

Footlights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

Kentwood Players presents



Book by Terrence McNally Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens Music by Stephen Flaherty
Based on the novel, Ragtime, by E.L. Doctorow

Directed by Susan Goldman Weisbarth
Musical Direction by Bill Wolfe
Choreography by Victoria Miller
Produced by Margie Bates and Gail Bernardi

March 15 - April 20, 2013

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Westchester Playhouse, 8301 Hindry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA
Reservations (310) 645-5156

Willie Conklin/Ensemble.....	Spencer Johnson
Little Girl	Karen E. Kolkey
Grandfather	George Kondreck
Evelyn Nesbitt.....	Amanda Majkrzak
Tateh	Bradley Miller
Father	Rocky Miller
Henson/Ensemble	J. Paul Myers
Newsboy/Ensemble.....	Fiona Okida
Ensemble.....	Roy T. Okida
Ensemble.....	James Olivas
Chorine/Ensemble.....	Michelle M. Pedersen
Booker T. Washington	Darryl Maximilian Robinson
Houdini's Mother/Ensemble	Judy Rosenfeld
Younger Brother	Slater Ross
Chorine/Ensemble.....	Megan Ruble
Admiral Peary/Judge/Ensemble.....	Bruce Schroffel
Coalhouse Walker, Jr.	Deus Xavier Scott
Mother.....	Jennifer Sperry
Newsboy/Ensemble.....	Hollister Starrett
Ensemble/understudy for Younger Brother	Christopher Stefanic
Kathleen/Ensemble	Jessica D. Stone
Ensemble.....	Courtney L. Williams
Ensemble.....	Ja'von Willis
Ensemble.....	Marcus Alan Wynn

Musicians

Conductor, Keyboards	Bill Wolfe
Keyboard.....	Danny Gledhill
Flute, Piccolo, Violin	Coleen Okida
Clarinet, Oboe	Jon Stehney
Trumpet.....	Gabe Garnett
Percussion	Patrick Okonski

RAGTIME

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)
 All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019
 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax:212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com
 The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Synopsis of Scenes and Musical Numbers

Act One

Prologue	Entire Company
Goodbye My Love	Mother
Journey On	Father, Mother, Tateh
Crime of the Century.....	Evelyn Nesbit, Sob Sisters, Chorine, Judge and Jurors, Younger Brother
What Kind of Woman	Mother
A Shtetl Iz Amereke	Tateh, Little Girl, Immigrant Ensemble
Success
His Name Was Coalhouse Walker	Harlem Ensemble
Gettin' Ready Rag.....	Coalhouse Walker Jr, Harlem Ensemble
Henry Ford	Henry Ford, Assembly line workers
Nothing Like the City.....	Mother, Little Boy, Tateh, Little Girl
Your Daddy's Son.....	Sarah
The Courtship.....	Coalhouse, Mother, Grandfather, New Rochelle Ensemble, Younger Brother, Little Boy
New Music	Father, Mother, Younger Brother, New Rochelle Ensemble, Coalhouse, Sarah
Wheels of a Dream.....	Coalhouse, Sarah
The Night That Goldman Spoke	Younger Brother, Emma Goldman, Strikers, Immigrant Ensemble
Gliding.....	Tateh and Little Girl
Justice.....	Coalhouse, Harlem Ensemble, Mother, Sarah
President.....	Sarah, JPMorgan, Various Ensemble
Till We Reach That Day.....	Sarah's Friend, Tateh, Mother, Coalhouse, Emma, Younger Brother, Entire Ensemble

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.
 Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

Act Two

Coalhouse's Soliloquy.....	Coalhouse
Coalhouse Demands	Coalhouse, Entire Ensemble
What a Game.....	Father, Little Boy, Ensemble
Atlantic City	Vacationers, Harry Houdini and Evelyn Nesbit
Buffalo Nickel Photoplay Inc.....	Baron Ashkenazy (Tateh), Vacationers,
Our Children.....	Mother, Tateh, Little Boy, Little Girl
Sarah Brown Eyes	Coalhouse and Sarah
He Wanted To Say	Emma, Younger Brother, Coalhouse, Coalhouse's Men
Back To Before	Mother, Ensemble Women
Look What You've Done	Booker T. Washington, Conklin, Whitman, Father, Harlem Women, Sarah
Make Them Hear You.....	Coalhouse
Epilogue	Entire Company

