

AUDITION PACK



Thank you for downloading the audition pack for BYTESized Productions “Disney’s Newsies Jr.” Please ensure you read all the information contained in the pack and can commit to all the requirements for involvement in the show.

Who is BYTESized?

BYTESized Productions is the youth theatre arm of Albury Wodonga Theatre Company and is the only non school community youth theatre group in Albury-Wodonga. Since its inception in 2011 BYTESized has performed to more than 29,000 audience members and involved hundreds of local and regional young people both on stage and off. BYTESized prides itself on bringing high quality performances to the big stage through the hard work and dedication of each year’s production team. The highly experienced team strive to get the best out of the young actors, singers and dancers and provide a fabulous show for our audiences - young and old. At the same time, BYTESized is focussed on ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for young people to express themselves creatively. Unusual for a youth theatre company, BYTESized cast young people from 8 to 18 years of age which provides opportunities for younger cast to learn from older ones, and opportunities for older cast to learn key lessons in interacting with and caring for younger members.

Show details:

Audition/creative team

Co-Directors - Alicen Waugh and Emma Mancer

Vocal Director - Merryn Thorp

Choreographer - Georgia Moorman

Independent audition consultant - TBA

Audition organiser/contact person

Ben Wilson - Production Manager. Email: ben@awtco.org.au

Age range

8 to 18 years. All cast must be at least 8 years of age as at February 3rd 2024 and no older than 18 years on the last show date June 22nd 2024.

Show dates/times

Friday June 21, 11 am and 7 pm

Saturday June 22, 2 pm and 7 pm

Please note, all cast must be available for the 11am “school show” on Friday June 23 which may require an absence from school on that day. All shows will run for approximately 75 minutes. All cast must arrive at the theatre 2 hours prior to show times.

Audition date/times

All people auditioning must book an audition via <https://bytesized.org.au/newsiesjr/>

Auditions will take place on **Saturday 3rd February at 10:00am** and **Sunday 4th February at 10:00am** at a location to be confirmed. Please plan to arrive before the start time listed above, as we will all audition as a group. **The audition process will take 2 hours.**

You only need to attend one audition session unless you are asked to return for a callback audition. You will need to be available on Sunday 4th February in the afternoon for a callback audition.

The audition will be run as a 3-part workshop:

1. VOCALS

The audition group will be taught a song from the show together. You will sing it as part of an ensemble and individually as part of the process.

2. DANCE CALL

The audition group will be taught a short choreography routine from the show.

3. SCENE WORK

Each participant of the audition group will be asked to read a scene from the script.

WHAT TO BRING

You will need to wear comfortable clothes that you can move in. If you have dance shoes, you are welcome to wear them. Make sure you have a water bottle.

This audition process requires you to be open and prepared to work as part of an ensemble. Your ability to be flexible and take direction will be assessed as part of the process.

Audition location

Location is to be advised but will be located in either Albury or Wodonga.

Rehearsal dates/times

Rehearsals will begin Sunday February 18, 2024 and will then run every week at these times:

Fridays 5:30 to 8:30 pm

Sundays 2 to 5 pm.

An additional rehearsal time for some cast may be scheduled for Wednesdays 5:30 to 8 pm closer to show week.

Some longer rehearsals on Sundays (eg 12 pm to 6 pm) may be required in Late May/early June. We will notify everyone well in advance.

Show week rehearsals.

All cast must be available for additional rehearsals during show week:

Sunday June 16, 2 to 6 pm

Monday June 17, 5 to 9 pm

Tuesday June 18, 5 to 9 pm

Wednesday June 19, 5 to 9 pm

Rehearsals will continue through school holidays excluding Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals is compulsory. We understand that at times other commitments may require an absence from rehearsals but these should be kept to a minimum and must be communicated to the Producer by email well in advance. Any known ongoing commitments, even if not scheduled at the same time as rehearsals, such as sporting commitments or involvement in other shows including school shows, should be noted on your audition form. If you are involved in another show please consider your ability to commit to Newsies Jr.

Learning at home

Rehearsals are times for practicing your parts with *other* cast. They are not meant to be times when you learn your parts. All parts, including songs, should be practiced and learnt at home so that cast are "off book" as soon as possible. Parental assistance with this aspect is appreciated.

Please note - the directing team are well known music, drama and dance teachers in the region. Being a student of one of the team does not guarantee you a role in this BYTESized production. Casting will be based on your performance and attitude at audition, and suitability for the role. An independent audition consultant will be present at auditions to ensure all casting is unbiased and fair. The cast size will be limited to a maximum of 70. While we would love to be able to cast everyone who auditions, we are restricted by the requirements of the show and resources to manage such a large cast. Please understand that if you are not cast in the show, it does not mean your audition was terrible. It just means we were not able to find a particular role for you this time based on our requirements and resources. Keep trying and it might happen next time.

Show fee

A show fee of \$120 is payable by all people cast in the show. This fee covers rehearsal materials (which can be kept by cast), show t shirt, video recording of show, insurance and other incidental costs. Some additional aspects of costume (eg theatre blacks, shoes, tights etc) may be required to be provided by cast members but these will be kept to a minimum. Discounts apply for multiple cast from one family and a payment plan is available if required.

Cast communications

Communications between the production team and cast will be via parents of children under 18, and with the cast member if they are 18. All communications will be via email and parents must commit to reading and responding to emails. Most communications will be via the producer of the show.