Bailey Freeman
Ethel	Naina Rastogi-Wilson
Olive	Bella Fetterolf
Ada	Siena Benak
Hazel	Jane Schelchkov
Pigtails	Emily DiFulvio
Romeo	Samantha Petri
Pat	Mena Murphy
Buttons	Braxton Budman
JoJo	Karla Giron Camacho
Tommy Boy	Oliver Zachmann
Nancy	Isabel Velez
Police Officer	Ben Fisher
Woman	Melanie Wilson
Scabs	Alexa Leib Mira Bhuvanesh Avery Foley

# **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Newsies: Katie Amrein\*, Mia Banavich, Carter Baranowski, Colin Barry, Siena Benak\*, Mira Bhuvanesh, Ariella Black, Keira Brennan, Braxton Budman, Emily DiFulvio, Maddie DiFulvio\*, Emma Evanson, Isabella Fetterolf\*, Ben Fisher, Avery Foley\*, Bailey Freeman\*\*, Quinn Fryer\*, Chelsey Ginsberg, Karla Giron Camacho, Tyler Higdon, Christina Ivanov, Matthew Killenbeck, William Kurek, Alexa Leib, Trevor Matczak, Drew McDowell, George Mehaffey, Stephanie Milewski\*, Abby Montgomery, Ellie Moschitti\*, Brianna Moynihan\*, Ryan Muller, Mena Murphy, Colin Novick, Samantha Petri\*, Naina Rastogi-Wilson\*, John Rody, Jane Schelchkov, Paula Schelchkov, Sabrina Schwartz\*, David Sills, Isabel Velez, Isabella Voloshin, Kaelyn Weiskopf, Melanie Wilson, Oliver Zachmann

\*Bowery Brigade \*\*Dance Captain

# **BEHIND THE SCENES**

**Sound, Video, and Lighting:** Hunter Becker\*, Swara Desai, Zoe Dominek, Colin Glatz, Reid Fitzgibbon, Sarah Kane\*, RJ Leib, Isabella Lopes, Amber Miller, Robert Sinkevic, Carly Swenson, Jude Sykes, Andrew Varughese

\*Tech Captain

**Stage Crew:** Logan Artau, Caylee Croft, Jisha Daniel\*, Gianna Forrest\*, Caitlin Jonas, Emily Keating, Kaavya Kodiya, Heidi Martinez Perez, Leah Meister\*\*, Sakssham Shukla, Bri Sisca\*, Andrew Summers, Gianna Susi, Dominic Tate \*Crew Captain \*\*Junior Crew Captain

**Set, Props, and Costumes Creation:** The Freeman Family, The Leigh Family, The DiFulvio Family, The Murphy Family, The Higdon Family, The Rody Family, with special shoutout to Mr. Rody for those mops, The Killenbeck Family, The Matczak Family, The Rastogi-Wilson Family, The Fryer Family, The Ivanov Family, The Sagiri Family, Dave McCann and Jessica Weldon, Aparna Dividi, Christian Laird, Nicole Laird, Christy Wilhelm, Maria Vitacco

**John Rody**, 8<sup>th</sup> grader and 2-year Tamanend Player, is thrilled to take on the role of **Jack Kelly** in this year's production of *Newsies JR*.! He's excited to trade in his English accent as Mr. Wormwood in last year's production of *Matilda*, *Jr*. for a New York accent! In addition to theater, John performs in 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and band, Chieftain Chorus and Gold'n'Blues, and plays tennis. Outside of school, he enjoys playing video games, piano, reading about history, and hanging out with his friends. He would like to thank his family, friends, the directors, and cast and crew of this year's production! He would like to give a special thanks to his parents for their amazing support and words of encouragement!

Playing **Katherine Plumber**, 9<sup>th</sup> grader **Olivia Felegyhazi** is ready to take the stage for the last time as a Tamanend Player! Since 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Olivia has had the pleasure of being in *Mary Poppins* as Valentine and in *Matilda, Jr.* as Lavender. She can be seen singing and playing multiple instruments in all of Tamanend's competitive choir and band groups. With the stage being her second home, Olivia can also be seen with Fitzpatrick School of Irish Dance, where she has been dancing for over 10 years. Olivia would like to thank the directors for always challenging her and making her try to be the best version of herself. She would also like to thank her family for their support...and the many car rides!

Playing the role of **Crutchie**, 9<sup>th</sup> grader and three-year Player **Colin Barry** is super thrilled and excited for his final musical show at Tamanend. He is very proud of himself for what he has accomplished with the musical and hopes to do even better next year. Colin takes part in Jazz Band, Chieftain Chorus, and Gold'n'Blues. He has also been playing volleyball for 3 years. After all these years, Colin wants to thank his family, including his parents and his two sisters, Alyssa and Ming, his grandparents, and his friends for everything they have done for him. Whether it was coming to the shows, supporting him, encouraging him, or pushing him to be the person he is today, he couldn't be more thankful.

