

**THE HARLEM THEATRE COMPANY OF CHICAGO'S
MISSION STATEMENT**

To teach the craft of Acting and its related disciplines
To teach constructive living habits through the discipline of Theatre
To develop and maintain a professional, touring Ensemble of Actors
To help provide jobs for the graduates of The Harlem Theatre Company Of Chicago

OUR SPONSORS

New Communities Program
Clareitan Associates
Changing Worlds
The Chicago Community Trust
Chicago Area Project; Youth as Resources
Robert B. McCormick Foundation

WHAT ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN IS ABOUT

This play, in a nutshell, is about the divisive, crippling effect that gang violence has on our communities and on our individual homes. This play shows that gang violence is a malignant, corrosive, ever-growing cancer that must be eradicated immediately. Post haste. Without delay or we will never be able again to hold our heads high in the eyes of the world and in the eyes of God Himself

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I hope that the young people in today's audience will be inspired to take a stand against the gang violence that plagues our great city. If all of you young people could only see through my eyes and through the eyes of other elders today. Our eyes see and remember a better Chicago time when the South side flourished. In days past we danced in some of America's finest ballrooms; we saw Muhammad Ali (then Cassius Clay) on 63rd and Cottage Grove

Avenue with regularity; we saw James Brown, The Impressions, the Emotions, the Temptations live on stage -and on our streets. Black businesses thrived. Today, fear has paralyzed us and has ground all our productive activity to a halt and a standstill. To all our young people in the audience: Stand up. This is your time CARPE DIEM!

DEDICATION

The Harlem Theatre Company of Chicago would like to dedicate today's performance to all the young people in today's audience. Stand up and make this city and this world a better place. Tell all these predatory gangs that enough is enough; THEIR TIME IS UP!

Additional credits

The arrangement of songs is supported by a Community Arts Assistance Program grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and Illinois Arts Council, a state agency

The music and lyrics for the songs,

MOTHERS' PLEA is co-produced by James Pringle and Thomas ("Tunji") White. Arranged by Thomas ("Tunji") White. RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW (LET'S STAND ON UP) was written by James Pringle.

The vocalists

Dora Washington,
Burton ("Dick") Fowler
Alexis Rogers.

Host

Matt Lloyd

Choreographer

Geri Williams

Program Design

Marcus Gutierrez



ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN



SPONSORED BY

New Communities Program
Clareitan Associates
Changing Worlds
The Chicago Community Trust

Chicago Area Project; Youth as Resources
Robert B. McCormick Foundation

PRESENTED BY THE HARLEM THEATRE COMPANY OF CHICAGO



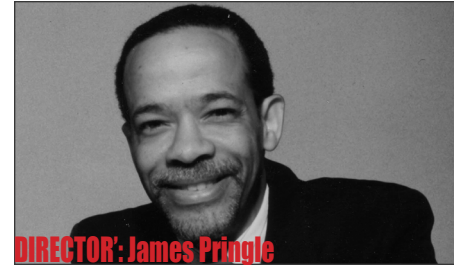
The role of Rachel Tate: Nadirah Lugg

From the time that she can remember, Nadirah Lugg was always performing for others. With classes and practice, her love and appreciation of theatre helped to create the entertainer she is today... an actress bringing forth a multitude of memorable characters.



The role of Ash Boswell: Carolyn Nelson

Carolyn Nelson, a graduate of UW-LaCrosse, is an ensemble member with the Harlem Theatre Company. Her stage credits include many productions across Chicago and in LaCrosse, WI. Film credits include The Suitcase, many training films, and extra roles.



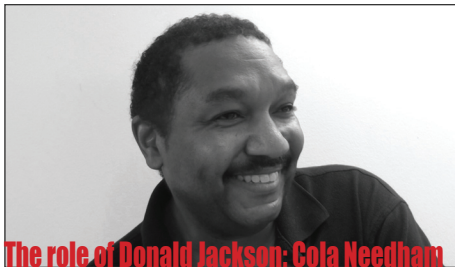
DIRECTOR: James Pringle

Pringle is the Founder and Artistic Director of the famous Harlem Theatre Company of Chicago. He is a proud graduate of the acclaimed Los Angeles City College Theatre Dept. and Academy. Pringle has also studied at Carnegie-Mellon University, City University of New York and New York University's Gallatin Program. He has also published a book on Character Analysis and Construction called, "YOU Can Build Characters Too!"



