

# Costume Packet for



With such a large cast (over 100!), it would be impossible for Pierce Players to design and provide all the costumes needed for the show, so we need your help! The following pages detail what you need for your costume. In most cases you will be asked to provide the entire costume. Other times, Pierce Players will be providing certain items for you (custom made pieces or “tough to find” items.)

## Contact Info:

We do not have a full “costume designer” for this show. Instead, certain responsibilities will be divided up.

Update: Mrs. McKay's prefers to text

- If you have a question about a costume that is being made for you, please contact/correspond with **Susan McKay** at [susanmckay2@gmail.com](mailto:susanmckay2@gmail.com) **781-844-9582**
- If you have questions about costume pieces you are providing for yourself, please contact Mr. Deschenes at [wdeschenes@miltonps.org](mailto:wdeschenes@miltonps.org), Ms. Haddad at [mhaddad@miltonps.org](mailto:mhaddad@miltonps.org), or Ms. Okoh at [dokoh@miltonps.org](mailto:dokoh@miltonps.org). The three of us will be overseeing the Costume Check Meetings.

## Timeline:

Your costume should be in-hand and ready to try on at the first **Costume Check Meeting on Tuesday, April 11**. Attendance is mandatory. This gives you ONE MONTH to put together your costume, so **START RIGHT AWAY**. If you plan to order anything, please make sure you're allowing for shipping time.

We then have a second **Costume Check Meeting on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** for anyone who had unresolved costume issues from the first meeting.

For our **first Dress Rehearsal on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**. All costume pieces and accessories needed.

## A Quick Note:

Please make sure that your clothes **FIT YOU WELL** and that they are in the **APPROPRIATE PERIOD**. Anything that has modern logos or looks to be in a modern style will not be permitted.

**Time Period for NEWSIES:** 1899 in New York City

## Needs for specific characters:

### NEWSIES (Featured AND Ensemble)

**Shirt Options**—collared dress shirt or flannel (solid, striped, or plaid) or knit Henley

**Pants Options**—long pants (make sure they are dress pant style) or knickers at mid calf (these can be made easily from pants); solids, stripes and plaids are all great.

**Shoes**—must look like a period shoe or boot, no sneakers; also make sure they are good to dance in

**Socks**—colored socks, argyle or stripes are definitely okay; no white socks

**Hat**—newsboy or bakerboy cap

**Optional Accessories**—PLEASE consider adding these to put the finishing touches on your costume: **Vest, wool sportcoat, suspenders, bowtie, neckerchief, an undershirt (not white) for layering and contrast**

**Colors**—Please limit your colors to grays, brown, blacks, and muted tones. Some other colors are fine as long as they are subtle. No white, please. We are reserving certain colors for particular characters.

**JACK**—see above except, we need you in a medium blue dress shirt or blue plaid, with suspenders and a vest, and long pants

**DAVEY**—same as above we would like you looking a little more middle class—a dress shirt and bowtie with a plaid vest and long pants

**LES**—same as above but a dress shirt with suspenders and knickers

**SPOT CONLON**—same as above but with a red shirt

**FEMALE NEWSIES**—feel free swap pants/knickers out for a skirt or dress, if you like





**KATHERINE**—Mrs. McKay will be making most of your costume. You will need to provide appropriate boots and hose.

**DARCY and BILL**—dress shirt and bowtie, wool sportcoat, dresspants, shoes and socks, fedora hat (grays, olive, browns—tweeds, plaids, stripes are all okay)

**DOROTHY**—Period dress with jacket—Mrs. McKay might be able to help!

**MEDDA and BOWERY BRIGADE**—Mrs. McKay will be making most of your costumes. You will need to provide appropriate footwear and hose.

**PAT**—white dress shirt with bowtie, suspenders, dress pants (loud plaid would be amazing!), socks and shoes. We will provide you with armbands and a skimmer hat.

**PULITZER, SEITZ & BUNSEN**—white wing-tip collar tux shirt (very important that it fits well!), black, gray, charcoal dress pants (striped or solid), black socks, black dress shoes. Pierce Players will provide you with a tailcoat, vest and ascot.