About the Cast



Greg Abbott (Henry Ford/Ensemble) – After a two year absence from the Kentwood stage during which he performed rare non-musical roles, Frederick in *Enchanted April* and the Judge in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Greg returns to performing at Kentwood, where he has previously appeared as Marryin’ Sam in *Li’l Abner*, Bert Healy in *Annie*, Herman in *The Most Happy Fella*, Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks*, Morty in *Little Green Men*, Rev. Crisparkle in *Drood*, and Theodore Whitman in *Follies*. Other favorites include Nicely Nicely in *Guys and Dolls*, Oscar in *Sweet Charity*, Pseudolus in *Forum*, Hines in *The Pajama Game*, Charlie Davenport in *Annie Get Your Gun*, Sipos in *She Loves Me*, and The First Gangster in *Kiss Me Kate*.



Jeannine Barba (Sob Sister/Ensemble) – Jeannine is excited to re-join her talented Kentwood friends in her third production of *Ragtime*. You may remember her as Miss Electra in *Gypsy*. Jeannine has a regional career with theaters such as CLO of SBC, Musical Theatre West, Theater League, The Norris, Torrance Theater Co, Huntington Beach Playhouse, TAP, Broadway in the Park, POPS, Newport Theater Arts Center. Favorite roles include; Adelaide in *G&D*, Ulla in *Producers*, Martha Watson in *White Christmas* Gladys in *Pajama Game*, Domina in *Forum*, Frauline Kost in *Cabaret*. Jeannine also performs at El Camino College, where she is an instructor.



Heather Barnett (Chorine/Ensemble) – Heather Barnett is a native of Southern Illinois. She is thrilled to be back on stage at The Westchester Playhouse. Some of her favorite roles have included Sister James in Kentwood Players’ production of *Doubt*, Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and Shelby in *Steel Magnolias*. Enjoy the show!!!



Erika Brauer (Sob Sister/Ensemble) – *Ragtime* is Erika’s second production with Kentwood; she performed in last year’s *Oliver!* as the Milkmaid. Her past credits include *Annie*, *The Music Man*, and *Oklahoma!*. She has performed with Santa Monica College’s Chamber Choir, Jazz Choir, Concert Chorale, and Musical Theater Workshop over the course of three and a half years. Aside from performing, Erika also has a passion for Cosmetology, a skill she is now honing at SMC Cosmetology School. A big thank you to the production team, and enjoy the show.



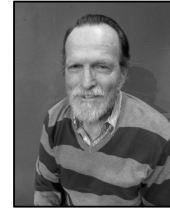
Johanna Rose Burwell (Sarah) – Johanna Rose Burwell is making her musical debut on the west coast after moving from North Carolina in September. She has been in numerous other musicals back east and looks forward to a long career on the stage and screen. Thanks to her family for their unrelenting support and for trusting her decisions. Thanks to the Universe for matching her passion to her talent.



Jacquelyn Carr (Sob Sister/Ensemble) – Jackie is thrilled to be joining the ranks of Kentwood Players for one of her all-time favorite shows. *Ragtime* marks her return to the stage after an 8 year respite. She has a BFA in Film Production and a BA in Theater Directing & Performance from Emerson College in Boston, MA. She thanks all her wonderful friends and family for encouraging her to get back on stage!



Joanna Churgin (Emma Goldman) – So fortunate am I to be returning to the Kentwood stage and working with the wonderful cast of *Ragtime*. Shows I have appeared in at this theatre are *The Allergist's Wife*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Farmdale Mysteries* and, most recently, *Doubt*. Some favorite roles I have performed in at other venues include Kate in *All My Sons*, Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Sister Mary in *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*, Frauline Schneider in *Cabaret* and the Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd*. None of this means anything without Dylan, Matthew and Steve.



Jim Crawford (Vice Presidential Candidate/Ensemble) – *Ragtime* is Kentwood's 100th production since Sheridan Cole introduced Jim to KP, and Jim has worked on 68 of them in various capacities. Never one to speak up in a group and also a complete novice to theater, this is Jim's fourteenth role on stage and each of which continues to make his mother amazed and exceptionally proud!