Taking on the role of **Medda Larkin**, 8<sup>th</sup> grader **Grace Leigh** is so excited to play this part in *Newsies JR*. She has acted in shows such as *Legally Blonde, Frozen, Little Mermaid*, and *Matilda*. She also participates in Gold'n'Blues and Chieftain Chorus. She would like to thank her friends and family for supporting not only herself, but everyone in this musical. She would also like to thank her mom and aunt for helping put this musical together. Finally, she would like to thank all the directors for putting together this amazing show!

8<sup>th</sup> grader **David Sills** will be taking on the role of **Davey** for Tamanend's *Newsies JR*. Though this is his first experience with Tamanend Players, he has been proudly involved with Chieftain Chorus, Gold'n'Blues, Jazz Band, Swing Ensemble, CBSD Honors Band, and Wind Ensemble. He would like to thank his mom, dad and sister for their encouragement and support, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Sanchez, Ms. Vitacco and Mrs. Laird for their patience and mind-blowing abilities, and finally his friends for introducing him to the opportunities at Tamanend.

**Keira Brennan** is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who was last seen on the TMS stage as Hortensia in *Matilda*, *Jr*. This year, she is beyond excited to play the role of **Les**. Don't be fooled by her size, because this girl is trained to put up a fight whether practicing MMA, dancing, or even throwing someone out at  $2^{nd}$  base.

7<sup>th</sup> grader **William Kurek** had only two initial emotions when he saw he was cast as **Joseph Pulitzer**-surprise and excitement. He hadn't thought he'd be given any a named role but has grown to love and accept the part. William is incredibly happy to be a part of so many school activities: Chieftains, Gold'n'Blues, the musical (duh), and the Dungeons and Dragons club to name a few. He would like to thank the amazing teachers that make these things possible and for the friends he has that make these activities even more fun. He'd also like to thank his sister for making him a theater kid, his mom for giving birth to him, his family for supporting him in everything he does, and God for creating his soul.

**Trevor Matczak** is ecstatic to take on the role of **Bunsen** and **Newsies Ensemble** this year as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader in *Newsies JR*. He is super excited because he loves *Newsies*. He has previously been seen as Nigel in *Matilda, Jr*. He also has fun playing soccer, piano, and guitar outside of school, and can be found in many different concerts, seeing as he is in Chieftain Chorus, Gold'n'Blues, 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and band, Swing Ensemble, Jazz Band, and CBSD Honors Band. Finally, Trevor would like to thank all of his friends and family for supporting him, and, most of all, his mother for helping and supporting him with her amazing sewing skills and fervent love of *Newsies*.

**Colin Novick** is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader playing the role of **Seitz** in *Newsies JR*. He played Tommy in last year's musical and is in Tamanend's Chieftain Chorus. He also participates in String Ensemble as a violinist and plays baseball in and out of school. He would like to thank his parents for their support and driving him to and from rehearsal, along with his teachers, coaches, and friends for helping him along the way.

**Isabella Fetterolf** will be taking on the roles of **Hannah** and **Olive** in this year's *Newsies JR*. A current 9<sup>th</sup> grader, Isabella participated in the musical last year playing the role of Acrobat in *Matilda, Jr*. Besides the musical, Isabella enjoys ice skating and spending time with friends and family. She would like to thank all her family members, close friends, and all the teachers who have supported her.

**Tyler Higdon** is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who will be playing the role of **Race** in *Newsies JR*. He was also in the musical last year, *Matilda, Jr*. as Bruce, and has done many other musicals before coming to Tamanend. Besides the musical, he also takes part in Chieftain Chorus, Gold'n'Blues, and Tiger Theatrics. He would like to thank his family for encouraging him and all his fellow Newsies that made the musical such a fun and exciting experience.

Taking on the amazing role of **Albert**, 8<sup>th</sup> grader **Ryan Muller**, participates in a variety of sports and activities. Ryan plays AAU Basketball, is a Gold'n'Blues member since the start of 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Chieftain Chorus member, and performs in a small male group called "The 6 Guys." Ryan played the role of Eric in last year's musical *Matilda*, *Jr*. He would like to thank his dad, mom, step-dad, grandma, and grandpop for the endless support and he wouldn't be here without them.

9<sup>th</sup> grader **Mena Murphy** is very excited to be playing the parts of **Muriel** and **Pat** this year! Last year she played Big Kid 1 and the Chef in *Matilda, Jr.* and was in the ensemble for *Mary Poppins* 2 years ago. Mena is very involved at Tamanend and is a 3-year member in Chieftain's and the musical, 2-year member of Gold'n'Blues and Wind Ensemble, does the Tamanend Today news show, is involved with marching band, and takes voice lessons outside of school. She would like to thank her mom, dad, brother, Connor, friends, voice teacher, Noah, and the directors for supporting her in her final Tamanend musical.

**Maddie DiFulvio** has a deep love for music and performance. She is excited to take on the role of **Wiesel** in this year's *Newsies JR*. after being part of the ensemble in last year's *Matilda, Jr*. As an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, Maddie stays busy with the Tamanend Symphonic Swing Ensemble, the Central Bucks Middle School Honors Band, Art Club, Student Council, and STEM Club. She is especially grateful to her parents for their unwavering support and for inspiring her musical passion. Maddie also thanks her directors and the entire cast of *Newsies JR* for their hard work and dedication in bringing the show to life!

