

# MARQUEE



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ACTORS FUND

SUMMER 2019, VOL. 22, NO. 1

The  
Samuel J. & Florence T.  
Friedman Pavilion

**WELCOME TO THE  
FRIEDMAN PAVILION**  
A New Wing at  
The Actors Fund Home (p. 4)

The Actors Fund is a national human services organization that fosters stability and resiliency, and provides a safety net for performing arts and entertainment professionals over their lifespan.

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New York, NY 10019  
212.221.7300

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**The Samuel J. Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts**  
729 Seventh Ave., 12th Floor  
New York, NY 10019  
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**The Dorothy Ross Friedman Residence**  
New York, NY  
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**The Palm View**  
West Hollywood, CA  
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**The Actors Fund Home**  
Englewood, NJ  
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**The Schermerhorn**  
Brooklyn, NY  
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212.221.7300 ext. 176  
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**ACTORS FUND PROGRAMS:**

**Social Services**  
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Looking Ahead Program  
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**Health Services**  
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**Employment And Training**  
The Career Center  
Career Transition For Dancers

**Affordable Housing**  
The Actors Fund Home  
The Dorothy Ross Friedman Residence  
The Schermerhorn  
The Palm View

For more information please call 800.221.7303 or visit our website at [actorsfund.org](http://actorsfund.org).

## The Actors Fund, for everyone in entertainment.



### IEWS: Joseph P. Benincasa

Dear Friends,

I think I can speak for many of us when I say that time is flying by. Milestones that seemed so far in the future are now proud achievements, and new goals have taken center stage. It's a privilege to share these successes with you—all while remembering to reflect on the time, work and energy that has helped us get this far.

We're thrilled to mark the completion of a multi-year capital campaign project to rebuild, expand and preserve The Actors Fund Home in Englewood, New Jersey, which was fulfilled with the ribbon-cutting of The Samuel J. and Florence T. Friedman Pavilion. This beautiful new two-story wing houses a 20-bed memory care unit and seven assisted living beds as well as a new wellness center, arts studio, dining room, bistro and memory care garden (p. 4-5).

We're also making great strides in growing our Looking Ahead program, which is now available for young professional performers and their families in California as well as New York. It continues to offer support, guidance and a safe space for children and young adults to thrive while navigating the ups and downs of an often unpredictable industry. Looking Ahead members never cease to amaze us! (p. 6-7).

Our Annual Gala in New York City was a record-breaking success, proudly raising more than \$1.5 million to fund the programs and services we offer to everyone in the performing arts and entertainment industry. Our Tony Awards Viewing Gala in Los Angeles, now in its 23rd year, honored Emmy, Grammy and Tony Award winner Lily Tomlin with the coveted Julie Harris Award for Artistic Achievement. These one-night-only evenings are always so full of enthusiasm that they leave us already eager for next year's celebrations (p. 12-13).

We also finalized the acquisition of the 40-unit Palm View residence—which is an important step in further developing the Hollywood Arts Collective, a new mixed-use, affordable and market-rate housing community for people in performing arts and entertainment currently in the early development phase. The Palm View continues to provide homes to low-income people with disabilities or who are living with HIV/AIDS in West Hollywood, CA, and consists of three buildings surrounded by a beautiful outdoor courtyard (p. 15).

As we look to the future, we continue to honor the past. We launched the Performing Arts Legacy Project—in partnership with The Research Center for Arts and Culture—to preserve and celebrate the incredible careers of so many influential members of the performing arts community (p.16).

None of this would be possible without you and your commitment to The Fund. Whether you join us at Special Performances (p. 10-11), are a member of the Edwin Forrest Society (p. 17), are an In the Spotlight member (p. 8-9) or support us in any number of impactful ways, you are a crucial part of The Actors Fund family.

Yours in good health,

Joseph P. Benincasa  
President & CEO

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# The Actors Fund 2018 Annual Report

**137 years**  
of commitment to the performing arts and entertainment community

**85 cents of every dollar**  
directly supports our programs and services.

In 2018, The Actors Fund provided \$1,970,360 in emergency financial assistance for crucial needs such as preventing evictions and paying for essential medications. We helped 17,352 people nationally through our programs to offer social and health services, employment and training resources, emergency financial assistance, affordable housing opportunities and more.

We envision a world in which individuals contributing to our country's cultural vibrancy are supported, valued and economically secure. Your dedication is part of a grand tradition of caring for our entertainment and performing arts community.

Thanks to your generous support, The Actors Fund continues, stronger than ever, ready to execute this vision and assist those who need us the most.

To read the full Annual Report, visit [actorsfund.org/AnnualReport2018](http://actorsfund.org/AnnualReport2018).

### The Actors Fund Values Statement

We recognize the contributions of each individual, and promote trust and mutual respect.

We collaborate and share information, skills and knowledge with each other and our community.

We encourage and celebrate curiosity, creativity and innovation.

We embrace diversity and seek equity, inclusion and dignity for all.

We hold ourselves and each other accountable for the integrity of our services, to being good stewards and maintaining the trust of our clients and supporters.



NOW OPEN:

# The Samuel J. & Florence T. Friedman Pavilion at The Actors Fund Home

“The quality of care provided at The Actors Fund Home is the kind of care we all want for our loved ones, our colleagues and ourselves.”

