

OLIVER! CAST OF CHARACTERS

- Below is a breakdown of the cast and recommended ages of the characters. There are plenty of Chorus roles with lines and singing solos. Vocal ranges are approximate.
- A note about stage ages: Your stage age is NOT your actual age, but the age you appear on the stage.
- A note about accents: The roles of Oliver, Mr. Brownlow, Dr. Grimwig and Mrs. Bedwin will speak with a “Posh” accent. All other roles will speak with a “Cockney” accent. Those auditioning will be expected to speak with a Cockney or Posh accent (or both). YouTube is a good resource for help with these two accents.

OLIVER TWIST _____ Stage age 8-10. Vocal range A3/F5

Orphaned and abandoned from an upper-class family, Oliver ends up in the workhouse. He is innocent and good-hearted, with a strong spirit.

Tip: The actor must have strong ability to convey real emotions.

ARTFUL DOGER _____ Stage age 12. Vocal range A3/F5

The cleverest of Fagin's pickpockets, he introduces Fagin to Oliver. He is a good soul in spite of his “occupation.” Dodger is lively and self-assured.

Tip: The actor must have a dynamic stage presence

FAGIN _____ Stage age 60s. Vocal range Baritone or Tenor B3/Fb5

A conniving career criminal and conman. He takes in homeless children and teaches them to pick pockets for him.

Tip: The actor must have strong ability to convey a man of many dimensions: a leader, a vagrant, a father, a teacher, a lost soul and an eccentric.

NANCY _____ Stage age 17. Vocal range Alto E3/B4

A graduate of Fagin's “school of thieves” and tragically involved in an abusive relationship with Bill Sikes. She is a career thief, hardened and streetwise beyond her years, but also intelligent, caring and good-hearted. She longs for a better life. A mother figure to Fagin's gang.

Tip: The actor must have strong ability to convey real emotions.

BILL SIKES _____ Stage age 35. Vocal range Bass C#3/C4

Perhaps the most infamous graduate from Fagin's gang. Nancy's brutal and abusive boyfriend.

Tip: The actor must be fearsome.

BET _____ Stage age 9. Vocal range C4/C5

One of Fagin's former pickpockets. Nancy's sister. Bet looks up to Nancy and is caring and good-natured.

Tip: The actor must be able to portray her devotion to Nancy

MR. BUMBLE _____ Stage age 50. Vocal range Baritone C3/A4

The domineering Beadle (a minor official who carries out various civil, educational or ceremonial duties) who runs the workhouse. Pompous and self-absorbed, greedy and uncaring. He preaches Christian morality, but behaves without compassion towards the paupers in his care.

Tip: The actor must be able to be pompous and appear to over-power the other characters on stage. Good comedic timing.

WIDOW CORNEY _____ Stage age 50. Vocal range Soprano C4/E5

The sharp-tongued, domineering matron of the workhouse. A widow, she will do anything to get Mr. Bumble's attention.

Tip: A comical role.

MR. SOWERBERRY _____ Stage age 40. Vocal range Baritone Bb3/F4

The Undertaker. Lives up to his name. He is stingy and ruled by his wife. Slimy.

Tip: Good comedic timing.

MRS. SOWERBERRY _____ Stage age 40. Vocal range Alto or Soprano Bb4/F5

The Undertaker's wife. She rules the roost and is stingy and mean-spirited. Along with her husband, she provides some comic relief.

Tip: Good comedic timing.

MRS. BEDWIN _____ Stage age 55-60. Vocal range Alto C4/Bb5
The Brownlow's housekeeper. She cares for everything and everyone and is wise and kind-hearted.
Tip: Motherly and kind.

CHARLEY BATES _____ Stage age 10-12, non-singing role
One of Fagin's pickpockets. He is Dodger's sidekick.
Tip: Strong in reacting to scenes.

CHARLOTTE _____ Stage age 11-13, non-singing role
The rude but also flirtatious daughter of the Sowerberrys.
Tip: Her focus is solely on Noah Claypole

NOAH CLAYPOLE _____ Stage age 11-13, non-singing role
The Sowerberrys' apprentice, he bullies Oliver about his mother and enjoys a flirty relationship with Charlotte. A downright bully.
Tip: Is jealous of Oliver possibly taking over his position

MR. BROWNLOW _____ Stage age 45-50, non-singing role
A distinguished older gentleman of wealth and breeding.
Tip: The actor must be able to convey authority with gentleness and compassion.

DR. GRIMWIG _____ Stage age 45-50, non-singing role
A silly doctor who thinks he knows more than he actually does.
Tip: Good comedic timing.

OLD SALLY _____ Stage age 70-80, non-singing role
A pauper with an important secret.
Tip: The actor must be able to convey a frail and old woman.

MATRON _____ Stage age 60-70, non-singing role
A friend of Old Sally's. Works in the Workhouse.
Tip: Must be able to convey concern.

CHAIRMAN AND GOVERNORS _____ Stage age 60s

- All vocal ranges – you will have song lines in “Oliver” and chorus songs.

WORKHOUSE CHORUS _____ Stage age 8-10

- Orphans, abandoned children and pickpockets. Some will double as Town's kids.

FAGIN'S KIDS CHORUS _____ Stage age 10-13

- Orphans, abandoned children and pickpockets.

TOWNSPEOPLE CHORUSES: POSH (Upper Class) and COCKNEY (Lower Class)
Stage age 16 and up, all vocal ranges

- Workhouse assistants, street vendors, townspeople, merchants, bar keepers, pub patrons, policemen, night watchman. Some individual lines. Singing and dancing in ensemble numbers.

“Who Will Buy” featured Soloists

- **THE ROSE SELLER** (mezzo - D3/C5)
- **STRAWBERRY SELLER** (soprano - Eb4/Eb5)
- **MILK MAID** (soprano - Eb4/F5)
- **KNIFE GRINDER** (baritone - Bb3/C4)