**Samet Sagiri** is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is playing the role of **Morris Delancy**. He has been doing choir since 5<sup>th</sup> grade and was in *Matilda, Jr*. last year. He is also a part of Gold'n'Blues and Chieftain Chorus and is a member of a small group called "The 6 Guys" and is a part of a band called "The Pluhs" but also can be referred to as just "Pluh." He would like to thank all his friends: John Rody, Ryan Muller, Trevor Matczak, Gio Jimenez, Tyler Higdon, William Kurek, John Kurek, David Sills, Matthew Killenbeck, Brayden Schanbacher, and Shaan Patel. He would also like to thank Mr. Sanchez for helping him and his friends through our music career. His favorite word is "Pluh."

7<sup>th</sup> grader **George Mehaffey** is playing the role of **Oscar Delancey** in his first year being in a musical. He participates in Chorus, Orchestra, Karate, and Reading Olympics. He would like to thank his parents, sister, and all the people that encouraged him to be in this musical. He would also like to thank his aunt, Trisha, and his cousin, Angie, for helping him find his love for theater. He also wants to thank Mrs. Wilhelm, Ms. Vitacco, Mr. Sanchez, and Mrs. Laird because they are awesome teachers of theater, and they helped him have a fun first musical.

8<sup>th</sup> grader **Matthew Killenbeck** is playing the role of **Snyder** and **Newsie**. He was in stage crew last year for *Matilda, Jr*. but, this year he decided to switch teams and become an actor. He has also played as Mr. Krabs in *SpongeBob the Musical* for Doylestown Theatre Academy. He participates in Gold'n'Blues, Chieftain Chorus, Tiger Theatrics, Soccer, Track, UNICEF, and the Social Impact Club. He would like to thank all of his family and friends for supporting him through this journey.

**Naina Rastogi-Wilson (Dorothy, Ethel, Newsies Ensemble)** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and excited to be performing in *Newsies JR*.! She has also performed in *Matilda, Jr*. as Mrs. Wormwood. Naina is a Chieftain Chorus and Gold'n'Blues member, co-president of Tiger Theatrics, and president of NJHS. She would like to thank all the directors for their hard work and her family for their support. Shout out to Mom, Dad, and Nani for driving her home after every rehearsal!

**Ben Fisher** is a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student who has been part of the Tamanend Players musical productions since 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He was in musicals such as *Mary Poppins* (twice), *Matilda, Jr.*, and now, *Newsies JR*. This year, he will be taking on the small yet mighty roles of **Bill** and **Police officer**. You can also see Ben as a part of Chieftain Chorus, Orchestra, or drawing in Art Club. He would like to thank his friends, parents, and teachers for always being there to help and support him throughout his career.

9<sup>th</sup> grader **Brianna Moynihan** is taking on the role of **Darcy** in this year's production. Despite this being her first time on stage as a Tamanend Player, Brianna is a part of Chieftain Chorus and Color Guard in Marching Band. She would like to thank her family (specifically her parents), her friends, and her dance teachers.

In this year's musical, 8<sup>th</sup> grader **Ariella Black** is more than excited to take on the role of **Spot Conlon**. She was also in *Matilda, Jr*. last year as an ensemble big kid/mom! You can find her in various places such as Chieftain Chorus, Gold'n'Blues, Tiger Theatrics, Social Impact Club, and vocal lessons. Ariella would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her, as well as all the directors of the play. She thanks you for making theater—and middle school—memorable!

**Bailey Freeman** is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is super excited to be playing the role of **Specs**! She performed in last year's musical, *Matilda, Jr.*, as the ensemble and as a leading letter lady. Bailey loves doing dance and participating in other school activities. Bailey would like to thank all of the directors for everything they have done this year to put this musical together. She would also like to thank her mom, dad, and sister for everything they have done to help her accomplish this. She wouldn't have gotten through this without all of them.

Playing the role **Ada** in the **Bowery Brigade**, **Siena Benak** also enjoys horseback riding, participating in Chieftain Chorus, and band class. She feels very lucky to have a speaking part because, as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, this is her first year in the musical! She would first like to thank God for all the wonderful opportunities he has given her, followed by her Mom, Dad, siblings, and extended family for all the love and support they have given her over the years. She hopes you love the show and appreciate all the hard work put into it as much as she does!

8<sup>th</sup> grader **Jane Schelchkov** is playing **Hazel** in this year's Tamanend musical production, *Newsies JR*. You might remember her from last year's *Matilda, Jr*. as Amanda Thripp. Offstage, you might find Jane in Reading Olympics, playing soccer, singing in Chieftain Chorus, or drawing. She would like to thank her family for putting up with her singing at home and for picking her up from countless rehearsals.

**Emily DiFulvio**, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, is thrilled to be making her theatrical debut as **Pigtails** in Tamanend Players' *Newsies JR*. Outside of theater, Emily is an active member of Art Club, Chieftain Chorus, and Gold'n' Blues. Emily is grateful to her family and friends for their love and support. A special thanks to her parents for sparking her love in music 12 and theater.