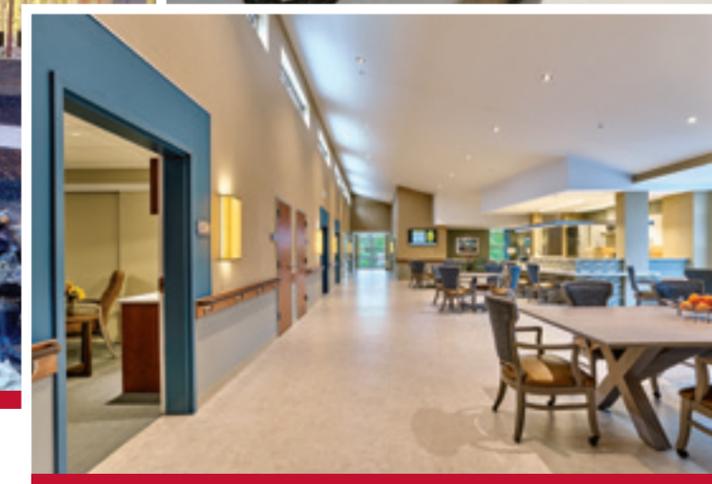
—Fund Chairman  
Brian Stokes Mitchell

On April 25, we proudly celebrated the opening of The Samuel J. and Florence T. Friedman Pavilion at The Actors Fund Home in Englewood, New Jersey.

The Friedman Pavilion, made possible by a lead gift from The Gerald J. & Dorothy R. Friedman Foundation, is a new two-story building that houses a 20-bed memory care unit and seven assisted living beds as well as a new wellness center, an arts studio, a dining room, a bistro and The Roger Rees Memory Care Garden. The memory care wing includes 16 individual studios and two larger studios for couples, and was designed specifically for seniors with mild to moderate dementia who are physically mobile but need enhanced programming and 24-hour supervised care and security. The wing allows maximum independence for residents, with spacious corridors and other amenities that allow residents to thrive in a safe setting.

“The quality of care provided at The Actors Fund Home is the kind of care we all want for our loved ones, our colleagues and ourselves,” stated Fund Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell. “All of this was made possible by 81 donors who are recognized at The Home’s entrance. And I’m honored to mention The Shubert Organization, led by Chairman Phil Smith and President Robert Wankel, as well as The Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Foundation. Their generous gifts are reflected in these two beautiful pavilions that bookend our Home.”

“This dedication is a true milestone for us. We’re building on our history of providing vital programs and services that foster stability and resiliency and serve as a safety net to everyone who works in performing arts and entertainment,” said Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees Annette Bening.



“The expansion and modernization of The Home will allow us to serve more people, in more ways, with continued compassion and excellence,” said The Fund President and CEO Joseph P. Benincasa.

The ribbon-cutting event marked the completion of a capital campaign project to rebuild, expand and preserve The Actors Fund Home. The new wing was designed by Spiezle and built by C&C Construction.

“We are extremely proud of our long relationship with The Actors Fund Home and this project in particular,” said Spiezle Principal Architect Steve Leone. “We have no doubt this project will be a huge success in delivering positive outcomes.”

“We’re proud that our team’s work on this project will improve the lives of hundreds of people who have dedicated their lives to performing arts and entertainment,” said President of C&C Construction Vincent Celenza.

The Actors Fund Home is a gold standard for senior care and a recipient of both *U.S. News and World Report’s* coveted “Best Nursing Homes in America” as well as the highest rating of five stars from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

For more on The Friedman Pavilion and The Actors Fund Home visit [actorsfundhome.org](http://actorsfundhome.org).

opposite page l-r: Robert E. Wankel, Annette Bening, Philip J. Smith, Abby Schroeder and Brian Stokes Mitchell.

top: Rick Elice planting seeds in the Memory Care Garden—named in honor of his late husband, Roger Rees.



# Looking Ahead

## WHAT'S NEW



### Looking Ahead Child Labor Regulations Workshop

As Looking Ahead continues to grow in New York, they hosted an informative workshop presented by experts from the New York State Department of Labor in The Paul Libin Center in The Actors Fund headquarters.

Assistant Director Labor Standards Michael Burkard, Chief Labor Standards Investigator Lori Roberts and Director Labor Standards Maura McCann gave an overview of child performer labor regulations and how to apply for work permits.



top: second from left: SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris, SAG-AFTRA Young Performers Committee Member Julie Hyman and SAG-AFTRA Young Performers Committee Co-Chair Lee Bryant. Third from right: SAG-AFTRA Executive Vice President of New York President Rebecca Damon with young SAG-AFTRA members.

bottom: Michael Burkard, Lori Roberts, Maura McCann, Looking Ahead Social Worker Judy Rosch and Entertainment Assistance Program Supervisor for Social Services Lillian Gallina.

### IN NEW YORK



### Looking Ahead Hosts SAG-AFTRA Young Performers in New York

Looking Ahead NY was thrilled to host SAG-AFTRA's members under 18 years of age. At the open house, young performers and their parents gathered at The Paul Libin Center and had the opportunity to learn about counseling services, activities, workshops and informational seminars the Looking Ahead program offers. SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris and Executive Vice President and New York President Rebecca Damon were among the attendees, much to the delight of the SAG-AFTRA families.

