The Actors Fund, for everyone in entertainment.

Annual Report 2017
Dear Friends,

It was a challenging year in many ways for our nation, but thanks to your generous support, The Actors Fund continues, stronger than ever.

Whether it’s our quick and compassionate response to disasters like the hurricanes and California wildfires, or new beginnings, like the openings of The Shubert Pavilion at The Actors Fund Home (see cover photo), a facility that provides world class rehabilitative care, and The Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts, our brand new primary care facility in the heart of Times Square, The Actors Fund continues to anticipate and provide for our community’s most urgent needs.

Together, we’re building on the foundation of our mission, by not only providing a safety net for performing arts and entertainment professionals over their lifespan, but also providing services that will foster stability and resiliency and allow our community to thrive at all stages of their careers.

A major focus last year was the development of a three-year strategic plan to help align our institutional goals with the changing needs of the performing arts and entertainment communities we serve. During the next three years, we plan to:

- Maximize partnerships with entertainment industry unions, associations and employers to serve more people;
- Grow The Actors Fund’s impact nationally by expanding our Chicago office and bringing a selection of our programs to two new creative communities each year; and
- Create new residential opportunities to meet the housing needs of the people we serve.

We are looking at increasing social work staff in strategic areas, enhancing our technology to strengthen our ability to provide remote programming, and improving our messaging to help our community understand that, despite our name, The Actors Fund helps everyone in performing arts and entertainment—not just actors.

In early 2018, The Actors Fund opened The Waldman Living Room, a new senior center for elderly and retired arts professionals housed in our Dorothy Ross Friedman Residence on West 57th Street in Manhattan. The Waldman Living Room provides a dedicated home for our activities programming and a home base for seniors in our community to congregate and participate in a variety of creative activities as well as health and wellness programming to address the practical concerns of aging in New York City.

Our ongoing investment into increasing services for the senior members of our creative community has resulted in 1,474 senior and retired performing arts and entertainment professionals served in 2017, and we’re likely to see that number increase in years to come.

Our increased activities programming extends to Los Angeles, too. With the support of The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, The Actors Fund started an activities program at our Palm View residence in West Hollywood that has helped build community and provide creative outlets for residents and our larger HIV/AIDS caseload. And the Hollywood Arts Collective, a new affordable housing complex aimed at the performing arts community, is in the development phase.

Our work would not be possible without an engaged Board as well as the efforts of our top notch staff and volunteers.

In addition, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS continues to be our steadfast partner, assuring help is there in these uncertain times.

Your support is part of a grand tradition of caring for our entertainment and performing arts community. Thank you for helping to assure that the show will go on, and on.

Brian Stokes Mitchell  
Chairman of the Board
Joseph P. Benincasa  
President & CEO
We offer a broad spectrum of programs to support the unique, essential needs of all who work in entertainment and the performing arts. Whether on stage or on camera, behind the scenes or below the line, we assist everyone working in theater, film, television, radio, music, dance, opera and circus. Administered through our offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, these programs help people across the country solve problems and make positive changes in their lives.
Social Services & Emergency Financial Assistance

Since 1882, The Actors Fund has been an essential resource for professionals working in performing arts and entertainment.

Our free and confidential social service programs address a wide array of challenges faced by people who work in the arts.

With respect, compassion and understanding, our professional social workers offer counseling and support groups, education, emergency financial assistance and practical help around a broad spectrum of issues including HIV/AIDS, women’s health, disability support, senior services, and addiction and recovery.

Learn more: actorsfund.org/Services

Photos: Jay Brady Photography

2017 IMPACTS

Pioneers of the breakdance world, Rokafella (right) and Kwikstep (center) are world-renowned dancers who faced a devastating loss when their home was destroyed in a fire. Our social workers were able to provide access to emergency financial assistance, as well as emotional support and connection to housing, legal and financial resources. “If it weren’t for The Actors Fund supporting our recovery from this tragedy, we could not have returned to the stage and to our lives with a sense of hope. They were a true lifeline when we needed it most.”

Sexual Harassment—Union, Performing Arts Organizations and Partner Trainings

The Actors Fund led training sessions on how to address sexual harassment issues for over 25 unions, universities and performing arts organizations around the country. We offer confidential crisis and short-term supportive counseling, education on individual rights and legal avenues, as well as referrals to related resources and other clinical services. Visit actorsfund.org/Assistance.

“They were so caring. It felt like meeting a new friend and that’s what The Actors Fund has become, my friend.”

DONICA is an actress from Chicago. The Actors Fund responded right away with emergency financial aid and supportive services when she was faced with a brain cancer diagnosis.

