

..... Previewing Guide for Sensory and Content Sensitive Patrons

Newsies

July 16 – August 16, 2026

Newsies is suitable for most theatre goers ages 8 and up. It contains some adult themes, mild language, brief staged violence, and one scene containing very mild innuendo.



Haze/Fog

Throughout the show, a water-based haze is used to diffuse the stage lights.



Audience Interaction

During the song “That’s Rich,” Medda Larkin the vaudeville star and theater owner sings and speaks directly to the audience as if they are the audience members in her theater.



Staged Violence

Throughout the show, there are multiple instances of stage violence. After the song “The World Will Know” which depicts a strike, there is a brawl that is depicted as violent, with officers and anti-union mercenaries using weapons like fists, sticks and clubs on the strikers to disperse them. During the brawl between the newsies and adults, an adult grabs Crutchie’s crutch, beats him with it, then drags Crutchie offstage by his ankle. *There are no actual weapons used on stage, and no actual harm is inflicted to actors portraying these scenes.*



Mild Language

Throughout the show, the newsies use mild profane language.



Depictions of Smoking and Drinking/ Use of a Prop Cigar

During the song “Carrying the Banner,” Race sings about how Albert stole his cigar, and Albert responds by singing he should just go steal another. During the song “The Bottom Line,” John Pulitzer and Seitz drink liquor from whiskey glasses. After the song “Never Planned on You/ Don’t Come A-Knocking,” Romeo says that Race traded his mother out for a box of cigars. During “King of New York,” Les says that Katherine saved them from “drowning in the drink.” Throughout the show, there are different characters that walk around with a cigar in their mouth. *No actual alcohol or cigars are used on stage.*



Sensitive Topics and Themes

Instances of Innuendo: In Act 1, Les stares at the Bowery Beauties who are vaudeville performers from Medda Larkin’s theater, and Medda talks about how their vaudeville costumes are “educational” for Les. Medda also makes mild innuendo jokes during the song “That’s Rich,” as well as at the very end of the show when talking to Governor Roosevelt.

Child Labor/Poverty: After the song “Carrying the Banner,” Jack talks about the orphanage called “The Refuge” that he escaped from and how the conditions are terrible because of the owner Snyder. Snyder abuses the children and pockets all the money that is given to take care of the orphanage. During the song “Letter From the Refuge,” Crutchie sings about how he hasn’t eaten anything since he has been in the orphanage and is surrounded by kids sleeping on the floor.

Physical Disability: At the top of the show, the character Crutchie is introduced, who has a bad leg and walks with a crutch. Jack talks to the character Crutchie about how Crutchie’s disability is a “gold mine” for selling papers. In the song “Carrying The Banner,” There are multiple instances in which Crutchie gets picked on for his disability by different newsies, the Delancey brothers, and cops pick him up and drop Crutchie off at the “The Refuge.”

Politics: Before the song “The Bottom Line,” Joseph Pulitzer says when talking about Governor Roosevelt “The man wants to outlaw football for being too violent. Football! Violent?! You’re right, he’s no socialist. He’s a commie!”