The event brought more than 25 parents and industry professionals together, who were able to ask questions addressing the unique situations young performers find themselves in as working professionals.

Visit [LookinAheadNY.org](http://LookinAheadNY.org).

### IN LOS ANGELES



### Looking Ahead Volunteers for Prom Day

Looking Ahead joined other community volunteers through the Assistance League of Los Angeles for Operation School Bell's Annual Prom Day! Prom Day is a special event where 200 graduating high school girls, chosen by the Homeless Education Program and Foster Youth Achievement Program of LA Unified School District, are outfitted for their school proms. Looking Ahead members helped set up the Prom Day Boutique where these underserved girls will be able to shop for Prom Day. They sorted through and organized hundreds of brand new donated dresses, shoes, jewelry, purses and make-up. It was an inspiring and humbling day for our Looking Ahead teens to be able to give back to girls their own age.

### Looking Ahead at Cirque School

Looking Ahead encourages kids to stay active and healthy by providing events that allow them to have fun while working out. Kids ages 9-11 recently returned to one of their most popular events: Cirque School in Hollywood. Twenty kids exercised their balance, strength and perseverance on the trapeze and silks, and also practiced tricks with hula hoops and flips on the spring floor. Everyone had a blast and got a great workout at the same time.

Visit [LookinAheadCA.org](http://LookinAheadCA.org).



### Looking Ahead volunteers at Motion Picture and Television Fund

Looking Ahead members ages 12-14 volunteered their time at the Motion Picture and Television Fund (MPTF). They played several rounds of bingo with the residents and enjoyed holiday treats and hot cocoa over conversation. Looking Ahead volunteers at MPTF each year and it is always a great multi-generational event that allows the residents to share interesting and inspiring stories of their work in the industry with the kids in the Looking Ahead program.



# In the Spotlight Members—Take a Bow

Our In the Spotlight members play an essential role in making The Actors Fund's critical programs possible for everyone in our performing arts and entertainment community every year. These very special members of our Premiere Giving Society receive concierge service and access to purchase House Seats on Broadway and select theaters in Los Angeles, invitations to exclusive members-only cocktail receptions and parties, and our annual dinner celebration. For more information about the benefits of In the Spotlight, please contact Phillip Matthews, Manager of Membership, at **212.221.7300 ext. 127** or **pmatthews@actorsfund.org** or visit **actorsfund.org/IntheSpotlight**.

