

Press Contact:

Rick Miramontez / Ryan Ratelle / Brendan Charles
rick@omdkc.com / ryan@omdkc.com / brendan@omdkc.com
212-695-7400

**THE ACTORS FUND AND MOUNT SINAI DOCTORS ANNOUNCE
THE SAMUEL J. FRIEDMAN HEALTH CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

**NEW HEALTH CENTER FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMUNITY
SET TO OPEN IN MARCH 2017**

**FACILITY WILL SERVE AS THE MEDICAL CARE PROVIDER TO NEW YORK CITY'S
ENTERTAINMENT AND PERFORMING ARTS COMMUNITY**

Brian Stokes Mitchell
Actor



ACTORSFUND.ORG/HEALTHCENTER

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New York (January 25, 2017) – The Actors Fund and Mount Sinai Doctors announced plans today to open a new health center for the performing arts and entertainment community in New York City. Scheduled to open in March 2017 at The Actors Fund's headquarters, conveniently located at 729 Seventh Avenue between 48th and 49th Street in Times Square, **The Samuel J. Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts** will serve as the medical care provider that is solely focused on the particular health care needs of the entertainment and performing arts community.

Operated in partnership with The Actors Fund and Mount Sinai Doctors, The Friedman Health Center offers primary and specialty care, expedited referrals to physicians within the **Mount Sinai Health System**, extended hours that are sensitive to entertainment industry work schedules and continuity of care for those who experience regular changes in health insurance coverage. The Friedman Health Center accepts most insurance plans, including commercial insurances, most Marketplace/Exchange plans, Medicare and Workers' Compensation, with free and unbiased health insurance enrollment and counseling available on site.

"The Friedman Health Center will offer our performing arts and entertainment community access to Mount Sinai, one of the best health care systems anywhere, and provide a continuity of care for those who experience regular changes in health insurance coverage. This is a real win for our performing arts and entertainment community," said **Joe Benincasa**, CEO of The Actors Fund.

"Mount Sinai has a long history of providing primary and specialty care for the performing arts community, and we are proud to continue that legacy in our partnership with The Actors Fund on The Samuel J. Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts," said **Evan L. Flatow, MD**, President of Mount Sinai West.

The Friedman Health Center will be staffed by primary care providers and specialists available on a rotating basis. Personalized health insurance counseling, guidance and enrollment support will be available on site through The Actors Fund's Artists Health Insurance Resource Center.

The Actors Fund's **Al Hirschfeld Free Health Clinic**, located at 57th and 10th Avenue in Manhattan, will continue to operate in its current location until the opening of The Friedman Health Center in March.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 212.489.1939. For updates, visit www.actorsfund.org/HealthCenter.

ABOUT THE SAMUEL J. FRIEDMAN HEALTH CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Samuel J. Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts is the medical care provider for New York City's entertainment community. Operated in partnership with The Actors Fund and Mount Sinai Doctors and conveniently located in Times Square, The Friedman Health Center is the only health center in New York City that is solely focused on the particular health care needs of those who work in performing arts and entertainment. It offers primary and specialty care, expedited referrals within the Mount Sinai Health System, extended hours and continuity of care for those who experience regular changes in health insurance coverage. The Friedman accepts most insurance plans, with free and unbiased health insurance enrollment and counseling available on site. Visit www.actorsfund.org/HealthCenter.

ABOUT THE ACTORS FUND

The Actors Fund is a national human services organization that helps everyone—performers and those behind the scenes—who works in performing arts and entertainment. Serving professionals in film, theatre, television, music, opera, radio and dance, The Fund's programs include social services and emergency financial assistance, health care and insurance counseling, housing, and employment and training services. With offices in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, The Actors Fund is a safety net for those in need, crisis or transition. Visit www.actorsfund.org.

ABOUT THE MOUNT SINAI HEALTH SYSTEM

The Mount Sinai Health System is an integrated health system committed to providing distinguished care, conducting transformative research, and advancing biomedical education. Structured around seven hospital campuses and a single medical school, the Health System has an extensive ambulatory network and a range of inpatient and outpatient services—from community-based facilities to tertiary and quaternary care.

The System includes approximately 7,100 primary and specialty care physicians; 12 joint-venture ambulatory surgery centers; more than 140 ambulatory practices throughout the five boroughs of New York City, Westchester, Long Island, and Florida; and 31 affiliated community health centers. Physicians are affiliated with the renowned Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, which is ranked among the highest in the nation in National Institutes of Health funding per investigator. The Mount Sinai Hospital is in the "Honor Roll" of best hospitals in America, ranked No. 15 nationally in the 2016-2017 "Best Hospitals" issue of U.S. News & World Report. The Mount Sinai Hospital is also ranked as one of the nation's top 20 hospitals in Geriatrics, Gastroenterology/GI Surgery, Cardiology/Heart Surgery, Diabetes/Endocrinology, Nephrology, Neurology/Neurosurgery, and Ear, Nose & Throat, and is in the top 50 in four other specialties. New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai is ranked No. 10 nationally for Ophthalmology, while Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Mount Sinai St. Luke's, and Mount Sinai West are ranked regionally. Mount Sinai's Kravis Children's Hospital is ranked in seven out of ten pediatric specialties by U.S. News & World Report in "Best Children's Hospitals."

For more information, visit <http://www.mountsinai.org/>, or find Mount Sinai on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.