**Samantha Petri** is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and taking on the role of **Romeo** and a dancer in the **Bowery Brigade**. This is her first musical performance, but you can also find her on the ice rink as she is a member of the Colonial Figure Skating Club. She has been skating since 2017. Samantha would like to thank her mom for always putting their family first and always being her biggest fan. She would also like to say thanks to her siblings, Camryn and Tyler.

Taking on the role of **Buttons** in the *Newsies JR*. musical, **Braxton Budman**, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, has helped in a Thanksgiving elementary school play at the Bridges of Warwick before his middle school journey. He likes to participate in many extracurricular activities such as the Bucks County Science Fair, Reading Olympics, Art Club, the UNLESS competition, and in autumn, Tamanend's volleyball team. As he prepares to knock the audience's socks off, he would like to thank everyone who helped to make this performance possible and his mom for persuading him to join this year's incredible musical, *Newsies JR*.

**Karla Giron Camacho** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and is playing the role of **JoJo**! She was in last year's musical *Matilda*, *Jr*. as ensemble. She is also part of CB South Marching Band Color Guard and in Tamanend's Chieftain Chorus, and she participates in figure skating and roller skating! She would like to thank her mom and dad for always supporting her with every activity she's in and a special thanks to her brother who has encouraged her to always participate and to be herself.

**Oliver Zachmann (Tommy Boy)** is excited to be joining the cast of *Newsies JR*. in his first show at Tamanend in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He loves it. He also participates in Chieftain Chorus, Swing Ensemble, Chess Club, Jazz Band and plays hockey outside of school. He would like to thank his mom and dad for supporting him in doing things that he loves. He would also like to thank Page for her fun-loving spirit after he has a game/performance. Finally, he thanks all his directors in the play for making this happen.

**Isabel Velez** is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and a member of the **Newsies Ensemble** and is also taking on the role of **Nancy**! Last year, she stepped back from the spotlight and was in the Revolting Crew for Tamanend's *Matilda, Jr*. Though she is obsessed with theater, Isabel has gotten involved in so much more. She is a proud member of Chieftain Chorus, a Student Council Resource Representative, and takes vocal lessons outside of school, all while maintaining good grades. She would like to thank Mrs. Mancini and Mrs. Higgins for always seeing the potential she couldn't. She would also like to thank her siblings Alexis, Kaylina, and Jacob for always being there in their own different ways. 13

**Melanie Wilson** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and is very excited to be playing the role of **Newies Ensemble** and **Woman**. This is her first year performing in the musical and her first year at Tamanend. So far, Melanie has enjoyed everything Tamanend has to offer and is excited to perform. Melanie would like to thank her family for all their support and her friends for making her feel welcomed.

**Alexa Leib** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and enjoys being in the musical. She is playing a **Newsie** and **Scab #1** this year. Alexa is a 3-year Tamanend Player! Her past plays were *Mary Poppins* and *Matilda*, *Jr*. Alexa would like to thank her family and friends for their support, especially her Mom, Dad, her brother, RJ, Pop, Mom-mom, and Nanny.

7<sup>th</sup> grader **Mira Bhuvanesh** is taking on the role of **Scab #2** and is in the **Newsies Ensemble**. This is Mira's first musical, and she is super excited to perform. She loves listening to and performing music and playing tennis. Mira would like to thank the dedicated directors and cast members for their time, and especially her amazing parents, who made sacrifices to make sure she got to rehearsal every time!

**Avery Foley** is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader who plays **Scab #3** and is a member of the **Bowery Brigade.** In the past she has done acting outside of school, acting in *Shrek, Jr* and in a short play called *The Hostage*. She also does basketball, swim, robotics, Chieftain Chorus, and acting classes. She would like to thank all the amazing directors and wonderful cast who made this show possible, her friends, and her family, especially her mom, dad, sister (Aubrey) and brother (Andrew) who have supported her and her love for theater!

**Hunter Becker** is a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student who has been an integral member of the Tamanend Players throughout all three years of middle school. His behind-the-scenes contributions as **Lights Captain** are essential to the production, as he expertly operates and controls the lighting for our productions. He would like to thank all of the directors for their hard work and dedication to making this whole thing happen.

As the **head of the spotlights crew** this year, freshman **Reid Fitzgibbon** is pleased to be a part of the amazing show the Tamanend Players put on for a second time. As one of the spotlights for last year's *Matilda, Jr.*, he looks forward to opportunities to be found at the high school. He is the legacy head of the Dungeons and Dragons club, as well as an avid rock climber and bassist. He would like to thank his mother and father, for supporting his ventures, as well as carting him to and from various activities, Ms. Vitacco and the rest of the tech crew, and the 14 cast, directors, stage crew, and volunteers that all made this possible.

**Sarah Kane**, a member of the tech crew for the musical for the past three years, has been loving working with everyone. She has been doing tech ever since 7<sup>th</sup> grade and progressed from working the spotlights to running **Sound**. She has also been a part of orchestra for almost six years and does different sports outside of school. She would like to thank Mr. Sanchez, Ms. Vitacco, her parents, and her 10<sup>th</sup> grade helper who taught her what she knows.

