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Students Awarded Scholarship To New Stage Theatre Broadway Intensive Day Camp 2026

JACKSON—New Stage Theatre announces its Broadway Junior Summer Camp Intensive for rising 6th – 12th grades culminating in performances of High School Musical, JR**.** Five full tuition scholarships and fifteen partial tuition scholarship were awarded helping Mississippi students attend the camp who would otherwise not have a chance. Scholarships were based on an audition, letters of recommendation, and an essay written by the potential recipient.

Students receiving scholarships to attend the 2026 Broadway Junior Summer Camp Intensive are: Brooklyn Bailey (Jackson), Iyanu Carson (Jackson), Emma Carter (Madison), Bella Glenn (Brandon),Taijha Hackett (Clinton), Zoey Hall (Florence) Ethan Hartfield (Flowood), Reginald Jefferson (Jackson), Zola Lenoir (Jackson), Ruby Martindale (Clinton), Pace Rundlett (Clinton), Brantley Shields (Jackson), Ja'myah Smith (Clinton), Olivia Stewart (Jackson), Kayliegh Summers (Jackson), Swayzie Vaught (Jackson), Corban Welchlin (Jackson), Emma Williams (Jackson), Naomi Willis (Flowood), and Ella Young (Jackson)!

The New Stage Theatre Arts-in-Education department strives to bring professional, progressive acting instruction to youth throughout Mississippi with its summer camps, yearlong acting classes and touring workshops. The Broadway Junior Summer Camp Intensive provides a comprehensive theatrical learning experience for ages 11-18.

"Education is an integral part of our organization's mission and the Broadway Junior camp is one of the most exciting times around the theatre," said artistic director Francine Thomas Reynolds. "It is awesome to witness eighty young people from both private and public schools; from so many of the Metro area communities, participating in dance, voice, acting, and stagecraft classes together. Not only are the students experiencing the best theatre education and training available in the state of Mississippi, they are learning important life-long skills such as problem-solving, self-confidence and teamwork."

Generous sponsorship for the summer program and the production is provided by The Walker Foundation, and the Field Co-Operative, Inc.

From June 8 to July 12, 2026, campers received daily theatrical instruction from experienced acting, dance, and voice teachers, as well as taking master classes in stage combat, voice/diction, directing, dance, and storytelling. Additionally, the students integrated what they learned in the classroom into the final production of ***High School Musical, JR.*** The performances were July 9 - 12 at New Stage Theatre and all participants in the camp were cast in the play.

For more information on the New Stage Theatre Education Programs, please contact (601) 948-3533 ext 232 or education@newstagetheatre.com.



Back row (L to R): Zoey Hall Iyanu Carson, Reginald Jefferson, Ella Young, Kayliegh Summers, Ethan Hartfield, Bella Glenn, Olivia Stewart

Front row (L to R): Zola Lenoir, Taijha Hackett, Ja'myah Smith, Emma Williams, Swayzie Vaught, Ruby Martindale, Pace Rundlett

Not pictured: Brooklyn Bailey, Brantley Shields, Naomi Willis, Corban Welchlin

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