<b>In the Spotlight</b>	Berson Family Supporting	Phyllis Meyers	Robert Kuhbach &	Tracy Cohen & William Ludel	Doris Blum Gorelick	Richard & Elizabeth McQuail	Schwartzapfel Lawyers
<b>President's Inner Circle</b>	Foundation	John Michalski	Sherrell Andrews Kuhbach	James H. Coleman	Fred Greenberg	Michael Medico &	Peter Seldin
<b>Gifts of \$25,000 and above</b>	Andrea Brown & Robert Levande	Alfred Molina	Anonymous (2)	Pat Collins	Allan & Muriel Greenblatt	Brian Warwick Wright	Jerry & Marsha Seslowe
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Foundation—in memory	Paula Kaminsky Davis	Amy Sherman Palladino	Robert & Veronica Bailin	Ronald & Linda Daitz	Karen & Eric Gurwin	Lawrence Mentz	Marlene Marko & Loren Skeist
of Steven Weiss	Mitzi & Warren Eisenberg	Wendy Paton	Doug Barasch	Bonnie L. Dale	Sherry Lambert Halpern	Edward H. Meyer	Lorie Slutsky
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<b>In the Spotlight Platinum</b>	Barbara J. Fife	Lee Perlman & Linda Riefberg	Harlan Batrus & Jean Lee	Eunice David	Robin P. Hertz	Felice Michetti	Kim Sprague
<b>Gifts of \$10,000 and above</b>	Margaret & Howard Fluhr	Leon & Catherine Pollack	Orson & Alley Bean	Isabel & Robert Davis	& Raymond A. Bragar	Frances Milberg	Adam & Laurin Steiger
Paul Blake	Miriam Fond	Denice Rein	Willard Beckham	Robert F. Davis, II	Barbara J. Hill	Paul Miles	Heidi L. Steiger
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Jill & Martin Handelsman	Alixandria & Budd Friedman	David C. Rich	Nancy & Joseph P. Benincasa	David & Ellen Dean	Sally & Robert Huxley	Shep & Gigi Miller	Nancy Stephens & Rick Rosenthal,
Sharon Karmazin	Freddie & Myrna Gershon	Brian Robinson & Brendan Hill	Richard & Mary Benioff	Jamie deRoy Charitable Trust of	Gerald H. Hyman, D.M.D.	Peter Moore	The Rosenthal Family
Thomas Kean	Joanna Gleason	Jorge Ignacio Rosso	Gregg & Susan Berdy	the Jewish Communal Fund	Judith & Martin Isserlis	Mary A. Mullin	Foundation
Sharon & Stewart Menking	& Chris Sarandon	Evan Sacks	Stephen Bernstein	Richard & Jennie DeScherer	Lowell & Lynn Jacobs	Randolph & Rona Nelson	Milton Steren
Susan Meredith	Adam Goodfarb	David Sadroff	Judith Bittel	Rosemary Desloge, M.D.	Paul F. Jones	Ruth Nerken	Michael & Marjorie Stern
Martha Nelson	Annie Goodman	Debra Samuelson	Stephen Bittel	Nada Despotovich	Robin A. Jones	Kathleen O'Grady	Brian Stokes Mitchell
Stanley Newman	Mark Greenwald	Micki Schildkraut	Mike Blank	Lynne & Irwin Deutch	Thomas Kahn	Bruce & Nicole Paisner	Pavur R. Sundaresan, M.D.
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Carl & Aviva Saphier	Beth Holland	Mr. Robert H. Siegel	Walter Bobbie	David & Rachel Eidelman	John Kander	& Ira Schuman	Thomas A. Teeple
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Silver	Erika Honda	Jay Signore	The Irving & Joan M. Bolotin Fund	Andy Elisburg	Rosalind & Gary Karlitz	Robert & Sula Pearlman	Joel Treisman
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The Dorothy Strelsin	Patricia Jehle	Margaret Styne	Bruce & Tina Bolton	Elissa & Herbert Epstein	Foundation Inc.	Peter & Peggy Pressman	Jon Wade
Foundation, Inc.	Margaret & Richard Johnston	Pamela & Allen B. Swerdlick	John Bowab	Helen Funai Erickson	Robert & Anna Kelly	Gail Propp	David Waldes
Elgart Aster & Paul A. Swerdlove	Stephen & Barbara Jones	Michael Thomas	Linda Brady	Peter Fahey	Donna Kenton	Mary Lou Quinlan	Suzyn Waldman
David A. Terveen	Ann Kaplan & Robert Fippinger	Joe & Alice Torre	Louise Braver	Leonard & Susan Feinstein	Leona & Ralph Kern	David Rambo & Theodore Heyck	James Wallick
Carol M. Waaser	Karen E. Kennedy	Mr. & Mrs. John P. White	Dominique Bravo & Eric Sloan	Gena Feist	Elysaabeth Kleinhans	Joyce Randolph	Carol G. Walter
Sandra K. Wasserman	Chris Keyser	Elizabeth Kubota Whitney	Stuart Breslow & Anne Miller	Laurie Cohen Fenster	Mr. & Mrs. Harvey D. Kohn	Sandra Reilly	Fran Wasserman
Joseph H. Wender Foundation	Judith A. Kleiner	Kenneth C. Whitney	Lucy Avery Brooke	Patrick Flaherty	Ram Koppaka	Kenneth Remsen, M.D.	Robb Webb &
Barbara Whitman	The Klorfine Foundation	Jan Willinger & Robert Spiegel	Valerie & Joseph Brown	Scott & Linda Flanders	John Kordel Juliano	Geoffrey Rich	Pat De Rousie-Webb
	Laurence F. Klurfeld	George R. Zuber	Peter C. Browne—	Andrew Flatt	Sharon Korman	Monroe Rifkin	Susan Weintraub
<b>In the Spotlight Gold</b>	& Joele Frank	Donald & Barbara Zucker	Price Raffel & Browne	Jordan Fox	Diane G. Kranz	Mr. & Mrs. Carmen Romeo	Lucille Werlinich
<b>Gifts of \$5,000 and above</b>	Eric Krebs		Mr. & Mrs. Don Buchwald	Alba Francesca	Ronald Krause Ronald Krause	Barbara Rosenblum	Myles & Barbara Wittenstein
Richard Ambrose	Norman & Kim W. Kurlan	<b>In the Spotlight Silver</b>	Amy Butte Liebowitz	Judy Frank Mearian	Bill Kux & Frank Rizzo	David Rosenfelt	Terrence J. Witter
Gary Avendano & Beverly Cornel	Rocco & Debby Landesman	<b>Gifts of \$2,500 and above</b>	Charitable Fund	Howard L. & Judie Ganek	Robb Lady	Mr. & Mrs. William A. Roskin	Tom Wolff & Tim Collins
Ellen Baber & Jeff Hoisington	Fred A. Landman	Richard & Iris Abrons	Linda R. Carlozzi	Richard J. Gerrig	Nancy J. Lang	Lyn Ross	Brian Warwick Wright
Clarke & Patricia Bailey	Stewart F. Lane	Lisa Alter	Mark A. Castellano	& Timothy Peterson	Stephen & Kristina Lang	Joyce Rothenberg	& Michael Medico
Alec & Hilaria Baldwin	& Bonnie Comley Foundation	Abigail & Antonio Alvarez	Patricia Cayne	Nancy & Christopher Gibbs	David Lebenstein & Ellen Baer	Nedenia Rumbough	Boniface A. Zaino
Frank A. Bennack	James & Mary Larkin	Mark & Maria Alvarez	Randolph R. Charles	Jack & Myra Gibson	Peter Levinson	Paul Russell	Alan & Edna Zaretsky
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Albert J. Berger	James D. Matte		Vincent & Julie Cino	Kevin & Neil Goetz	Richard Lin	Evelyn Salzberg	Fidelity Charitable
	& J. Christopher Beck		Carol Higgins Clark	Virginia Gold	Lee Livingston	Dorothy & Peter Samuels	Barbara & Michael Zimmerman
				Ronald Goldstock	Vanessa Livingston	Lawrence Scheinthal	Robert E. Zimmerman
				& Judith Friedman	Sidne Long	Irving Scher & Amy L. Katz	
				David & Renee Golush	Lisa Malloy	Albert & Jayne Schiff	
				Erwin G. Gonzalez, M.D.	Michael J. Marino	William H. Schneider	
				Judy & Mark Goodman	& Mary Cooper Wright	Abby Schroeder	
				Joyce Gordon	Thomas C. Mazza	Adam Schwab	

