

***Ragtime* Week 7 Address for Week of April 14th**

Hello Everyone,

Well, this is pretty much it. The week before the show officially opens. Yes, it's a doozy. First and foremost, let me remind everyone one more time that Monday marks the start of our final two weeks of rehearsal. As such, absolutely NO absences from rehearsal will be accepted. Please be prepared for a long week of rehearsal. When you do have downtime, take advantage by doing homework.

Thank you to everyone for putting in so much time, energy, and commitment to this process to date. I know what a tremendous commitment it is to work on a production within the program. Still, we know the purpose behind all of the effort. We produce wonderful performance work, folks. It doesn't just happen; it is the result of painstaking work. We're close. Stay the course.

I'd like to thank several people this week for the tireless efforts. Thank you to our wonderful production historians department, lead by Lauren Lesniak. Each year they have the monumental challenge of gather a ton of content and then assembling it to produce each production's souvenir program. Thank you for all that you do to produce this wonderful product. Thanks as well to our rehearsal operations Dept, lead by Chris Domen. The entire department, especially Chris and Jackson, have been working extremely hard to keep our run-through rehearsals moving smoothly. They don't always receive the credit they deserve, but their efforts save us a tremendous amount of time during these highly critical last few weeks. Please take time to thank them yourselves when you can. Finally, I want to thank our techie and orchestra pit partners. They work to extremely hard to build the worlds in which our performances take place. Sometime this week, take a moment to thank them for all that they do. SERIOUSLY, do it. They work selflessly on your behalf. Show them you appreciate all that they do.

Okay, as we glance ahead, make sure you're ready for Saturday. You will need to bring in your starving artist luncheon food, personal bin/laundry basket, deodorant, makeup, and costume pieces you have been asked to supply. Additionally, this is a reminder that all candy sales money is DUE NO LATER than Fri, Apr. 19th. A bit sooner in the week, we have our [restaurant fundraiser at The Lodge](#) on Wed, Apr. 17th. Bring money for the dinner break on Wed, and spread the word to friends and family members!

See everyone tomorrow!

- Greene

Quote for the Week: "Coalhouse spoke softly. It is a great honor for me to meet you, sir, he said. I have always stood in admiration for you. He looked at the marble floor. It is true I am a musician and a man of years. But I would hope this might suggest to you the solemn calculation of my mind. And that therefore, possibly, we might both be servants of our color who insist on the truth of our manhood and the respect it demands. Washington was so stunned by this suggestion that he began to lose consciousness" – *Ragtime*, Pg. 282, E.L. Doctorow

Thought for the Week: At the very core of our story is action, the unimaginably sharp and violent action taken by Coalhouse in his blinding drive to find justice. In contrast, Booker T. Washington has spent his lifetime pushing fellow members of his race to take a different path towards gaining an equality footing in American society. What are the implications of the very different actions taken by these men? Are acts of violence ever justified on the road towards achieving social equality, justice, and opportunity for all?