Sheridan Cole Crawford (Brigit/Ensemble) – Sheridan is privileged to be a part of this moving show and experience the inspiring music, ideals and American history all in one musical. She has appeared on Kentwood's stage in *Gypsy*, *Follies* and *Romantic Comedy*, among others, and has also directed several shows, the most recent being *Rabbit Hole*. She welcomes to Kentwood the many new talented singers and actors in *Ragtime!*



Jacqueline Crist-Franzen (Sob Sister/Ensemble) – Jacqueline has performed for Kentwood Players in *A Little Night Music* and *Candide*. More recently, she portrayed the role of Mother Abbess in the Cypress College production of *The Sound Of Music*. Jacqueline has sung in nearly one hundred professional operatic productions and concerts, most of them for Opera Pacific and Long Beach Opera. Besides music, she has also studied acting, performing lead roles - and has even been an extra in a Spielberg Movie! Jacqueline agrees with Betty White and Bob Barker by asking you to please spay or neuter your pets! Adopt a pet!



Terry Delegeane (Policeman/Ensemble) – Terry has appeared in numerous musicals, including *Sweet Charity*, *Carousel*, *Henry*, *Sweet Henry*, *Little Mary Sunshine*, *Oklahoma!*, *A Winter's Tale*, and *Into the Woods...* but that was at least twenty years ago. He’s delighted to be back on the stage (for the first time with the Kentwood Players) and grateful to his family for letting him out of the house at night to play some *Ragtime*.



Ruth Andrea Featherstone (Sarah's Friend/Ensemble) – Psalmist Ruth Andrea Featherstone, “God’s Ram Horn”, sounding the trumpet in Zion, is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In her hometown, she is noted for being this generation’s “Mahalia Jackson.” She received her vocal training from Pittsburgh’s Center for Musically Talented Students and Fillion School of Music. Her stage and television list of credits includes, *I Have A Dream*, *Freedom Fighters*, *Precious Lord*, *Seven Heaven*, and the *Bobby Jones Gospel Explosion*. Ruth’s purpose in life is to give God the highest praise, lift up the name of Jesus, encourage the Redeemed Ones, and evangelize the world through songs.



Martin Feldman (J.P. Morgan/Ensemble) – Recently seen as Mr. Bumble in *Oliver*, Martin is thrilled to be back at Kentwood for this musical adventure called *Ragtime*. Other Kentwood credits include *Parade*, *Annie* and *As You Like It*, as well as Musical Director for the past few Kentwood Kids productions. Many thanks to Susan and Bill for the opportunities afforded me in supporting the production of this show. By day he is Director of Development at All City Computers in Manhattan Beach and has recently added Vocal Coaching to his busy schedule. A nod to his friends, family and colleagues for their continued encouragement and support.



Jackie Fiske (Chorine/Ensemble) – Jackie’s love of music began in the womb where she kicked to the beat of her mother’s guitar. The neighbors say she went on to compose a plethora of one-woman shows in the backyard sandbox before graduating to the stage. As a BFA Screenwriting major at USC, her focus ultimately shifted to writing, but she remains a singer at heart. *Ragtime* has been her favorite musical for years, not only for the gorgeous melodies, but for its ageless message of equal rights as well. What a way we’ve come, but let’s keep going!



Drew Fitzsimmons (Houdini/Ensemble) – Drew is very excited to be taking on this iconic role. A longtime fan of Houdini, Drew is eager to bring him back to life in this stellar production. An added bonus is once again work under the direction of the incomparable Susan Weisbarth and alongside the incredible talent of this innumerable cast and crew...especially those from his cast of *Fortinbras*. Drew has done a great deal on this stage and many others wearing all sorts of hats. Just ask him...he'll tell you all about it. Welcome and enjoy!



Shamika Franklin (Ensemble) – Shamika Franklin is happy to be participating for the first time with Kentwood Players and in the spectacular musical, *Ragtime*. She is a native of Kansas City, MO, and graduated with a B.A. in theatre from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She has a wide range of credits, including; Sprint PCS, Leap Frog Educational Systems, Boston Market, The St. Louis Black Rep, and The El Portal Theatre. She thanks God, family, and friends for their love and constant support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Samuel Goldman (Ensemble) – Samuel is making his Kentwood Players debut. His recent theatre credits include Moses in *Moses and the Burning Within* and Gerald Firestone in *If the Good Lord’s Willing and the Creek Don’t Rise* at Anaheim Community Theater, and the voice of Royal Smith in *Has Anybody Here Seen Roy?* at Theatre Palisades. Samuel also works as an extra, and has appeared in numerous TV shows, commercials, and films, including recently as Dan, the sanitation department’s secretary, on *Parks and Recreation*. Samuel would like to thank the *Ragtime* cast and crew, and his family and friends for their support.