Our professional social workers work with clients one-on-one and through an array of groups and seminars that help to foster stability and resiliency over the entire lifespan of our community.

Our Programs

- Entertainment Assistance Program
- HIV/AIDS Initiative
- The Dancers’ Resource
- Phyllis Newman Women’s Health Initiative
- Disability Support Senior Services
- Mental Health Addiction and Recovery Services
- Employer/Union Partner Programs
- Conrad Cantzen Shoe Fund
- Funeral and Burial Assistance
- Online Resources

Sexual Harassment—Union, Performing Arts Organizations and Partner Trainings

BY THE NUMBERS

136 YEARS

of commitment to the performing arts and entertainment community

$2,027,867 MILLION

in emergency financial assistance*

7,368 PEOPLE

helped nationally

*Financial assistance is provided for critical needs such as preventing eviction, covering health insurance premiums and electric, gas, telephone or other essential living expenses.
The Actors Fund is for everyone. Actors is part of our name, but did you catch our tag line? We’re here for dancers, musicians, writers and many more.

“The grant and career counseling were incredible gifts. They’ve given me an enormous boost in my educational and financial goals in the course of my career transition.”

ALEXANDER is a dancer from Utah who took advantage of career counseling services and received a grant from our Career Transition For Dancers program to pursue a graduate degree in arts administration.

The Actors Fund has long supported the dance community in managing the demands of a life in dance. To assist dancers during and post-career, our Career Transition For Dancers and Dancers’ Resource programs help our community around:

• Career planning and transition
• Health, wellness and support for injured dancers
• Emergency financial assistance and scholarships

Our Career Transition For Dancers program provides career counseling, workshops, scholarships and other resources to help dancers achieve career stability, resiliency and professional development at any stage of their dance career.

2017 IMPACTS

BY THE NUMBERS

2,650 PEOPLE benefited from The Career Center’s services

NEARLY 100 UNIONS We work with nearly 100 entertainment unions and also help non-union workers

THE CAREER CENTER

The Career Center at The Actors Fund provides a wide range of career management services to performing arts and entertainment professionals throughout their working lives.

Our career counseling, education and training, job development, and entrepreneurship services help people find work that can be done while continuing in the industry or while developing a new professional direction. Offering classes, seminars, groups, tuition assistance and counseling, The Career Center empowers people in our community to find fulfilling work that complements their interests and skills.

Learn more: actorsfund.org/CareerCenter

Photo: Nina Prommer

2017 IMPACTS

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OUR PROGRAMS

The Career Center Career Transition For Dancers

Photo: Nina Prommer
The landscape of health care options is shifting, so our programs are always adapting to find solutions to emerging problems. We are singularly focused on keeping members of our community healthy and capable of pursuing their chosen careers.

At the Samuel J. Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts in New York City, we offer primary and specialty medical care for everyone in performing arts and entertainment in partnership with the Mount Sinai Health System.

Our Artists Health Insurance Resource Center offers our community personalized health insurance counseling, guidance and enrollment services, and updates its workshops, seminars, online resources and health insurance literacy tools with comprehensive information on the latest insurance options.

We help our community nationally. Our social workers assisted people in 48 states last year.

“I couldn’t believe it. It was all so easy and it was the best experience I’ve ever had in a doctor’s office.”

Our health insurance navigators helped ANNE, an actor, when she shifted her health insurance to Medicare. When she was looking for a doctor who takes Medicare, our navigators sent her across the hall to The Friedman Health Center for the Performing Arts.

Learn more: actorsfund.org/HealthServices
Housing is a critical concern for people who work in performing arts and entertainment. The Actors Fund works to increase access to affordable housing for our community.

In addition to our three existing affordable housing residences which are home to 652 people, our Housing Resource Center provides one-on-one consultations, online information via our Housing Bulletin Board and affordable housing seminars to 512 people in New York and Los Angeles.

We advocate for more housing for our community. Our Actors Fund Housing Development Corporation seeks out housing opportunities through strategic partnerships and marketing of new affordable housing developments.

2017 IMPACTS

The Schermerhorn, Brooklyn, NY
The Dorothy Ross Friedman Residence, New York City
The Palm View, West Hollywood, CA

Photos: (left) Michael Arden; (right) David Sundberg-Estro
We help entertainment industry professionals age 65 and older, their families and caregivers address the myriad issues they may face on a daily basis.

Whether it means helping seniors investigate housing alternatives or working with a family member to organize homecare, our experienced social workers develop a plan to meet our community’s individual needs.

