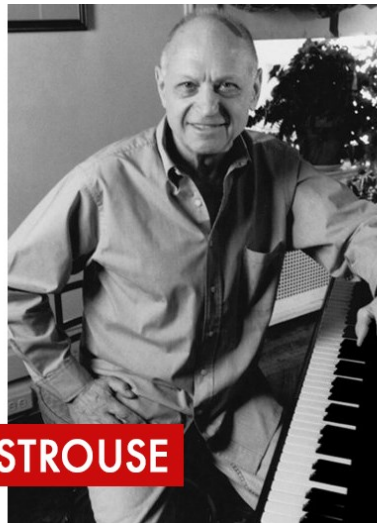


St. Paul Performing Arts is proud to announce that legendary composer Charles Strouse will be attending our production of **RAGS: The New American Musical**.

What an honor it will be to have such a icon of musical theatre to sit in our audience to see the work of our talented students!



CHARLES STROUSE



The music of Charles Strouse has touched the life of almost every American in the last half century. There may be no other living composer from America's songbook whose work is as integrated into the popular culture as that of Charles Strouse.

His music has attracted top recording artists such as Barbra Streisand, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Bobby Darin, Harry Connick, Jr., Jay-Z, Louis Armstrong, Nina Simone, and Duke Ellington and his Orchestra.

Strouse has written scores for over 30 stage musicals, including 14 for Broadway. He has also composed scores for five Hollywood films, two orchestral works and an opera. He has been inducted to the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Theatre Hall of Fame. He is a three-time Tony Award winner, a two-time Emmy Award winner, and his cast recordings have earned him two Grammy Awards. His song "Those Were the Days" launched over 200 episodes of *All in the Family* and continues to reach new generations of television audiences in syndication. With hundreds of productions licensed annually, his musicals *Annie* and *Bye Bye Birdie* are among the most popular of all time-produced by regional, amateur and school groups all over the world.