

Annie, Jr. Character Breakdown

Annie (Girl, 10 to 12 years old)

Annie is the heart of the show: tough, optimistic, independent, and deeply caring. Though she has endured a difficult life in Miss Hannigan's orphanage, Annie never loses hope that her parents will someday return for her. This role requires a strong young actress with excellent vocal projection, emotional depth, and natural charisma.

Orphans (Girls, 7 to 13 years old)

Molly, Tessie, July, Duffy, Kate, and Pepper. These girls are gritty, neglected and vulnerable, yet basically honest and potentially lovable. The actors portraying them must be able to have mischievous fun with each other as well as "sibling-style" fights.

Orphan Ensemble (Girls, 7 to 13 years old)

Other girls who live in the orphanage. These roles provide wonderful opportunities for young actresses to create distinct personalities while performing energetic ensemble numbers and comedic moments.

Miss Hannigan (Girl, 12 to 16 years old)

This woman is definitely a "has-been." Her distaste for her job and the children that are part of it should be obvious in every line she speaks, every song she sings, and every move she makes. The student who plays her must have an excellent sense of comic timing. The acrid delivery of her lines and the torch-like rendition of her songs must distinguish her from the other characters in the show.

Grace Farrell (Girl, 11 to 16 years old)

Grace is mature, calm, cool, and "together." She is classy and businesslike when dealing with Miss Hannigan and Warbucks, yet maternal toward Annie. The student playing Grace can set herself apart from the other characters simply by the sophisticated way she walks. Grace should seem ready with an answer for just about anything. Each dramatic situation should seem to come "under control" the moment she glides into a scene.

Oliver Warbucks (Boy, 11 to 16 years old)

He must appear middle-aged, self-assured and confident. At first awkwardly affectionate toward Annie, he soon finds himself completely charmed by her. He begins his transformation when he views "N.Y.C." through Annie's eyes and falls in love with the city again...and with her. The student who plays Warbucks will need to be extremely focused throughout the show. His posture, walk, and speech patterns are very important.

Rooster (Boy, 10 to 16 years old)

Rooster and Lily are quite the team -- "team" being the operative word, as the characters play off each other constantly. Rooster is flashy and self-assured. His "moves" should be as smooth as a gambler's, as should be the message he sells in "Easy Street."

Lily (Girl, 10 to 16 years old)

Rooster and Lily are quite the team -- "team" being the operative word, as the characters play off each other constantly. Lily is always distracted, although she manages to pick up on any conversation involving money. She never acts as the leader, always bringing up the rear while tripping over her own feet (it is difficult to walk and check your makeup in a compact at the same time).

Sandy (Any Gender, 7 to 10 years old)

In this production, Sandy is played by a human. Sandy is Annie's canine friend and scrappy in her own right. This dog also has to sing.

Servants (Any Gender, All Ages):

Cecille (French maid), Annette (French maid), Drake (English butler), Mrs. Greer (housekeeper), Mrs. Pugh (cook), Chauffer

From the moment these characters enter the acting area, their presence, posture and speech should suggest the most fastidious of domestic help. Their heads are always held high and they rarely show their emotions.

Ensemble Roles (Any Gender, All Ages):

NYC Pedestrians/Ushers/Usherettes

Officer Ward, Bundles (laundry man), Louis Howe, Apple Seller, Dogcatcher, Bert Healy (Radio Announcer)