# Special Performances and Producer's Picks



The Lifespan of a Fact cast with Fund Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell & Fund CEO Joe Benincasa



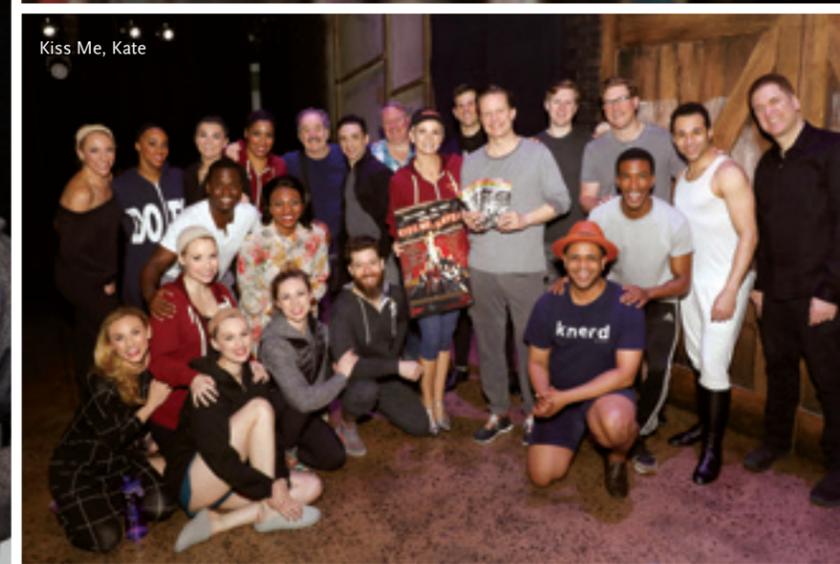
King Kong



Come From Away



Hillary and Clinton



Kiss Me, Kate



Be More Chill

Thank you to these generous Broadway companies who gave of their time and talent through their Special Performances and Producer's Picks shows!

Shows often add an extra performance—a Special Performance—to their regular schedule as a benefit for The Actors Fund. All proceeds from these exciting occasions support programs and services for everyone in performing arts and entertainment.

Bravo as well to the producers of the Broadway and Off-Broadway shows who donated blocks of "Producer's Picks" tickets so 100% of the ticket purchase price supports our initiatives.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Special Performance or Producer's Picks event!

Visit [actorsfund.org/performances](https://actorsfund.org/performances) to join us for the best seats and the hottest tickets.

- The Lifespan of a Fact*
- Torch Song*
- The Prom*
- King Kong*
- Come From Away*
- Hillary and Clinton*
- The Waverly Gallery*
- The Ferryman*
- Network*
- To Kill A Mockingbird*
- Gary: A Sequel to Titus Andronicus*
- King Lear*
- Be More Chill*
- Kiss Me, Kate*
- Smart Blonde*
- Enter Laughing*



Torch Song



The Prom

# Special Events



## The 23rd Annual Tony Awards Viewing Gala

The 23rd Annual Tony Awards Viewing Gala in Los Angeles honored Emmy, Grammy and Tony Award winner Lily Tomlin with the coveted Julie Harris Award for Artistic Achievement. Emmy winner Leslie Jordan hosted the event and tributes to Lily were given by Baron Vaughn, who plays her son on *Grace and Frankie*, Jai Rodriguez from the original *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and a bevy of drag performers all dressed as Lily's famous character, Ernestine. Sam Waterston presented Lily with the Award, and Lily spoke fondly of her friendship with Julie Harris and how much this award meant to her.

Lily Tomlin with Ernestines.



## Heart & Soul Gala

Career Transition For Dancers celebrated the 10th annual Heart & Soul Gala in Florida. Hosted by Bebe Neuwirth, the event honored National Ambassador Vice Chair and Heart & Soul Gala Founder Anka Palitz and renowned dancers Gillian Murphy and Ethan Stiefel, who were presented with Heart & Soul Awards. The evening featured performances by DanceTown USA, Boca Ballet, Ballet Palm Beach and Ballet Florida.

