



## ***A Raisin in the Sun***

**March 3 – 14, 2021**

Rehearsals begin February 2, 2021

By Lorraine Hansberry

Director: Roberta Emerson

### **Audition Information**

Seeking *Union\** and *Non-Union* actors ages 18+. One *Non-Union* role available for actors age 9 - 14.

Stipends for actors 18+ begin at \$1,000. Stipends for actors under age 18 begin at \$250.

*All performers MUST have their own housing and transportation.*

Please submit **headshot, resume, a self-taped recording of a 1 – 2 minutes Dramatic or Serio-Comedic monologue.**

Submissions must be received through Auditions Manager no later than Friday, October 2 at 11:59 pm. Any submission after 11:59 pm on October 2 will not be considered.

*Callback is by invitation only and will take place virtually.*

**Garden Theatre Audition Statement:** Garden Theatre strongly encourages performers of all ethnicities, and gender identities, as well as performers with disabilities, to submit.

**\*Equity is not currently processing Guest Artist or Special Appearance**

**Applications-** we will be in communication with the association and should we reach an agreement we will be considering Equity members for this production.

### **Show Description**

*What happens to a dream deferred?* In South Chicago, a poor black family struggles to stay afloat as they search for financial stability and a place to call

home. Tensions flare as the generations reach for different dreams and prejudice seeps into their lives. Filled with passion, humor, and humanity, *A Raisin in the Sun* is an iconic piece of African-American dramatic literature that will move audiences of all ages.

## Character Breakdown

### **WALTER LEE YOUNGER**

(Mid to Late 20s- Early 30s, African-American/Black/African Descent) - A dreamer. He wants to be rich and devises plans to acquire wealth with his friends. Endlessly preoccupied with discovering a quick solution to his family's various problems.

### **BENEATHA YOUNGER**

(Early 20s, African-American/Black/African Descent) - An intellectual. A college student. Some of her personal beliefs and views have distanced her from her conservative mother. She dreams of being a doctor and struggles to determine her identity as a well-educated black woman.

### **LENA YOUNGER**

(40s-60s, African-American/Black/African Descent) Walter and Beneatha's mother. The matriarch of the family. Religious, moral, and maternal. She wants to use her husband's insurance money as a down payment on a house with a backyard to fulfill her dream for her family to move up in the world.

### **JOSEPH ASAGAI**

(Early to Mid 20s, African-American/Black/African Descent. Nigerian Dialect Required.) A Nigerian student in love with Beneatha. Very proud of his African heritage. He eventually proposes marriage to Beneatha and hopes she will return to Nigeria with him.

### **RUTH YOUNGER**

(Mid to Late 20s- Early 30s, African-American/Black/African Descent) Walter's wife and Travis's mother. Ruth takes care of the Youngers' small apartment. Her marriage to Walter has problems, but she hopes to rekindle their love. She is about thirty, but her weariness makes her seem older. Constantly fighting

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poverty and domestic troubles, she continues to be an emotionally strong woman. Her almost pessimistic pragmatism helps her to survive.

### **TRAVIS YOUNGER**

(9-14 Years Old, African-American/Black/African Descent) Walter and Ruth's sheltered young son. Travis earns some money by carrying grocery bags and likes to play outside with other neighborhood children, but he has no bedroom and sleeps on the living-room sofa.

### **GEORGE MURCHISON**

(Early to Mid 20s, Early 30s), African-American/Black/African Descent) "George"- A wealthy man who courts Beneatha. Has a willingness to submit to white culture and forget his African heritage. He challenges the thoughts and feelings of other black people through his arrogance and flair for intellectual competition.

**BOBO/MOVER** (30s – 50s African-American/Black/African Descent) He is part of the business plan with Walter to raise funds to open a liquor store. He has the emotionally difficult task of informing Walter that the third business partner left town with their investment money.

**MR. KARL LINDNER** (30s-60s, Caucasian/ White) Arrives at the Youngers' apartment from the Clybourne Park Improvement Association.