Logan Gould (Little Boy) – Logan is thrilled to be back with Kentwood Players for *Ragtime*. He is grateful to be working with such a talented team and some old friends from past shows. When Logan is not on stage, he is drumming, playing football and living life large. Some of Logan’s past roles include Georgie Johnson in *Little Green Men*, Ralphie Parker in *A Christmas Story*, Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls Jr.*, Jimmy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, the Lion in *The Wiz*, Harry McAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie*, the Mayor in *Suessical*, John in *Peter Pan*, and of course his most favorite Artful Dodger in *Oliver!*.



Justin P. James (Ensemble) – Justin is thrilled to be making his debut appearance with the Kentwood Players. Justin began performing in musicals in the Ensemble of *Urinetown* at the Morgan-Wixson Theater which won a 2010 StageSceneLa Award for Outstanding Musical Production. He has also performed as Stagehand #3 in *Kiss Me Kate* and as Matt in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* both with The Relevant Stage Theater Company. Justin is beyond grateful for the loving support of his family and friends, especially his mother, for always encouraging him to pursue his dreams.



Spencer Johnson (Willie Conklin/Ensemble) – Spencer started doing musicals two years ago in Sacramento at the Davis Musical Theater Company as Big Jule in *Guys & Dolls* followed by Starkey the Pirate in *Peter Pan*. He took a brief hiatus from evil to play the affable Albert Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie*. Most recently, he played the nefarious Glen Guglia in *The Wedding Singer* followed by Aaron Schultz in *Legally Blonde* at Runaway Stage Productions. He thanks Kentwood Players for giving him the opportunity to return to the dark side. He’d also like to thank hot sauce for making his rehearsal dinners delicious.



Karen E. Kolkey (Little Girl) – Karen Elizabeth Kolkey, a fifth-grade student, is excited for the opportunity to tackle the challenging role of Tateh’s daughter, the Little Girl from Latvia, in Kentwood Players production of *Ragtime*. By curious coincidence, Karen’s great-grandfather, Abraham Kolkey, actually emigrated from Latvia to America around 1900. In addition, during the past year, Karen has played the lead roles of Sadako in *A Thousand Cranes*, Annie in *Annie*, and Ruth in *Pirates of Penzance*. Meanwhile, when not performing on stage, Karen enjoys playing both the piano and the violin, singing, gymnastics, reading and writing short stories, along with performing science experiments.



George Kondreck (Grandfather) – George appeared in Kentwood Player’s *Oliver* and has worked in several Southern California theater companies. He has played Tom, Phyllis & Leslie in *Sylvia*; Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*; Barker in *The Golden Boy*; Faker in *Room Service*; Karl Hudlocke in *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*; Yussel in *Fiddler on the Roof*; Cheswick in *One Flew Over The Cuckoo’s Nest*; Feraillon in *A Flea in Her Ear*; Walter Golden in *Jackknife*; the Statue in *Don Juan in Hell*; Sophie in *Honeymoon*; and Jamie in *My Fair Lady*. George has directed *The Ride*; *The Nerd*; *WHAC Live! A Radio Play*; and *Academia Nuts*.



Amanda Majkrzak (Evelyn Nesbitt) – Amanda first heard the song “Daddy’s Son” as a college freshman and in that moment, being a part of *Ragtime* became an absolute “must!” You may have seen her, most recently, as the ghost of Ophelia in *Fortinbras* here on the Kentwood stage. Amanda grew up in a very musical and theatrical family whom she credits with her love of the musical arts. Her favorite well-known shows to date include *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Fortinbras*, *Scream Queens*, *Into the Woods*, and *Noises Off*. Amanda resides in Los Angeles with her husband Dave and their dogs Landon and Lesley. Weeeeeee!