**Jisha Daniel**, a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, has been a dedicated member of Tamanend's Musical Production's Stage Crew for two years. She was Stage Crew Captain for *Matilda*, *Jr*. last year and is **Stage Crew Captain** for *Newsies JR* this year. Outside of school she does karate and has won numerous medals and trophies at tournaments. She would like to thank her friends and family, the directors, cast, and the stage crew members for supporting her and being a part of her journey.

**Gianna Forrest** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and has been in the Tamanend Musical Stage Crew for two years, helping to be a **Stage Crew Captain** this year. She also participates in String ensemble and is the Student Council Treasurer, UNICEF Unite Club treasurer, co-runs Public Speaking Club and Social Impact Club, and is a member of much more. Gianna can also be found playing basketball and flag football. She would like to thank her mom, dad, and brother for supporting her on this journey as well as the directors and her stage crew team.

**Caitlin Jonas** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and has participated in the musical for the past 2 years. Last year she was in ensemble for *Matilda*, *Jr*. and this year she is part of the **Stage Crew**. She is also part of several clubs such as the Art Club and UNICEF. She also co-runs the Public Speaking Club. She does horseback riding and is joining CB south's Flag Football team. She would like to thank her family and friends for encouraging her to try new things and for supporting her.

**Heidi Martinez Perez** is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader who is doing **Stage Crew** for the first time! She loves hanging out with her friends and family. Walking her dog and listening to music make her feel relaxed. Baking is one of her favorite things to do and she's always open to try new recipes. Heidi would love to thank the cast, crew, and directors for their hard work to make this musical amazing. She would also like to give a big thanks to her friends for making it a great experience.

### WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST? 9th Graders, Named Roles, and Directors

**Bri Sisca** is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and has been a part of the Tamanend Musical Stage Crew for two years, helping to be a **Stage Crew Captain** this year. She also participates in Mock Trial, UNICEF Unite Club, co-runs Public Speaking Club and Social Impact Club, and is taking part in the Bucks Country Science and Research Competition this spring along with much more. Bri would like to thank her friends and family, the directors, cast members, and, most of all, the tremendous stage crew team (past and present).

**Christy Wilhelm (Director and Co-Choreographer)** is thrilled to bring the energy and excitement of *Newsies JR*. to the Tamanend stage! Mrs. Wilhelm loves all things musical theatre and, as a former member of Actors' Equity, toured both nationally and internationally with shows like *Sesame Street Live*. She continues that love of performing every day at Tamanend, teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade SCIENCE. To my favorite group of newsmakers —Travis, Zack, and Matthew—thank you for holding down the fort at home these past couple of months. Lastly, I am eternally grateful to everyone who has helped bring this production to life, but especially to my amazing co-directors Vtax, who is the absolute kindest human being in the world even if she doesn't always use the right door, the Sanch Man, who is the world's best clarifier and Nicole Laird who has *SEIZED* every challenge thrown at her way even while wearing tap shoes. *The World Will Know* that this show is going to *Make Headlines*.

**Ian Sanchez (Music Director)** teaches Chorus, Exploring Music, and Guitar Class and leads the Sound and Lights Crew. This is his 15<sup>th</sup> year as the music director for Tamanend Players. He's been excited about the prospect of a Tamanend Players *Newsies* production since the rights became available several years ago and is thrilled to report that this cast has the perfect energy for the show! Mr. Sanchez loves to *Watch What Happens* each day at rehearsal when our young thespians *Seize the Day*, each of them becoming their very own *King of New York*. Finally, he would like to thank the countless directors, cast, crew, parents, and Tamanend faculty and staff that have a hand in putting on a production of this size every year and offer a special thanks to his wonderfully supportive family!

### WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST? Directors

Maria Vitacco (Lights & Sound Director) is thrilled, once again, to bring her passion for Broadway to the incredible cast and crew of Newsies JR. As an English teacher, she fosters a love for literature and storytelling, helping her students explore the power of words and creativity. Outside the classroom, she serves as the Girls' Tennis and Head Track Coach, fostering teamwork in both sports. Additionally, she is a proud co-advisor to Student Council, helping young leaders shine. Drawing inspiration from Broadway's dazzling productions, she finds herself moved by the powerful anthems of this show, where songs like Seize the Day fuel the courage to face challenges, Carrying the Banner reminds her of the importance of persistence and unity, and Santa Fe reflects the endless possibilities that come from believing in something greater. To Hunter, Sarah, RJ, Robert, Reid, Colin, Zoe, Carly, Swara, Isabella, Andrew, Jude, and Amber -THANK YOU for your time commitment, patience, and wit. You all truly embody the spirit of Seize the Day with your enthusiasm, teamwork, and dedication, and she couldn't ask for a better group! She would also like to send love and a huge thanks to her family and friends for their support and understanding, especially Christa in #106Vibes who keeps her feeling sane and grounded. Lastly, a heartfelt thank you to her fellow directors for being constant sources of support and laughter. One day, she hopes to have the musical talent of Ian, the powerful kick of Nicole, and the talent, awesomeness, and all-around greatness of Christy-channeling that King of *New York* confidence and spirit in everything they do.