Welcome to The Shubert Pavilion, the Newest Addition to The Actors Fund Home

Last year The Actors Fund opened The Shubert Pavilion, marking the mid-point of a capital campaign to rebuild, expand and preserve The Actors Fund Home, which will ultimately add an additional 45 beds to the residence. The new three-story facility, made possible by a lead gift from The Shubert Organization, with major additional support from The Walt Disney Company and The Mackintosh Foundation, houses a 25 bed subacute center for people who are recovering from illness or surgery and 14 assisted living beds. A rehabilitation center with a fully equipped gym for physical, occupational and speech therapies is on site to prepare residents for a safe return to their private homes. Learn more: actorsfund.org/TheHome

BY THE NUMBERS

967 SENIORS helped nationally

338 ENROLLED in our Seniors Volunteer & Activities Program

169 SENIORS at The Actors Fund Home

Our Home is the gold standard for senior care.

Our seniors groups meet regularly to foster networking and creative opportunities. They recently filmed monologues and scenes for an upcoming self-produced documentary at The Mark O’Donnell Theater at The Actors Fund Arts Center in Downtown Brooklyn.

Learn more: actorsfund.org/SeniorCare

Photo: Jay Brady Photography

Our programs

Senior Services
The Actors Fund Home
The Dorothy Ross Friedman Residence
The Waldman Living Room
Research Center for Arts and Culture
Our Financial Wellness Program helps engage, educate and empower people in our community to live financially healthy and stable lives.

We provide education and support around cash flow management, credit and debt, savings, investing and financial planning, and help people explore and address limiting beliefs and behaviors around money.

In addition, through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program in Los Angeles, The Actors Fund recruits, trains and works with volunteer tax specialists who help low-income performing arts and entertainment professionals file their state and federal tax returns.

Our free groups and workshops around Financial Wellness include Managing Cash Flow for Artists, where participants learn how to organize expenses, balance multiple sources of income and plan for periods of lower income between gigs.

“Our patience, determination and the incredible support provided by The Actors Fund, we have executed plans that will change the course of our lives.”

MIRIAM is an actor, writer and Registered Nurse and Shawn is a stylist and master barber. Together they completed our Financial Wellness courses to better manage their debt, income and expenses.

Learn more: actorsfund.org/FinancialWellness

Our Financial Wellness workshops increase our community’s financial knowledge and help them learn the tools and skills to support lifelong financial health and stability.

By the Numbers

578 people utilized our Financial Wellness workshops, panel discussions and webinars.

211 people received assistance in filing 598 tax returns via our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.

Our Programs

- Financial Wellness
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program
- Unclaimed Coogan Funds
- Entertainment Assistance Program
YOUNG PERFORMERS

Founded in 2003 in partnership with SAG-AFTRA, Looking Ahead is an innovative program of The Actors Fund tailored to help young performers and their families address the unique issues they face working in the entertainment industry.

Looking Ahead assists young performers ages 9–18 in the Los Angeles area in their personal development, helping them achieve a healthy sense of self, a sense of community and a plan for their education, nurturing a successful transition to adulthood. Looking Ahead serves young people, as well as their parents and alumni, through individual and family counseling, educational assistance and counseling, leadership development, community service and social events.

Learn more: lookingaheadprogram.org

The Actors Fund’s annual Looking Ahead Awards celebrates leaders in the young performer community. In 2017, Holly Robinson Peete honored her mother Dolores with the Judy and Hilary Swank Award for Parenting.

Looking Ahead’s services include educational counseling, individual, family and group counseling, informational and educational seminars, programs for parents aimed at providing support, information and community, group activities for young performers and community volunteer opportunities.

BY THE NUMBERS

530 YOUNG PERFORMERS participated in 131 activities

OUR PROGRAMS

Looking Ahead
Unclaimed Coogan Funds
Parenting Resources
MEMBERSHIP AND EVENTS

ACT NOW!

Become a member of The Actors Fund.

As an annual member, you’ll help thousands of entertainment professionals across the country who turn to The Fund for assistance. In return for your support, you have access to some very special benefits:

- Advance notification of Special Performances and Events
- Access to purchase House Seats to Theaters in both New York City and Los Angeles
- Free Tickets to Actors Fund Special Performances
- Private screenings of film releases
- Invitations to “Insider Events”
- A subscription to Marquee, The Actors Fund Newsletter
- Free Actors Fund tote bag and water bottle
...and much more!

Become a member of the family that helps the performing arts and entertainment community.

Visit our website for more information on how you can support The Actors Fund, and receive the many benefits of membership!

actorsfund.org/Support

Thank You!