Bradley Miller (Tateh) – Bradley has been performing throughout SoCal for 30 years and he is honored to be part of this amazing production. He has appeared as John Adams; Sancho Panza; Nicely-Nicely Johnson; Pseudolus; Daddy Warbucks; Seymour and Applegate. Bradley had also directed and choreographed numerous productions including *The Mikado*; *West Side Story*; *Annie*; *Tom Foolery*; *1776* and *Play it Again, Sam*. He appeared on our stage in *Forever Plaid* and is delighted to be back and sharing the stage with his wife, Patricia. “This production is for our little Owen, who will soon be riding the wheels of his own dream!”



Rocky Miller (Father) – Rocky’s KP roles include Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*, Voltaire/Dr. Pangloss in *Candide*, the Judge and Old Soldier in *Parade*, Tony in *The Most Happy Fella*, Leadville Johnny Brown in *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, Stone in *City of Angels*, Sweeney in *Sweeney Todd*, and the Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Roles elsewhere include Atticus in *To Kill a Mockingbird* for CLOSBC at the El Segundo Playhouse, Lt. Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* for South Bay Opera, Frank Butler in *Annie*, *Get Your Gun*, Fred/Petruchio in *Kiss Me, Kate*, Bill Sykes in *Oliver*, and Sheldrake in *Promises, Promises*.



J. Paul Myers (Henson/Ensemble) – J. Paul Myers is a well-ranged Baritone who has been singing as both soloist and choral member in a wide variety of concert and classical groups, choral ensembles and stage productions for over 15 years. As a Washington Metropolitan native with vocal roots in Gospel, Classical and R&B stylings, J. Paul plans to expand his musical career into acting and commercial print.



Fiona Okida (Newsboy/Ensemble) – Fiona just finished helping backstage for *The 39 Steps*, and now she’s excited to be back on the stage again with her daddy for *Ragtime*. Her previous roles for Kentwood Players have been a blind girl in *The Miracle Worker* and a dying sheep in *Candide*. Other favorite roles include Ngana in *South Pacific*, Amaryllis in *Music Man*, Gretl in *Sound of Music*, and Little Ti Moune in *Once On This Island*. A special thanks to Miss Charlotte for sharing some of Kentwood’s theatre history with her.



Roy T. Okida (Ensemble) – Roy is happy to be singing and dancing in one of his all-time favorite shows. His other credits include Judas in *JC Superstar*, Oliver Hix in *Music Man*, Charlie in *Brigadoon*, Luke in *Seven Brides...*, Reuben/Judah in *Joseph...*, Mingo in *Crazy for You*, and Officer Ivey in *Parade*. Roy thanks Susan, Bill, and Vicki for this opportunity, and Bradley Baker for his amazing vocal coaching. Finally, Roy sends out a special “Thank You” to his wonderful wife, Colleen, adorable daughter, Fiona, and his friends and family for all their support. Enjoy the show!!



James Olivas (Ensemble) – James is a sophomore at Mira Costa HS where he is a trumpeter for the acclaimed Wind Ensemble and plays varsity football. He has performed with youth theatre and just recently played Young Ebenezer Scrooge in Surf City’s *A Christmas Carol*. In his free time, James enjoys playing guitar, bass, ukulele, and banjo. “It is both an honor and privilege to perform with the talented and professional cast of *Ragtime*.”



Michelle M. Pedersen (Chorine/Ensemble) – Having just completed the Tony Award winning musical *Titanic* at both the Norris Center and the Costa Mesa Playhouse, Michelle is excited to join the cast of *Ragtime* in her first show with Kentwood Players. From the stages of California and Nashville to the Black Hills of South Dakota, some of Michelle’s past favorite roles include Catherine in *Waiting for the Parade*, Nellie/Anna/Julie in *Some Enchanted Evening*, Truvy in *Steel Magnolias* and ITL Award winning roles as Tracy Lord in *The Philadelphia Story*, LeAnn in *A Piece of My Heart* and Woman #1 in *I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*.



Darryl Maximilian Robinson (Booker T. Washington) – celebrates 39 years as a stage performer around the country with his Kentwood Players debut performance in *Ragtime*. Max is winner of the 1981 Fort Wayne News-Sentinel Award as Outstanding Thespian of the Season for his portrayal of Fagin in *Oliver*; a 1992 St. Louis Area Harpooners of The Sea Unicorn Honorary Membership Award for his performance in the title role of *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Problem*; and both a 1997 Chicago Joseph Jefferson Citation Award and a 1997 Chicago Black Theatre Alliance Award Nomination for Best Leading Actor in a Play for his performance as Sam Semela in *Master Harold and the Boys*.