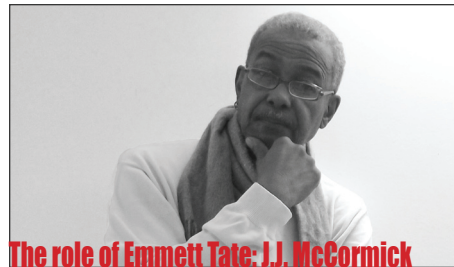
Stage Manager: Daniel Sichelski

After being absent from the stage for over 30 years, Daniel Sichelski was recruited for the Hansberry Baldwin Ensemble. Representing CoYah Production Management, he has acted with Faye's Keylight Theater Company and now supports the Harlem Theatre Company of Chicago.



The role of Donald Jackson: Cola Needham

Cola Needham, a veteran Chicago actor with over 30 years of stage experience, has travelled to many countries and entertained heads of state. He was nominated for several acting awards and is very grateful to be a part of the Harlem Theatre Company.



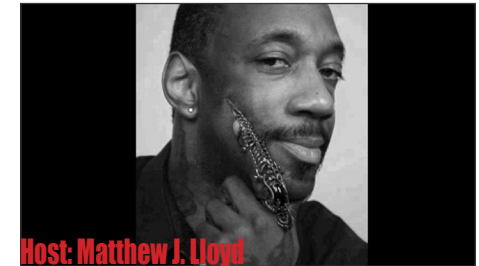
The role of Emmett Tate: J.J. McCormick

J.J. McCormick is a proud graduate of Roosevelt University's theater department and is proud to be a part of the Harlem Theatre Company. J.J. has been in many productions throughout the Midwest, most recently in Twelve Angry Men at the Raven Theatre (a Jeff Award-winning ensemble).



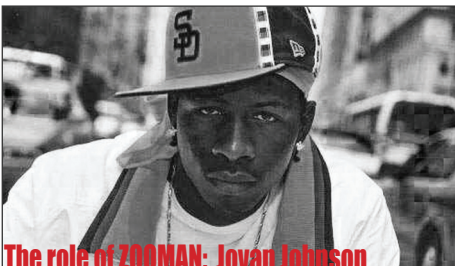
The role of Rueben Tate: Micheal Mills

Michael Mills was born in Chicago, IL. His love for acting has allowed him to perform in many productions. Michael is dedicated to his craft and is a rising star. Michael's ambitions and desire for success have proven well and allowed him to appear in several short movies.



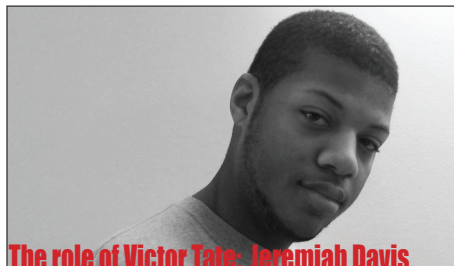
Host: Matthew J. Lloyd

Matthew J. Lloyd is a 22-year stage veteran, that is honored to be with The Harlem Theatre Of Chicago, and thankful of their positive influence in the community.



The role of ZOOMAN: Jovan Johnson

Jovan (Showtime) Johnson was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. He is a full time recording artist and actor. Some of his body of work includes over 7 stage plays, 2 TV shows (The Chicago Code (Fox), and Detroit 1-8-7 (ABC).) His goal is to be the best all around entertainer he can be.



The role of Victor Tate: Jeremiah Davis

Jeremiah Davis is reprising his role as Victor for the Harlem Theatre Company. He is currently a freshman at Robert Morris College.

Choreographer: Geri Williams

Geri Williams (Mama Geri) is a retired school teacher. She is a certified Katherine Dunham instructor. She has taught dance for the public school and theatre for the past 30 years. She has choreographed for plays such as Eyes (ETA), Kasimu, Ama and the Toy Box, Why Black Men Play Basketball, Life Times on the Street, Hip Hop Aesop and more.

The Cast of ZOOMAN and the sign