Our members help support our programs and services, and get access to some of the most exciting events around! Actors Fund members enjoyed a pre-show reception with Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell at Sardi’s before the Special Performance of Dear Evan Hansen.

Special Performances and Events!

The Actors Fund’s Career Transition For Dancers Jubilee Gala honored dancer, choreographer and television dance competition judge Carrie Ann Inaba, former New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Robert Fairchild, and Academy and Tony Award-winning actress Catherine Zeta-Jones.

Insider evenings!

Our annual Tony Awards® Viewing Party is the place to be in Los Angeles on Broadway’s biggest night. Our 21st Anniversary event was hosted by Bryan Batt, and honored Betty Buckley with the Julie Harris Award for Lifetime Achievement, here with Bryan (left) and Actors Fund Trustee David Rambo (right).

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In 2017, 89 cents of every dollar raised directly supported our programs and services. Thank you to the following individuals and organizations whose support made our work possible. For information on the campaign or to make a donation, contact Thomas Eston, Chief Advancement Officer at 212.624.7529, email: teston@actorsfund.org or visit actorsfund.org/HomeCampaign.

**Capital Campaign Donors**

Our Campaign to rebuild, expand, and preserve The Actors Fund Home will modernize and transform the facility for the next generation of artists and entertainment professionals. For information on the campaign or to make a donation, contact Thomas Eston, Chief Advancement Officer at 212.624.7529, email: teston@actorsfund.org or visit actorsfund.org/HomeCampaign.

**Institutional Donors**

Supporting grants, program-oriented contracts and charitable contributions from corporations, foundations, government agencies, entertainment guilds, unions, associations and many other organizations collectively fund our initiatives. The following restricted and unrestricted donors are led by the generosity of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. For information on grants and corporate event sponsorship, contact Susan Latham, Deputy Director of Advancement at 917.281.5924, email slatham@actorsfund.org or visit actorsfund.org/Corporate.

The Broadway cast of Once Upon a Time in Hollywood was visited by Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell before their Special Benefit Performance for The Actors Fund.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 SUPPORTERS
Individual Donors

Individual supporters of The Actors Fund donate through our Major Gifts Program (In the Spotlight), Membership, Tribute Gifts (See Inside Front Cover) or visit mbrookshire@actorsfund.org

$5,000
Sonia O. Elmasl
Brian & Darlene Heddle
Steffen F. Lane & Bonnie Comley
Ruth Norden
Steven Newman & Brian Rosenthal, M.D.
Thomas Schumacher & Matthew White
Inn & Michael Smith

$25,000
Annetta Beigne
Nancy MacMillan
David & Anita Massengill
Martha Schell
Edward W. Snowdon
Carol M. Waaser
Anthony J. Zito

$50,000
Soni Aujla
Jennifer Pusey
Susan H. Yurkewich
Evelyn Halus
Michael Harel
Eugene Harlin
Nedema Merrill Haytie
Mr. & Mrs. William Herod
Susana Hessel & Karen Dahn
Barbara & Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Hochman
Erica Honda
Justin Humphries
Trey Cooper & William Ludlow
Hilary Huiech Coben
James H. Coleman
Jill Conner
Bradley Jones
Stephen & Barbara Jones
Kathryn K. Malloy
Thomas J. Marlowe
Maren McKee
Brian & Darlene Heidtke

Tony Award-winning fight director B.H. Barry (right) traded swordplay with a guest at our Edwin Forrest Society reception in New York City at The Players Club to celebrate Shakespeare’s birthday. Photo by Brady Photography.

Catherine Zeta-Jones
Rosenthal, M.D.

mbrookshire@actorsfund.org

or visit

Jennifer Maren
Paola Bacchini

Annual Report 2017
Danny DeVito received 2017 Medal of Honor from Trustee Annette Bening.

Rhys at our 2017 Annual Gala.

Sally Field was presented with The Actors Fund Medal of Honor by Matthew George R. Zuber.