Nicole Laird (Choreography and Director of Stage Crew) is excited to be back for her second Tamanend Players musical production! After a successful first season with the Players to put on Matilda, Jr., she has enjoyed watching returning and new students pool their talents together for Newsies JR. There is nothing this ragtag group of ragamuffins cannot do! This musical is a fan favorite of students already, and the directors hope it touches the audience in the same way. Mrs. Laird would like to thank her husband Christian for his unwavering support on and off the stage, and his contributions to set-building. His belief in her has carried her through the coldest winter days, and his delicious dinners have sustained her after the longest rehearsal nights. A huge thanks to the Stage Crew, old and new, for coming out to be a part of the backstage magic and doing whatever is asked of them, even when the vision seems hazy at first. Many thanks to the parents who dedicated their time and energy to making this show possible, and to the Tamanend staff that supported us throughout this endeavor, including Mrs. McFarland, Mrs. Reitz, Mrs. Mancini, and Miss Roth. There are no words possible to express Mrs. Laird's gratitude to the other directors of this show: Mrs. Wilhelm, Ms. Vitacco, and Mr. Sanchez. Spending her afternoons and evenings (and Saturdays) with them brings her immense joy, and she loves being part of the Tamanend Players family.



### Congratulations to our 3-year Tamanend Players Cast and Crew Members!

# Colin Barry, Hunter Becker, Olivia Felegyhazi, Benjamin Fisher, Sarah Kane, Alexa Leib, and Mena Murphy

# **MUSICAL SELECTIONS**

### ACT I

Santa Fe (Prologue)

Carrying the Banner

Just a Pretty Face

The World Will Know

Watch What Happens

Seize the Day (Part 1)

Seize the Day (Part 2)

Santa Fe

Jack, Crutchie

Race, Muriel, Jack, Crutchie, Nancy, Newsies

Medda, Ada, Ethel, Olive, Bowery Brigade

Jack, Hazel, Pigtails, Davey, Crutchie, Muriel, Newsies

Katherine

Davey, Jack, Muriel, Hazel, Specs, Les, Newsies

Davey, Newsies

Jack

### ACT II

King of New York

Letter from the Refuge

Brooklyn's Here

Something To Believe In

Seize the Day (Reprise)

Once and For All

Finale

Curtain Call

Race, Romeo, Pigtails, Muriel, Albert, JoJo, Les, Hazel, Davey, Katherine, Newsies

Crutchie

Spot Conlon, Newsies

Katherine, Jack

Newsies

Jack, Davey, Katherine, Working Children, Newsies

Newsies

Newsies

# FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Welcome to Tamanend Players' production of *Newsies JR!* We are thrilled to present this high-energy show, based on the real-life Newsboys' Strike of 1899. As I write this, I am overwhelmed by the depth of gratitude and the strong sense of community that fills me. This production simply couldn't happen without every single moving part seamlessly coming together often at the last moment. I am deeply honored and thankful to be part of such an incredible cast, crew, and community of families that form our Tamanend Players.

*Newsies JR* is a story about courage, resilience, and fighting for what's right—even when the odds are stacked against you. It's a tale that reminds us that when we stand together, we have the power to make real change. As you watch our young performers take the stage, we hope you'll be inspired by their passion, energy, and dedication. They have worked tirelessly to bring this story to life, and we are so proud of each and every one of them.

We also want to thank our production team, volunteers, and parents for their endless support and hard work. A show like this is truly a team effort, and we are beyond grateful for everyone who has contributed their time and talent. The show simply could not go on without you.

To our 9th graders: We will miss you greatly next year, but please know you are always welcome here at TMS and are forever expected to come back and visit. Thank you for sharing your talent, laughter, and energy with us over the past three years. You are all true kings and queens of New York, even if that's not exactly what I was yelling last week during rehearsal.

Lastly, thank you for supporting the performing arts at Tamanend Middle School!

Now sit back, relax, and SEIZE THE DAY!

Warm regards,

Christy Wilhelm Director

# **SPECIAL THANKS TO...**

Our administration...Dr. Brian Caughie, Ms. Brenda Scheffey, and Mr. Larry Werner.

Our office staff...**Gina Barnhart, Patti Hartz, and Andrea Consoletti**.

Our custodial staff...Eladio Vasquez and his amazing crew.

**The CBSD School Board and Administrative team**...for supporting the performing arts in Central Bucks.

**Lisa Mancini and Christa Reitz**...for making sure we have awesome Tamanend Players shirts and so many other things.

**Gretchen McFarland**...for masterfully crafting our program, organizing fundraisers, and for her unending support of Tamanend Players.

Beth Rody, Jessica Weldon and Jamie Leigh...for all their hard work as the co-chairs of our Parents' Association.

Jennifer Matczak...for her sewing expertise and making all those news bags.

Laura Higdon... for all the fabulous photos.

Susan Braverman...for costume inspiration.

Joey Schiwall...for his support with lights, sound, and for set design inspiration.

Maddie DiFulvio...for her creative logo artwork.

Raquel Riad.... for helping to coordinate some of Jacks art pieces.

**Pat Nugent and Vinny Santoro**...for graciously sharing rehearsal space/time.

SpeedPro Printing...for printing our great lawn signs every year.

Warrington Pizzeria...for our 6th Grade Parent Orientation dinner.

Skyline Tavern...for our Saturday between-shows dinner.