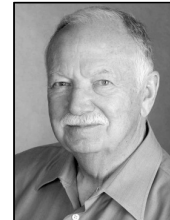
Judy Rosenfeld (Houdini’s Mother/Ensemble) – Judy is pleased to be in her second Kentwood Players production. Previously she played Mrs. Sowerberry in *Oliver*. Other recent roles include Rejected Chorus Girl in *The Producers*, Hannah in *Little Women*, Lead Witch in *O Woe is Me*, Mrs. Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol* and Officer Bybee u/s in *The Neighborhood Crime Watch*. In the daylight hours Judy teaches dance at Oakwood Secondary School. She is a proud third-generation Angeleno.



Slater Ross (Younger Brother) – Slater Ross has performed in a number of shows in the south bay. He is ecstatic to return to the stage after his short, six month absence. Slater would like to thank Susan for this awesome opportunity, his incredible family for their constant encouragement, and God for blessing him with everything he has. Enjoy the show!



Megan Ruble (Chorine/Ensemble) – Megan is thrilled to be making her Kentwood Players debut in *Ragtime*. A recent graduate of UC Irvine’s drama program, she is excited to apply all of her hard work to the “real world.” Most recently, she was seen in LA in the Illyrian Players’ production of *Woyzeck*. Love and thanks to her friends and family for their undying support, and praise to God for His gift of music. www.meganruble.wix.com/actor



Bruce Schroffel (Admiral Peary/Judge/Ensemble) – Delighted to return to the Kentwood stage where he appeared in *L’il Abner* as General Bullmoose, *Gypsy* as Uncle Jocko and *45 Seconds from Broadway* as Charles. Other regional theater includes Gayton in Wicked Lit’s *Casting the Runes* and the wonderful Earl in *Drunk Talk*. His commercial work includes H&R Block, Big Ten Football and Norms. Film work includes *The Porcelain Unicorn*, Grand Prize winner in the Ridley Scott Competition. Bruce also performs with his barbershop quartet Generation Gap, The Oceanaires Chorus and as The Great El Moldo (the world’s third best magician). This one’s for Lil.



Deus Xavier Scott (Coalhouse Walker, Jr.) – When not lending his voice and talents to various commercial and animation projects, Deus Xavier Scott is busy acting, singing, dancing and modeling in and around Los Angeles. Most recently, he appeared with Olympia Dukakis in Eduardo Machado’s *Lysistrata* at the Getty Villa. Past performances include *Othello* and *Taming of the Shrew*. His television and web credits include *Days of Our Lives* and Atom’s *Legend of Neil*. You may also recognize him as a co-host and lead contractor/welder from HGTV’s *Designed to Sell* and Lifetime’s *Merge*. Much gratitude to the immensely talented cast and crew of *Ragtime*. Thank you!



Jennifer Sperry (Mother) – Kentwood audiences may recognize Jennifer from her recent appearance as a Polish Maiden in *Fortinbras*. Jennifer is a classically trained singer and was a featured soloist in performances of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* and Handel's *Messiah*. Musical theater roles include Cinderella in *Into the Woods* and Rizzo in *Grease*, performed in Europe and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *The King and I* in Utah. Being able to play Mother in *Ragtime* is an experience that Jennifer will never forget. She'd like to thank Susan for giving her this opportunity, and her vocal coach, Evelyn Halus, for her encouragement and support.



Hollister Starrett (Newsboy/Ensemble) – Hollister joined the Kentwood Kids program at the age of eight. He has been involved in all aspects of the theater – onstage, backstage, and in the booth. His Lighting Design credits include *Alice in Wonderland*, *Greece! The Musical*, and this season's main-stage production of *Fortinbras*. For the most recent Kentwood Kids production, he designed the lights and then stepped into them, singing and dancing in *Rockin' Robin Hood*. Hollister is thrilled to be a part of *Ragtime*, and thanks Susan and the wonderful production team for the opportunity, and Drew, Melodie, Marty, and Samantha for all the support and encouragement!



