

Chris Grant, Jr.

Mini Bio

Actor/Singer Chris Grant Jr. has been performing since he could walk. He's a ham who's always loved imitating his favorite entertainers by mimicking their movements, voices, and accents for any audience. Chris starred in his own music video at age seven, and his affinity for the spotlight led him to audition for major acting roles at nine. His very first audition was an open call for the role of young Simba in Disney's *The Lion King*. He made it to the final round of four out of thousands of kids who had auditioned. The thrill of performing for an audience was something Chris decided he couldn't give up. Within a month he would audition for Nickelodeon's "The Backyardigans" and book the role of the speaking voice of "Tyrone" for season four of the hit show. In 2009 Chris made his theater debut as "The Baker" in the children's opera "Brundibar and the Children of Theresienstadt" for the International Opera House in Philadelphia. The opera honors children of the Holocaust, and was Chris' first experience acting on stage in a serious role. "It gave me a chance to explore storytelling as meaningful in lots of ways," he noted at the end of the performance run. "The experience deeply influenced my songwriting."

After so much acting, it's easy to forget that it was his notable singing voice that initially got Chris on stage. He has an uncanny ability to sing very different styles of music equally well. At 20, he is a versatile singer and rapper with uncommon depth for his age. He'll do a hip hop number that makes you want to hit the dance floor, and then have you crooning along on an R&B ballad. But watch out—he can stand and deliver a rock tune that's totally authentic.

Chris taught himself to play guitar and piano, and he's been writing and producing his own songs since he was nine. His musical influences span a broad spectrum and include Michael Jackson, Frank Sinatra, Drake, Lecrae, and Elvis Presley to name just a few. He describes his pursuit of music as constant growth. "Creating music is demanding, and doing it full-time is a dream come true," he says. Chris has been hard at work on songs for his upcoming debut EP, "Departure, Part One." Some generations produce artists who are renaissance performers, and Chris lives up to that description on his debut project. "Departure, Part One" features thought-provoking lyrics over bass-driven melodies. He's been aptly described as a renaissance performer who deftly blends elements of pop, R&B, and rock to deliver songs that significantly raise the bar for young artists.

Today's entertainment scene is full of young talent, but be on the lookout. Chris Grant Jr.'s compelling and instinctive artistry sets him apart as someone destined to make a rare impact on the world stage.