Numerous other **Tamanend Player Parents**, **Grandparents**, **and Siblings**...for their unending support behind the scenes with costumes, make up, shifting schedules, transportation, donations, coordination, dollar store runs, fixing and refixing wheels on boxes, etc. We love you and could not do this without you!!!!!

The Laird, Sanchez, Vitacco, and Wilhelm families...for their constant support and picking up our slack at home!



Our "Jack" - We are so incredibly proud of you. Your passion for music & theater is inspiring and always makes us smile. We can't wait to see you shine on stage & "Seize the Day"! Break a leg! We love you!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Mom-Mom & Pop-Pop



# BREAK A LEG



### Love, Mom, Dad, & Aly





#### HE MOST ANTICIPATED EVENT OF THE MONTH

AKING NEWS

Break a leg in your **3rd Tamanend Players** musical, Mena!!! From the ensemble in Mary Poppins, to playing the Cook in Matilda. and now Muriel/Pat in your favorite musical, Newsies, you have grown so much and you truly shine on stage! (Maybe next you can "audition for the role of kicker" haha). We're so proud of you! We love you more, Dad, Mom & Connor

Tamanend

Players

March 7 and 8

2025

#### "The World is Yer Erster"



Ty, congrats on your role as "Racetrack Higgins" in Newsies Jr! We are so proud of your dedication and love for all things music and theater. The world truly is your oyster; go out there and show them what you've got!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Allie, Mom-Mom and Pop-Pop



<text>





## **Congratulations Christina!**

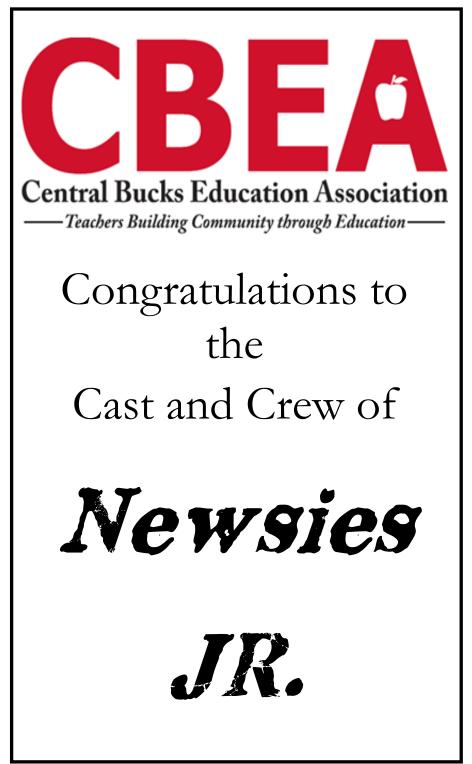


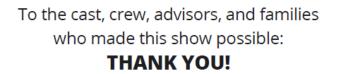


We love watching you perform - break a leg!









**BRAVO!** 

We are proud to support our students, staff, communities, and the arts.

# Learn more about public education in our community on our website and social media!





# **Camp America Day Camp**

wants to congratulate all of the

cast and crew members of

# Newsies JR

on a job well done!



# 215.822.6313 www.Camp-America.com 341 Lower State Road, Chalfont, PA





### See you on the court!

#### for more information, check:

https://www.wwbba.com



#### June 23 – August 15

GA Summer Camps offer children ages 4 to 15 a fun and engaging day camp experience, competitive sports camps, and specialized camps in the arts, technology, and even cooking at the school's beautiful 126-acre campus in Fort Washington.

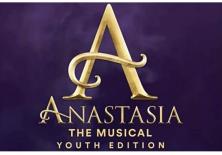
# www.gacamp.org

# BELFRY THEATRE CAMP

June 30-July 25, Grades 2-9 (closed July 4)

12.500

The four-week Belfry Camp is the perfect opportunity for musical theatre fans to perform in a full staged production. Sing, dance, and learn how to put on a show!



Public performances: July 24 and 25

Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of Newsies, Jr.!

# Congratulations Tamanend Players!



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# Good Luck to the Cast and Crew of

# Newsies JR.

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Tag @dariannabridal in your favorite play pics!





# Congrats to the cast and crews of Newsies JR!!

## **CONGRATS GRACE!**

We are so proud of your dedication and love of singing. We love you and can't wait to see you as MEDDA! You are not just a PRETTY FACE! You are a beautiful person inside and out! Break a leg!

Love, Mom, Dad & George

Congratulations on your acting debut David! You are the best Davey ever!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Pearl, Nani, Papa, DiDi, and Pam

Best wishes to the cast and crew! :)





### $\star$ congratulations $\star$

### KEIRA!!!

EXTR



You have proven with dedication and perseverance any goal is achievable. Watching you succeed fills our hearts with joy. We are so proud of you Keira!! Good luck to you and the entire Newsies cast & crew.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Aubrey & Ryan