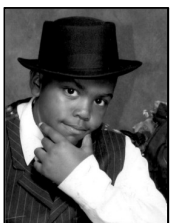
Christopher Stefanic (Ensemble) – Nine months off the boat from Tulsa, Oklahoma to the L.A. area, Stefanic has nonetheless been involved in Theatre most of his life, from debuting in *Marlin the Magnificent* at age 11, to more well-known works as Jeffrey in *Godspell*, Dr. Block in *Psychopathia Sexualis*, Reuven in *The Chosen*, Peter in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, to name a few. It's a thrill, and an honor to work with such a devoted, fun, and professional cast and crew on such a groundbreaking and relevant show, and is his first show with Kentwood Players.



Jessica D. Stone (Kathleen/Ensemble) – Jessica is excited to be appearing once again with Kentwood Players. Favorite theatre credits include Penny in *Hairspray*, Little Sally in *Urinetown*, and Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker*. Jessica created the voice of Stanley for the Disney animated series, had recurring roles in *Six Feet Under* and *Chicago Hope*, and appeared in such series as *ER*, *United States of Tara*, *Star Trek Enterprise*, plus the Sundance film *Terri*. Jessica would like to thank Susan, Bill, Victoria and the outstanding cast and crew for making this such a wonderful experience. She dedicates her performance to her daddy.



Courtney L. Williams (Ensemble) – Courtney Williams is a Chicago native making her Los Angeles stage debut. She has studied classical voice at the Merit School of Music. Since graduating from Loyola University Chicago and the University of La Verne, she has performed in works such as the *Vagina Monologues* and *Singing in the Rain*. When not on stage, Courtney has a passion for helping those in need through an organization she supports called Generosity Water. She would like to thank the Kentwood Players for welcoming her and her family and friends for their support.



Ja'von Willis (Ensemble) –Javon Lamar Willis is 14 years old. He enjoys video games, acting, singing, and a little dancing. He has been involved in two Kentwood productions such as *The Miracle Worker* and the Kentwood Kids production of *Rocking Robin Hood*. He is happy to be back and looks forward for more work in the future.



Marcus Alan Wynn (Ensemble) – Marcus graduated in 2005 with a degree in Theatre Arts. You may remember him from past performances at Kentwood as Noah Claypole in *Oliver* and Riley/Newt Lee in *Parade*. Other credits include Tom Robinson in *To Kill A Mockingbird* at El Segundo Playhouse and Dancer (LA Fashion Week, The Vibiana). Recently, Marcus danced backup in the world premiere video for an up and coming KPop trio. He would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support.

About the Directorial Staff

Susan Goldman Weisbarth (Director) – Susan is proud to be directing Kentwood's premiere production of *Ragtime*. Most recently, Susan directed KP's award winning production of *Gypsy* (receiving a Marcom Award for Best Director) and the box office smash *Annie*. Active on stage too, Susan was most recently seen as Alexis in *Scream Queens*. This production would not be possible without the talents and creativity of our entire team--Victoria Miller, Bill Wolfe and Jim Crawford for their endless creativity; Jayne, Maria, Sheridan, Gail, and Margie for their constant support; our phenomenal cast and crew especially our amazing stage manager, Bruce Starrett. Susan would like to thank Marty and Drew for their invaluable support! This production is in honor of her grandparents who came to America in 1916 from Russia. Dedicated to Jacob, De and Ed, and with love to Jessica and Evi. It's been an honor and a privilege to help bring *Ragtime* to life!

Bill Wolfe (Musical Director) – Bill is so thrilled to be Musical Directing this incredible show with such beautiful music, and to work with Susan and Vicki again. Bill has enjoyed many productions here including *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *Gypsy*, *Annie*, *West Side Story* and others. He just performed, singing with Men Alive (the OC Gay Mens Chorus) and Liza Minnelli. Music is his passion, working with all ages of people, as the accompanist for the Singing Goodtimers, Music Therapy with Seniors, and teaching as well. Bill would like to dedicate this production to his parents, who inspired him to become a musician and his partner Dean, for his love and support....Now listen to this sweet music...the people call it *Ragtime*...