**HANNAH**—~~full, floor-length black or charcoal wool skirt~~, white blouse with high collar with ruffle or lace, black shoes, hose. Mrs. McKay will provide a jacket or vest along with a brooch or tie. Pierce Players will also provide the skirt.

**WIESEL**—off-white dress shirt, neck tie, vest, brown pants, porkpie hat, brown socks, shoes

**OSCAR & MORRIS**—dress shirt, undershirt, suspenders, dress pants, porkpie hat, socks, shoes

**SNYDER**—white dress shirt, necktie, dark suit (or sportcoat and pants), vest, socks, dress shoes, porkpie hat; Pierce Players can provide an overcoat

**POLICE OFFICERS**—white dress shirt, black dress pants, black socks, black shoes; Pierce Players will provide uniform jacket and hat

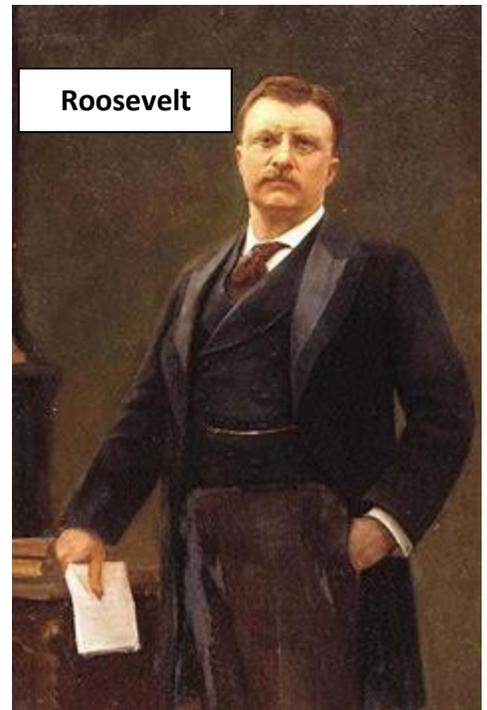
**WOMAN**—Pierce Players will provide long overcoat and hat to wear over existing costume

**ROOSEVELT**—White dress shirt, burgundy necktie, charcoal dress pants, grey striped vest, black socks, black dress shoes; Pierce Players will provide tailcoat and mustache and glasses

**OTHER ADULTS**—(Passersby on street or patrons at Medda's theater)—feel free to get an adult costume if you like, but you might be able to get away with adding a long coat and hat to your existing costume. See us for help, if needed.

**NOTE: Some characters will require wigs (Katherine, Medda, Hannah?) and facial hair (Pulitzer, Roosevelt, Weisel?)  
Pierce Players will provide those items.**

**Other Costuming Images for Inspiration:**



Porkpie Hat



## Sourcing Your Costume

There is a lot of places that you can look for the costume pieces that you need. Here are a few ideas of places you can check:

- Your own closet. Many of the items needed for the show are still relevant today (button down shirts, full skirts, dress pants, etc.) Check to see if they meet the same type of silhouettes we're looking for.
- Raid a family member's closet. Grandparents and others their age might still have some clothing items like this squirreled away.
- Thrift stores are a great place to look. Go to Savers, Goodwill, Salvation Army stores for great deals
- Online –
  - If you are buying online, please make sure that you get it in a window that would still be returnable come the costume check day (see the rehearsal schedule and count out what is typically thirty days).
  - Please note: Do NOT go to Amazon and buy the first full "Newsies" costume you find because, chances are others will do the same thing. Duplicate costumes will not be permitted. Sorry!
- Sew your own/have someone sew it for you. This is a great way to get a unique costume all your own, and you can know that it will fit you.

***IMPORTANT--IF YOU ARE PURCHASING AN ITEM, PLEASE MAKE SURE IT IS RETURNABLE! (Just in case!)***

Please, remember that you DO NOT have to spend a lot of money on your costume, nor do we want you to! With a little planning and creative sourcing, you can create a fantastic costume. If you need help, please contact us EARLY ON. Please do not wait until the last minute to reach out for assistance. 😊

### **A few other tips:**

On Youtube, you can find a tutorial on how to turn pants into knickers.

Buying costume items online is fine, but thrift stores are going to be a tremendous way to find unique items for your costume. We highly recommend THRIFTING for your costume! :)