

## OLIVER CASTING

### **Oliver Twist** Male, 12 - 14

An orphaned workhouse boy. Bright, innocent, clever, and winning. Extremely loveable and kind-hearted with an air of vulnerability. Must have an unchanged voice and be well-spoken.

Strong top C, and up to E in Consider Yourself.

### **Artful Dodger** Male, 18+

To play 14-17. Very energetic, highly personable, quick-witted and savvy beyond his years. Fagin's right hand "man". Despite being raised in the gutter he puts on the airs and graces of one born with a silver spoon in his mouth. Must be dynamic singer/dancer with youthful energy and good comic timing. Cockney accent (which attempts to sound posh)

Dodger to be an unchanged voice too?!

Tenor/up to top E.

### **Fagin** Male, 30 - 50

A conniving, career criminal whose charm hides a cold heart; he takes in homeless boys and teaches them to pick pockets for him. A man of many dimensions, a leader, a vagrant, a father, a teacher, a lost soul and an eccentric. He can switch from grotesque to touchingly human in the blink of an eye. Must have excellent comedic timing and a strong baritone voice.

Needs to get a strong top F, but yes – essentially baritone.

### **Nancy** Female, 18 - 30

A young prostitute and one of Fagin's former child pickpockets. Bill Sykes' lover. She is devoted to him in spite of their abusive relationship. Takes a liking to Oliver and becomes something of a guardian. She possesses a drive for life despite the darkest circumstances. Raw, earthy, and street-smart. Despite her criminal lifestyle, she is among the noblest characters in the story. Strong singer with a powerful, raw

mezzo - low G to G/belt to C#/stronger lower range (A) needed.

Convincing Cockney accent.

### **Mr. Bumble** Male, 35 - 65

The self-righteous, self-appointed beadle, Mr. Bumble oversees the operations of the work house where Oliver lives as a child; he preaches Christian morality, but behaves without compassion towards the work house children in his care. Strong character actor with good comedy timing. vocal: strong tenor. Some of his songs could be placed in a higher or lower octave, but would sound better higher if possible, in which case he goes up to a top A.

### **Widow Corney** Female, 35-60

Mistress of the Workhouse, Sharp tongued widow. Brazen, corrupt, hypocritical, callous, and materialistic. After she marries Mr. Bumble, she hounds him mercilessly. Cockney accent.

Strong singer/actor. Vocal range: D to G - Soprano

### **Bill Sykes** Male, 25 - 40

A brutal, harsh, brutish, abusive man that always puts himself first. Nancy's worse half. Physically imposing and in his prime - in a rough, weathered sort of way.

Cockney accent. Baritone

### **Bet** Female, Teens/20s.

One of Fagin's former child pickpockets, now she's a prostitute. Idolises her friend, Nancy. Strong singer / actor / mover. Vocal range - Ab to E - mezzo

**Mr. Sowerberry** Male, 30-45

The undertaker obsessed with his profession. He excitedly takes Oliver from Mr. Bumble to work in the funeral home as a coffin follower. He is cold and insensitive. Henpecked by his wife. Should be slightly ghoulish in appearance. [Baritone](#)

**Mrs. Sowerberry** Female, 35-45

The undertaker's wife. More business savvy than her husband. Mean, judgmental woman who henpecks her husband. Suitably grotesque in personality, with delusions of grandeur.

[Strong singer/actor. Vocal range: C to F, with a strong high C. Soprano](#)

**Mrs. Bedwin**

Female, 25 - 40

A housekeeper. Middle class accent. Works for Mr. Brownlow. Warm personality. [Light soprano](#)

**ADULT ENSEMBLE**

Should be strong, enthusiastic singers and movers.

**Mr. Brownlow** Male, 40 - 65

Oliver's grandfather. An upper-middle class gentleman. A kind man of wealth and good-breeding. A well-off, erudite gentleman who serves as Oliver's first benefactor. He behaves with compassion and common sense. Strong actor.

**Charlotte** Female, 18-25

The Sowerberry's daughter. A flirtatious, promiscuous young girl who is attracted to Noah Claypole. Has no sympathy for Oliver, very self consumed.

**Noah Claypole** Male 18 +

A charity boy and Mr. Sowerberry's apprentice. Noah is a pimply, overgrown, cowardly bully who mistreats Oliver. Strong actor.

**Dr Grimwig** Male, 30+

A doctor. Upper class, Pessimistic, curmudgeonly friend of Mr. Brownlow. Dr. Grimwig is essentially good-hearted, and his pessimism is mostly just a provocative character quirk. Struggles to make the right diagnoses.

**Old Sally** Female, 60's / 70's

An elderly pauper who serves as the nurse at Oliver's birth. Old Sally steals Agnes's gold locket, the only clue to Oliver's identity. Her crime eats away at her throughout her life until she finally confesses to the Bumbles.

**CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE**

Orphans/Fagin's Gang, 40 children and teens needed to play orphans and members of Fagin's pickpocket gang. Need to be able to sing and move. Age range: 11 - 16. Boys and girls encouraged to apply!