

New Stage Theatre, Mississippi's professional theatre located in Jackson, is seeking actors for its upcoming production of the musical *Ragtime*.

A SWEEPING MUSICAL PORTRAIT OF AMERICA



It's the dawn of the 20th Century in New York... a time of enormous change, of new ideas, and everyone is moving to the music of ragtime. This epic Tony Award winning musical depicts the struggles, successes, hopes and dreams of a white, upper-middle class family in New Rochelle, an African-American musician and his girlfriend in Harlem, and a Jewish immigrant and his daughter on the Lower East Side. Interwoven with their stories are the newsmakers of the era including Harry Houdini, Booker T. Washington, J.P. Morgan and Henry Ford. Presenting a scaled down this originally massive musical into an intimate, innovative, highly theatrical production that, in today's world, resonates to the very heart.

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Rehearsals begin on May 5, 2026. The show opens on May 26 and plays until June 7 or June 14, 2026.

Casting is currently ongoing for all characters in the musical. Seeking AEA (SEA-Category 2- Tier C) and non-union actors. Travel, housing and per diem included for out of state artists. If you would like to submit for the production, **please send picture and resume to submissions@newstagetheatre.com and put the name of the character you wish to be considered for and where you live in the subject line. Please video 30-45 seconds of a song in the style of the show and send as a link.** The deadline for submissions in January 26, 2026.

New Stage Theatre is committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.

Actors of all backgrounds are strongly encouraged to submit their information.

Character Breakdown

MEN:

Coalhouse Walker, Jr: African-American male. 25-35 (baritone G2-A4). A ragtime pianist; proud, confident, stubborn, and a strong believer in justice.

Father: Anglo-American male. 40+ (baritone A2-F4). An Arctic explorer who returns to a changed world he can't seem to understand.

Mother's Younger Brother: Anglo-American male. 20-25+ (bari-tenor B2-F#4). A passionate lover and anarchist; intense and high-strung.

Tateh: Eastern European/Jewish/Latvian-American male. 30+, slight accent (tenor Bb2-F#4). Optimistic, intelligent, passionate, creative, charismatic.

Grandfather: Anglo-American male. 55+ (baritone). Mother's father. Gruff & outspoken.

Booker T. Washington: African-American male. 45+ (baritone D3-Eb4). Distinguished, polished, and articulate.

Henry Ford: Anglo-American male. 30-45 (some "speak sung" lyrics, baritone). Folksy, arrogant innovator and industrialist.

JP Morgan: Anglo-American male. 45+ (some "speak sung" lyrics, baritone). A pompous, wealthy banking mogul

Harry Houdini: Originally from Hungary, male. 30s (tenor E3-G4). Magician/bodybuilder who embodies immigrant success.

WOMEN:

Sarah: African-American female. Early 20's (lyric soprano G#3-F#5). Young, passionate, naïve, strong-willed.

Mother: Anglo-American female. 30s (alto G#3-F#5). Gentle, elegant, compassionate, optimistic, and open to change.

Emma Goldman: Originally from Russia, female. 40s, slight accent. (alto B3-D5). A passionate leader who crusades for the underprivileged masses.

Evelyn Nesbit: Anglo-American female. 20s (belter/soprano B3-D5). Vaudevillian performer, sexy and incredibly smart.

Sarah's Friend: African-American female. Late teens - 30. (Gospel soprano G3 to stratosphere)

YOUTH:

Little Boy: Anglo-American male. 10-12. Voice has not changed yet. An earnest boy who has grown up in privilege. Open hearted to people that are different from him and has the precocious innocence of youth.

Little Girl: Eastern European/Jewish/Latvian-American female. 10-12 (Mezzo/Soprano) Tateh's daughter. Her arrival in America is marked by sickness and hunger. She is scared of her new surroundings and loyal to her father, her only living relative

Young Coalhouse Jr: African-American. 4-6. Innocent and pure. Son of Coalhouse and Sarah. This role appears briefly at the end of the play and has no lines or songs

Ensemble: Adult and youth (7-17), male and female. All types. Most Actors will play more than one role and supporting roles include Admiral Perry, Stanford White, Harry K. Thaw, Willie Conklin (the racist firefighter), Judge, train conductor, people of New Rochelle/Harlem/Union Square, Jewish immigrants, factory workers, demonstrators, newsboys, reporters, bureaucrats, Coalhouse's Men, and numerous other ensemble roles.

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