

NEWSIES

Detailed Instrumentation

DESCRIPTION OF SCORE:

NEWSIES is a contemporary and energetic theater musical with additional musical elements of 1970s rock and ragtime references (no improvisation required).

DETAILED INSTRUMENTATION BREAKDOWN:

REED: Requires a great all-purpose woodwind player. 30% Flute – many exposed solos, 5% Piccolo – rarely used, 25% Clarinet – standard show feel with some legit solos, 30% Soprano Sax – some period *Chicago*-ey stuff, some rock (no improvising), 10% Alto Sax.

TRUMPET: Demanding trumpet part, requiring great technique & stamina. 85% commercial lead trumpet part, requiring a great 1970s lead sound and ability to play in a variety of styles. One swing number. 15% beautiful classical chamber music/orchestral sound required. Very important mellifluous trumpet solo opens the show.

TROMBONE/BASS TROMBONE: Classical player not recommended for this chair. Requires a great commercial tenor trombone player who can play a small amount of bass trombone. 90% tenor trombone (trigger recommended), 10% bass trombone. Commercial section and big-band style, stylized early-jazz mute playing required, quasi-classical playing, and delicate mutework with reeds.

PERCUSSION: Schooled percussionist with a great commercial feel. Requires someone who plays with a high-spirited energy. Needs a strong mallet player with a good feel on congas and bongos as well. 45% Mallets (25% Xylophone, 15% Bells, 5% Chimes), 20% Congas & Bongos, 15% Timps (2 – 26" & 29"), 15% Field & Snare (10% Field, 5% Snare), 5% Toys (Wind Chimes & Triangle most predominant).

DRUM SET: Standard contemporary Broadway commercial drum part. Needs to read music and play in a variety of styles ranging from pop, rock, and jazz, with one swing number. Some complicated military-style snare material that requires great snare drum technique. Ability to follow a conductor.

GUITAR: Mix of single note lines and chords with slashes. 60% electric guitar Fender Stratocaster (mostly rhythm), some steel string, some nylon (melodic solos), and 2 songs on banjo. The banjo is tenor (4 string), and strumming (not finger-picking bluegrass). The steel string is predominantly strumming as well, doubles the bass at times, and has some pop/rock sections. One swing number on Archtop.

KEYBOARD 1: Standard contemporary Broadway piano part with some harp. Requires a pianist with great technique, ability to play in a variety of styles ranging from pop, light rock, ragtime/jazz, one swing number, and classical chamber music. Must have the ability to groove, but also play with rubato and follow a conductor.

KEYBOARD 2: Standard contemporary Broadway Keyboard 2 part with many different sounds. Player must be competent handling many patch and volume changes and have the ability to blend and phrase with live instruments. Requires the ability to follow a conductor. One very difficult repetitive rhythmic number ("The World Will Know") requires very strong technique and much practice.

VIOLIN: High register playing. Must be able to change styles of playing from "legit" to rock to ragtime. Requires good chamber music skills. One very difficult repetitive rhythmic number ("The World Will Know") requiring very strong technique and much practice.

CELLO: Exposed solos. Player must have the ability to read and play swing rhythms.

BASS GUITAR: Standard contemporary Broadway commercial bass part. Player needs to read music and play in a variety of styles ranging from pop, rock, and jazz, with one swing number. Must be able to follow a conductor.