



NEWSIES JR

SUMMER HOLIDAY ACADEMY

11th – 22nd August 2025, 9:30am-3:30pm

Calling all amazing wildcats aged 9-16, currently in Years 5 to 11! South Side Theatre Academy's Summer Holiday Academy returns for 2025 with an electric production of **Newsies JR** – Disney smash hit musical features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein.

Across 2 incredible weeks, you will work with our professional, cutting-edge create team to pull together this hit musical, ahead of 2 performances for friends and family at the amazing **ACT Theatre** in Kingston, fit with full costumes, set and lights!

You can check out our previous [Summer Holiday Academy productions here!](#)

Theatre For All

South Side Theatre Academy believe every young person should be able to access imaginative theatrical experiences. At South Side we aim to break down barriers and increase diversity in youth theatre through affordable access to exceptional training. We believe that every young person learns differently and therefore ensure every workshop or project is specially designed to allow every single individual young person to flourish, whilst having bags of fun!

HOW THE PROJECT WORKS?

Students will join us on day one on Monday 11th August 2025 at Tolworth United Reformed Church, Surbiton. That very morning, we will audition the students before casting (*see a further breakdown of the audition process below*). Once cast, students will get to work working with our amazing Creative Team, bringing the show to life.

When & Where?

Rehearsals will take place at Tolworth United Reformed Church from Monday 11th-Wednesday 20th August 2025.

We will then move into the ACT Theatre, Kingston from Thursday 21st -Friday 22nd August, for our tech and dress rehearsals and of course, performances!

Rehearsal Address: Tolworth United Reformed Church, Elgar Ave, Tolworth, Surbiton KT5 9JR

Show Venue Address: The ACT Theatre, Kingston Hall Rd, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2AQ

Auditions

Every young person signed up to the project will receive a part in the show, with every student given their moment to shine at some point during the performance.

On our first day, we will run the morning as an audition workshop. These are relaxed sessions where students will be taught a section of an ensemble song, a dance routine and do some scene work. Students will be given the opportunity to sing a solo if they would like to audition for a solo-singing role. Soloists will sing the taught ensemble song for their audition.

There is nothing to prepare for the audition. All audition material will be taught in the audition workshop. Students can through get ahead of the game by listening to the soundtrack before the audition day. Following the audition morning, we will cast the show and then get to work on rehearsals in the afternoon!

Please note casting will not be based on age. E.g. we will not only cast the older students in lead roles. For Newsies specifically, there are a couple of roles written for younger performers.

What to Wear?

Please wear trainers / dance shoes and comfortable clothes you can move in and bring plenty of water and any emergency medication you may need (inhalers, epi-pens etc).

Rehearsals

Please be aware: due to the limited timescale of this project, all participants are required to commit fully to all times and dates. Any conflicts must be discussed open and honestly when booking onto the project via email.

Rehearsals take place from 11th-22nd August 2025, running from 9:30am-3:30pm on weekdays only. On the 21st August 2024, students will be required from 9:30am-8:15pm, as this includes the shows and from 3pm on Friday 23rd August 2025 for a cast party, followed by our final show.

Please note rehearsal / performance times/locations are subject to change or alteration.

Remaining in Surbiton. Any changes will be communicated as soon as feasibly possible, but please ensure children are fully available for every day in the process. We are committed to the highest levels of safeguarding.

FEES

The cost for the project is £300, with an early bird price of £280 until the 1st May. This is approximately £5 per hour. You can pay this via our website here, where you will have the option to either pay in full or in monthly instalments.

Please note fees are non-refundable, unless the project is full, and your place can be filled.

KEEPING YOU SAFE

Your child's safety is the most important thing out of everything we do at South Side. We ensure that every class, project and production is run in a safe and secure environment. Safeguarding and health and safety is an essential part of all our teams training before working with any of our Young People. All South Side staff also have valid DBS certificates with class leaders all holding First Aid certificates and have extensive safeguarding training. South Side is overlooked by our Safeguarding Officer, Bethany Pease from Kingston Social Services (Achieving for Children).

We believe all young people should have access to the arts. At South Side we celebrate the individual and do not discriminate on the basis of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, or disability / impairment.

If you require any reasonable adjustments to take part in the Summer Holiday Academy, please contact us to discuss your needs and requirements.

WHAT'S THE SHOW ABOUT?

When powerful newspaper publishers raise prices at the newsboys' expense, the charismatic Jack Kelly rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions. Together, the newsies learn that they are stronger united and create a movement to fight for what's right. Including the now-classic songs "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," and "Santa Fe," Newsies JR. is a timeless story full of spirit and heart.

Got any questions? Email us at info@southsidetheatre.com

HOW TO BOOK MY PLACE?

To book your place visit our website at <http://www.southsidetheatre.com/summer-academy-2025> and click 'Book Your Place'.

We look forward to welcoming you this Summer Holidays!