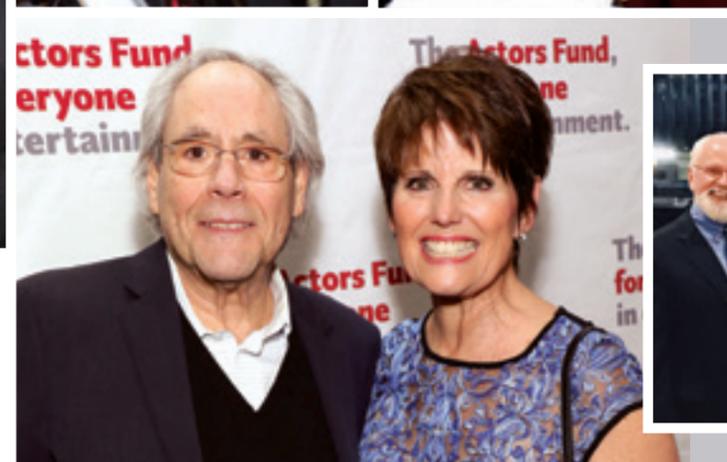
l-r: Gillian Murphy, Ethan Stiefel and Anka Palitz.

## The Actors Fund Gala

The Actors Fund Annual Gala proudly raised more than \$1.5 million and broke all previous fundraising records for the event! Our distinguished honorees were Tony Award-winning playwright and actor Harvey Fierstein; International President of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Matthew D. Loeb; Chairman & CEO of the John Gore Organization and Tony Award-winning producer and acclaimed director John Gore; and Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony Award-winning singer, dancer and actress Rita Moreno.

Michael Urie hosted the evening that included performances by Amber Gray, Beth Leavel, Michael Potts, Matthew Sklar, Damon Daunno, Rebecca Naomi Jones, Sarah Stiles, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Luke Hawkins and Evan Ruggiero. Additional presenters and guests included Annette Bening, Kenny Leon, Jawan M. Jackson, Tony Kushner, Will Roland, Brandon Uranowitz, Eric William Morris and more.

top to bottom: Kenny Leon, John Gore and Jawan M. Jackson; Matthew D. Loeb, James B. Wood; Harvey Fierstein, Michael Urie; Rita Moreno, Tony Kushner.



## [title of show] 10 Year Reunion Concert

We were thrilled to recognize the 10th anniversary of [title of show] with a one-night-only concert. It was a spectacular reunion of the original cast Hunter Bell, Susan Blackwell, Heidi Blickenstaff, Jeff Bowen, Benjamin Howes and Courtney Balan, with original Musical Director Larry Pressgrove, Director/Choreographer Michael Berresse and producer Kevin McCollum as well.

l-r: Benjamin Howes, Heidi Blickenstaff, Michael Berresse, Kevin McCollum, Susan Blackwell, Hunter Bell, Jeff Bowen, Larry Pressgrove and Courtney Balan.

## Broadway Brunch with the Stars: An Afternoon of Song and Celebration

The heart of Broadway was on display at *Broadway Brunch with the Stars*, benefitting the Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative and honoring Kaytie O'Hara—a beloved member of the performing arts community—who is facing her fourth diagnosis of cancer. Spearheaded by Kelli O'Hara and Seth Rudetsky and graciously hosted by Barbara Baekgaard in her gorgeous apartment, the brunch featured incredible performances by Kelli, Seth, Fund Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell, Kate Baldwin, Laura Benanti, Corbin Bleu, Stephanie J. Block, Kerry Butler, Will Chase, Erin Dilly, Christine Ebersole, Matthew Morrison, Stephanie Styles, Chris Sullivan, Adrienne Walker, James Wesley and Rachel Zatoch.

l-r: Kelli O'Hara; Stephanie Styles and Corbin Bleu.



## They're Playing Our Song 40th Reunion Concert

*They're Playing Our Song* celebrated a triumphant 40th anniversary concert. Original Broadway stars Robert Klein and Lucie Arnaz recreated their performances with original 'voices' Debbie Gravitte and Hal Shane, along with cast members Ivy Austin, Houso Semon, Hugh Panaro and Andrew Fitch. The orchestra was conducted by original musical director Larry Blank and we salute director Chet Walker and the entire creative team. Our thanks to executive producer Robert Greenblatt for initiating this unforgettable project.

l-r: Robert Klein and Lucie Arnaz.

## I Love Lucy: A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Sitcom

The Actors Fund presented *I Love Lucy: A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Sitcom*. Gregg Oppenheimer—the son of *I Love Lucy* creator/producer and head writer Jess Oppenheimer—wrote and directed the radio play. We're grateful to the star-studded cast of Sarah Drew, Oscar Nuñez, Seamus Dever, Abigail Marks, Matthew Floyd Miller, Philip Proctor, Nick Toren and John Rubinstein. A VIP reception with the cast, celebrating Desi's 102nd birthday, followed the performance.

l-r: John Rubinstein, Philip Proctor, Nick Toren, Abigail Marks, Sarah Drew, Oscar Nuñez, Matthew Floyd Miller and Seamus Dever.

# The Actors Fund Around Town



## The Actors Fund at the Spring Road Conference

The Actors Fund made its debut appearance at The Broadway League's Spring Road Conference. The League's Chairman Tom Schumacher gave a heartfelt introduction, then Actors Fund Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell, Vice Chair Annette Bening and John Gore, Chairman & CEO of the John Gore Organization, made a short presentation to the packed room. They reminded everyone that The Fund is for everyone in entertainment, including touring shows and presenting theaters. This point was also emphasized in an entertaining video featuring Kate Baldwin, Ann Harada, Ari'el Stachel, Wesley Taylor and Michael Urie. Thanks to everyone for their participation, especially Charlotte St. Martin, President of The League, who made the day possible.