Victoria Miller (Choreographer) – At KP, Vicki has performed, produced, directed, served on the Board and, in 29 years, choreographed over 30 shows. In addition to similar work at other local theaters, she produced, choreographed and performed in many Footlighters' Charity Shows at the Beverly Hilton. Most recently at KP she was Nadine in *Scream Queens*. She directed *Li'l Abner* and co-produced *Parade* and *Oliver* receiving the Marcom Masque Award for each. As a dancer, she appeared in the Folies Bergere in Las Vegas, Disneyland's *Golden Horseshoe Revue*, Hollywood Bowl performances with Gene Kelly and Debbie Reynolds and with the Cab Calloway and Doc Severinsen Orchestras, the Merv Griffin TV Show and many CLOSBC productions. She is happy to be working again with Susan and Bill and with this amazing cast and crew of old and new friends.

About the Producers

Margie Bates (Producer) – This is Margie's 27th year with Kentwood Players. She produced *Dames at Sea*, *Rumors*, and *Picnic*. Her favorite stage roles include Mama in *I Remember Mama*, Mammy Yokum in *Li'l Abner*, Sally in *Drive*, Lavinia in *The Heiress*, and Judy in *A Chorus Line*. She loved singing and dancing in *Annie*, in which her dog Katie crossed gender lines to play Sandy. Margie has held several positions on the Kentwood Board of Directors including President. Margie is delighted with *Ragtime*. She thanks the cast and crew for their support, with special thanks to Gail and Susan.

Gail Bernardi (Producer) – Gail Bernardi has acted and directed for many years. Her last Directorial stint was *Doubt, A Parable*, presented by Kentwood Players July and August, but this is her first time producing. She is so happy to be working with such a talented cast, Director and Choreographer and she wants to thank her co-producer, Margie Bates, for her enormous computer skills. Gail hopes that you will enjoy all the lavish talents in this wonderful show.

About the Designers

Jim Crawford (Set Design) – *Ragtime* is the fifth set Jim has designed at Kentwood including two-*Farndale Avenue Murder Mystery* and *Rabbit Hole* which won KP awards. He thanks Sheridan for introducing him to theater and giving him an avocation to retire to. He also thanks the many KP set designers and builders over the years who have shown him the ropes and worked so hard to build our sets.

Maria Cohen (Costume Design) – Maria has been involved in costuming shows for Kentwood Players since *Dames at Sea* thru *Li'l Abner*. Other theatres she has costumed and assisted are the James Armstrong Theatre, the Norris, Morgan-Wixson and Pacific Palisades. Maria is in charge of the New Rochelle group. Thanks Jayne Hamil and Sheridan Crawford for their help.

Sheridan Cole Crawford (Costume Design) – Designing costumes can be an extension of playing "dress up," something Sheridan has enjoyed ever since she was a little girl. With much help from Jayne, Maria and Diane, it has been very satisfying to help transport actors into a different time and place and enter *Ragtime's* milieu.

Jayne Hamil (Costume Design) – Jayne has been a costumer on Kentwood productions of *Little Green Men*, *Annie*, *Candide*, *Hollywood Arms*, *The Miracle Worker* and *Scream Queens*. On *Ragtime*, she's in charge of the immigrants, her favorite kind of costuming – turn-of-the-century, shabby and layered. Special thanks to Sheridan, Maria, Diane and Arlene.

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You are invited to meet and greet cast members
after the performance in the Lobby.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website
www.kentwoodplayers.org



Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

California Suite
A Comedy by Neil Simon
May 10 – June 15, 2013
Director: Alison Mattiza

Lend Me a Tenor
A Comedy by Ken Ludwig
July 12 – August 17, 2013
Director: Gail Bernardi

Little Shop of Horrors, a Musical
Book by Howard Ashman
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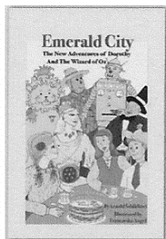
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Now, we need your help. We have some critical improvements that will be beyond what we as a small community theatre can manage. We need a new roof, a new heating and air conditioning system, and most of our facility needs to be updated. For the first time in our history, we are asking our wonderful patrons and dedicated community members to partner with us and become sponsors of our beloved theatre.

There are many ways you can help. Of course, we welcome your contributions no matter how large or small. Together we can keep quality theatre in Westchester at prices that are still affordable for our audiences. Please take a look at our sponsorship opportunities and if we can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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