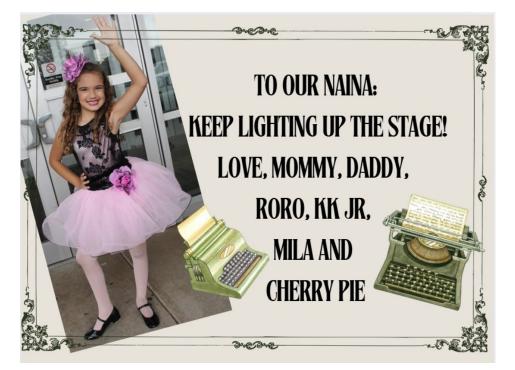






## CONGRATS RYAN!

Ryan, we have loved watching you in all your performances over the last year and a half! Break a leg and remember to "SIEZE THE DAY"





### Brianna,

Good Luck in your very first play. You were born to perform! Shine bright. You're amazing, and we are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad



**Braxton** WE ARE PROUD OF YOU. **Congratulations** Babeca Renata i Dziadzia Mikołaj

## Braxton

We are proud of you!!! Congratulations Babushka Eva & Jacob



**Braxton** Jam very proud of you!!! Congratulations Babcia Ala

## Congratulations Alexa! You have ALWAYS been a star in our eyes! Let your light continue to shine bright! We love you!

Love, Mom, Dad, RJ, Max, Nanny, Mom-Mom, Pop & GG



Congratulations RJ! You continue to make us proud with everything you do! Keep learning, keep achieving and dream big! We love you! Love.

#### Mom, Dad, Alexa, Max, Nanny, Mom-Mom, Pop & GG











Love, Mom, Dad, Emily, Pop Pops, Mom Mom, Uncle Scott and Aunt Chris





**Congratulates our LCA students in** 

## **Newsies JR!**

Your LCA friends and teachers are so proud of you! Break a Leg!

Visit us at www.LCActing.com

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Go to townandcountryplayers.org for details

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### Colin,

Round two! We know you'll be fantastic again. Wishing you and the Tamanend Players another great performance—enjoy it!

Love you, Mom, Dad, Dillon, and Finley



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WHOLE CAST AND CREW OF NEWSIES!! MATTHEW, WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU AND ALL YOUR HARD WORK! YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE BEST SNYDER/NEWSIE. WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH! LOVE, MOM, DAD, RYAN, ANDREW, AND SAM





#### Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

Maddie, we're so excited to see you bring your talent to the stage for the second time! You're truly a *headline* act!

Emily, welcome to the stage in your first edition debut! We can't wait to see you step into the spotlight and shine!

We know you are both ready to *seize* the day and we couldn't be prouder! Break a leg!

Love, Mom, Dad and Finn





#### **Congratulations Cast and Crew!**

Logan, we are so proud of you!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Grant, and Reed



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### March 7 and 8 2025 <u>BBEAKING NEWS</u> Players THE MOST ANTICIPATED EVENT OF THE MONTH

Tamancud

Special thanks to Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Sanchez, Ms. Vitacco, and Mrs. Laird for all of their amazingly hard work to make this production happen! Thank you also to the directors for teaching us ragamuffins that ... Minute by minute, that's how you win it.

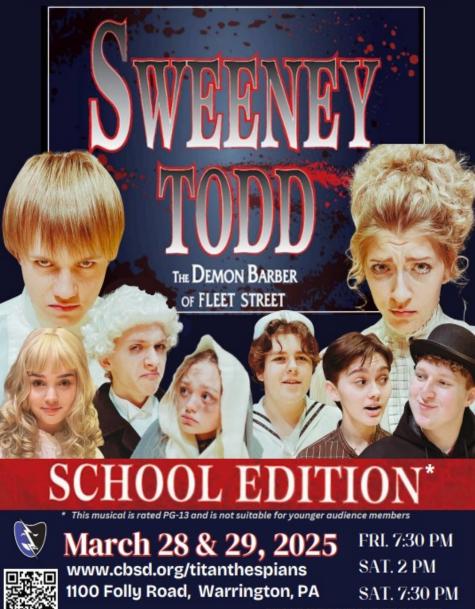
We are more than just a pretty face.

We are Kings of New York. We have to have something to believe in.

Now, watch what happens and let's begin.

Love, the Cast and Crew





is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI).

# Journey to the past CB EAST PATRIOT PLAYERS PRESENTS

Book by Terrence McNally Music by Stephen Flaherty Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

THE MUSICAL

Tickets \$15 Students/Seniors \$10

Directed by Sasha Eisenberg



Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical

From the play by Marcelle Maurette as adapted by Guy Bolton

CENTRAL BUCKS EAST APRIL 3-5, 2025 - 7:00 PM APRIL 6, 2025 - 2:00 PM

ANASTASIA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

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02



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Questions about camp registration can be directed to araman@cbsd.org

## **Past Productions of Tamanend Players**

*LI'L ABNER – 2008* 

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING – 2009

HONK! – 2010

BYE BYE BIRDIE – 2011

THE MUSIC MAN – 2012

ANYTHING GOES - 2013

**THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE – 2014** 

42<sup>ND</sup> STREET – 2015

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST – 2016** 

CRAZY FOR YOU - 2017

HELLO, DOLLY! - 2018

CINDERELLA – 2019

BYE BYE BIRDIE - 2020

FROZEN JR. - 2021

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL – 2022

MARY POPPINS - 2023

MATILDA, JR. -2024