*l-r: Brian Stokes Mitchell, Charlotte St. Martin, John Gore, Annette Bening and Tom Schumacher*



## BroadwayCon: A Weekend of Fans and Friends of The Actors Fund

The Actors Fund attended the fourth annual BroadwayCon to spread the word about our programs, services and special events. The Fund hosted an informational panel comprised of Director of Affordable Housing Initiatives Daniel Arnow, National Director of The Career Center Christopher Bloodworth, Special Events Associate Alexis DePersia, Health Benefits Specialist Vinny Musolino and Financial Wellness Counselor Rebecca Selkove, moderated by Senior Features Editor at Playbill, Ruthie Fierberg. We also invited attendees (fans and actors!) to stop by our booth to share why they love the arts.

*l-r: Christopher Bloodworth, Rebecca Selkove, Daniel Arnow, Ruthie Fierberg, Alexis DePersia, Vinny Musolino. Right: Broadway star Jessica Vosk*



## The New York Times Features Senior Volunteer

Our wonderful Senior Volunteer, Madine Singer, was featured in the *New York Times*. The article profiled the incredible work that Madine and her husband Stuart do as part of a Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Madine was placed with The Actors Fund in 2015; working in The Fund's Housing Resource Center, Madine provides critical one-on-one technical assistance to clients who need help navigating NYC Housing Connect (the centralized online portal for applying for affordable housing lotteries). We are so lucky to have Madine working with our team and would like to thank her for the important work she does to increase access to affordable housing opportunities for our constituents in New York City.

# What's New on the West Coast?



## The Palm View

The Actors Fund acquisition of the 40-unit Palm View residence is officially complete. This is an important step forward as we develop the Hollywood Arts Collective in Hollywood and other affordable housing projects. Levine Management Group is providing property management services and we will provide onsite social services. We thank the City of West Hollywood and the County of Los Angeles for their full support in this transaction and look forward to a continued partnership. We also thank our Financial Advisor, William Leach of Kingdom Development, and Nixon Peabody which served as Legal Counsel (Sonia Nayak and Edward Campbell).

The Palm View opened in 1998 and was a collaborative project between The Actors Fund and the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation. When the partnership was established, it was understood that The Actors Fund would ultimately become the sole owner; we're excited to have reached that goal.

Visit [actorsfund.org/PalmView](https://actorsfund.org/PalmView) for more information about the residence.



## Free Tax Preparation and Tax Reform

The 2019 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program filed 517 Federal and State tax returns for 233 industry professionals. Many volunteers came from The Career Center's annual Tax Preparation Training (TPT). TPT educated 30 industry professionals on IRS certification to become VITA volunteers; those graduates then volunteered for VITA sessions, developing more experience that prepares them for opening their own practices as a parallel career. VITA in Los Angeles is supported in part by contributions from SAG-AFTRA, The SAG-AFTRA Foundation, AEA and IATSE.

In collaboration with SAG-AFTRA, the SAG-AFTRA Foundation and the Writers Guild of America West, The Fund held workshops for almost 500 entertainment industry professionals to help understand and prepare for changes in new tax laws and how they might impact their financial situations.

It's never too early to plan for tax season next year; visit [actorsfund.org/VITA](https://actorsfund.org/VITA) to learn more.



## The Actors Fund Joins Forces with MPTF to create EHIS

The Actors Fund and MPTF announced our first direct collaboration with the creation of Entertainment Health Insurance Solutions (EHIS), which provides health insurance counseling services to members of the entertainment and performing arts community in California. Health insurance specialists are located at two Actors Fund locations (the SAG-AFTRA Building and I.A.T.S.E. Local 80 in Burbank) and two MPTF locations (in Woodland Hills and MPTF offices in Burbank.) EHIS offers comprehensive, unbiased, one-on-one health insurance counseling, enrollment and referrals for industry members and their families.

Visit [ehisca.com](https://ehisca.com) for more information.



# Edwin Forrest Day



## How Can I Join The Edwin Forrest Society?

Giving opportunities as part of our Edwin Forrest Society include bequests, gifts of intellectual property, royalties and residuals, retirement assets and more.

To learn more about The Edwin Forrest Society, including how to join, contact Manager of Planned Giving Jay Haddad at [jhaddad@actorsfund.org](mailto:jhaddad@actorsfund.org) or 212.221.7300, ext. 128, or visit [actorsfund.org/EdwinForrest](http://actorsfund.org/EdwinForrest).

In April—the month of Shakespeare’s birthday—we celebrated Edwin Forrest, his lasting legacy to The Fund and Shakespeare’s Birthday with coast-to-coast events. The Actors Fund established the Edwin Forrest Society to give special recognition to those selfless individuals and couples who have made provisions for estate gifts to The Fund.

In New York City, we hosted our annual Edwin Forrest Day and Shakespeare’s birthday celebration at The Players. Tony Award winner Jayne Houdyshell feted The Bard for his 455th birthday and dazzled our guests with a reading from *Richard II*—a nod to her recent gender-bending portrayal of the Earl of Gloucester in Broadway’s *King Lear*. Special guests of years past, including Tyne Daly and B.H. Barry, joined members of our legacy society that bears Edwin Forrest’s name, along with other great supporters of The Fund.

In Los Angeles, members of the Edwin Forrest Society, Western Council members and other supporters gathered in the beautiful garden at the home of Western Council Chair David Rambo and his husband Ted Heyck. Special guest reader Jason Butler Harner (recently of TV’s *Ozark* and Broadway’s *Bernhardt/Hamlet*) gave guests a master class in Shakespeare—reciting Sonnet 81 and Portia’s speech from *Merchant of Venice*, coloring each with background and other interesting insights.



top l-r: B.H. Barry, Jayne Houdyshell, Tyne Daly, Joe Benincasa. Bottom l-r: David Rambo, Jason Butler Harner, Keith McNutt.

Edwin Forrest was perhaps the first true star of American theater. His principal dream was to create a retirement home for the elderly members of the profession he so loved, and he left the bulk of his estate to be used for The Edwin Forrest Home in Philadelphia—which was incorporated into The Actors Fund Home in Englewood, NJ in 1988. Forrest’s name lives on in a wing at The Home and through our planned giving society.

## Performing Arts Legacy Project

In partnership with The Research Center for Arts and Culture (RCAC), we proudly launched the Performing Arts Legacy Project (PAL) in May. This new online platform is designed to document and represent older performers’ careers through photographs, audio recordings, written stories and more.

We celebrated PAL during an afternoon at Actors’ Equity in New York City, where attendees received a demonstration of the website from Joan Jeffri, Founder and Director of RCAC, an affiliate organization of The Actors Fund. There were also performances and testimonials from actor, director, choreographer, educator and Tony Award-winning star of the Broadway musical *Hadestown* André De Shields, and the original Sweeney Todd and co-star of *Murder, She Wrote*, Tony Award-winner Len Cariou, on their experience of documenting their careers on the PAL site.

“The Performing Arts Legacy Project digs deeper into the histories and memories of those workers on whom the industry was built,” said Joan Jeffri. “It recognizes these performers’ lives and careers with dignity.”

“There is now an online space where performers can present their lifetime careers holistically and under their control,” said Traci DiGesù, Manager of Activities and Volunteer Programs at The Actors Fund. “We’re thrilled to add this website to the suite of social services we provide to seniors who have devoted their lives to entertainment and the performing arts.”

Trainers, students and volunteers worked on this inter-generational project to create career timelines, oral histories, video and audio life reviews, collecting memorabilia and capturing experience in order to preserve this rich national heritage. The original ten Founding Performers include Michael David Arian, George Bartenieff, Vinie Burrows, Len Cariou, André De Shields, Susan Lehman, Agosto Machado, Richard Masur, Gilda Mirós and Virginia Wing.

The PAL website includes a community engagement guide to assist institutions, theaters, senior centers and other communities in creating teams of professional performers age 62+ and fellows from a variety of generations to work together to establish a deep representation of individual careers in the performing arts.

As more performers document their lives and careers, The Actors Fund will continue to be instrumental in supporting life-related needs for seniors in entertainment and the performing arts through our core programs including social services, emergency financial assistance, health care and insurance counseling, housing, and secondary employment and training services.

To explore a national legacy of professionals’ work (and if you’re a performer, to begin the creative journey of documenting your career!), visit [performingartslegacy.org](http://performingartslegacy.org).

l-r: Joan Jeffri, George Bartenieff, Susan Lehman, Len Cariou, Actors’ Equity Executive Director Mary McColl, Richard Masur, André De Shields, Virginia Wing, Michael David Arian, Gilda Mirós, Agosto Machado, Vinie Burrows.





The Shubert Pavilion

**WE BELIEVE IN TREATING ALL OUR RESIDENTS LIKE STARS.**

## THE ACTORS FUND HOME

Located on six beautiful acres in Englewood, New Jersey, and only seven miles from New York City, The Actors Fund Home provides excellent health care and supportive services for both short-stay rehabilitation and long-term residence.

Whether through our short-stay rehabilitation (open to the general public), assisted living, skilled nursing or memory care services for everyone in performing arts and entertainment, all of our residents get top-notch, compassionate care.

### SHORT-STAY REHABILITATION

Our physical, occupational and speech therapies prepare you for a safe return home after an illness, injury or hospital stay. Available to the general public.

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We welcome seniors who may still be active but can benefit from living in a community that offers special assistance.

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We provide 24-hour care to residents who may need more assistance or higher levels of care when necessary for medical reasons.

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# The Actors Fund, for everyone in entertainment.

729 Seventh Ave., 10th Floor  
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    STAY CONNECTED: [actorsfund.org/SignUp](http://actorsfund.org/SignUp)



**September 12**  
*Mean Girls*  
Producer's Picks, NYC



**September 15**  
*Ain't Too Proud*  
Special Performance, NYC



**September 19 & 20**  
*Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Parts 1 & 2*  
Producer's Picks, NYC



**September 22**  
*Oklahoma!*  
Special Performance, NYC

To reach the New York Office, call **212.221.7300 ext. 133**.  
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Visit [actorsfund.org](http://actorsfund.org).

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