In Honor of

Whether it’s for an opening night, a birthday, an anniversary or a holiday, a gift to The Actors Fund is a great way to show your love and respect. Those being honored are in bold below, with donors noted below each honoree. To make your own “In Honor of” gift, contact Phillip Matthews, Manager of Membership, at 973-281-5927, email pm@actorsfund.org or visit actorsfund.org/tribute.
Bequests
The Actors Fund offers our supporters the opportunity to purchase charitable gift annuities in every state in the country.
$500,000 + Estate of Winchell Smith
$1,000,000 + Estate of Lynne Palmer
$500,000 + Estate of Michael McCarty
$500,000 + Estate of David E. Sullivan
$2,500 + Estate of Delia Salvi
$5,000 + Estate of Kathleen Layman
$5,000 + Estate of Will Hare
$10,000 + Estate of William E. Farrier
$10,000 + Estate of Eleanore Freeze
$10,000 + Estate of Albert Hackett
$10,000 + Estate of Barbara Allyne Bennett
$10,000 + Estate of M. David Samples
$10,000 + Estate of Robert Rigamonti
$10,000 + Estate of Ella Gerber Kasakoff
$10,000 + Estate of Viola Harris
$10,000 + Estate of Albert Downing
$10,000 + Estate of Elia Gerber Kasakoff
$10,000 + Estate of George M. Cohan
$10,000 + Estate of George Schilling
$10,000 + Estate of Robert Corhan
$10,000 + Estate of Helen S. Hecht
$10,000 + Estate of Evelyn B. Neville
$10,000 + Estate of Joel M. Martinson
$10,000 + Estate of Mabel D. Locke
$10,000 + Estate of Richard Besoyan
$10,000 + Estate of Frances Reid
$10,000 + Estate of Virginia A. Brown
$10,000 + Estate of Barbara Morrison
$10,000 + Estate of William H. Preston
$10,000 + Estate of James H. Cohen
$10,000 + Estate of Richard Heyman
$10,000 + Estate of C. David DeSantis
$10,000 + Estate of Miriam Gendler
$10,000 + Estate of Beatrice H. Charney
$10,000 + Estate of Katharine Kerr
$10,000 + Estate of Noah Shafar
$10,000 + Estate of Katharine O'Hara
$10,000 + Estate of John Carter
$10,000 + Estate of Jo Ann C. Jenkins
$10,000 + Estate of Robert Brossman
$10,000 + Estate of Helen M. Carey
$10,000 + Estate of John A. Hackett
$10,000 + Estate of Peggy J. Fox
$10,000 + Estate of Robert J. Brossman
$10,000 + Estate of Danny Ray Dwyer
$10,000 + Estate of Thomas J. Burke, CPA
$10,000 + Estate of Richard Leon Stapp
$10,000 + Estate of Paul S. Broido
$10,000 + Estate of Harry Ellerbe
$10,000 + Estate of Robert E. Sullivan
$10,000 + Estate of Richard Edward Laub
$10,000 + Estate of Robert R. Richman
$10,000 + Estate of Horace Braham
$10,000 + Estate of Edward A. Pfeiffer
$10,000 + Estate of Kathleen Smythe
$10,000 + Estate of Guy Sorel
$10,000 + Estate of John Bromfield
$10,000 + Estate of John “Jack” D. Sydow
$10,000 + Estate of Bernard Herold
$10,000 + Estate of Lois St. John
$10,000 + Estate of Robert Brown
$10,000 + Estate of William Weinberger
$10,000 + Estate of J. O’Brien
$10,000 + Estate of Sean Connery
$10,000 + Estate of Frances Bay
$10,000 + Estate of Robert Waters
$10,000 + Estate of Joel M. Martinson
$10,000 + Estate of Richard Clarke
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Permanent Memorials
Permanent Memorials at The Fund have been created to honor the individuals listed in bold below through gifts of $2,500 or more.
To create a Permanent Memorial, contact Tom Exton, Chief Advancement Officer, at 917.281.5928 or email tomemorial@actorsfund.org or visit
actorsfund.org/PlannedGiving.

Aloha Ayer
Aaron Frankel
Westley Addy
Celeste Holm
John Alexander
Anna Nelliga
Lila H. Armetino
Jules Fisher
Alexis Arquette
Patricia Arquette
Lucinda Ballard
Robert F. R. Ballard
Katharine Bard
Martin Manulis
Richard Bauman
Gilbert Parker
Bruce Ball
Patricia R. Bell
Ralph Ballamy
George Nicolau
Kate A. Benincasa
Joseph P. Benincasa
Nancy J. Joseph P. Benincasa
Gerald J. & Dorothy R. Friedman
George Zuber & Anthony Snyder
Curtis Furay & Estate of Brian Fryer
Rogers & Hammerstein Organization

The Actors Fund Annual Gala honored AARP’s CEO Jo Ann C. Jenkins, here with Chairman Brian Stokes Mitchell. Photo: Jay Brady Photography.

La Rue Verne Donnan
LaVerne Donnan
Joseph Elf
LaVerne Donnan
Joseph Elf
Ralph Douglas
Melvin Slosker
Ursula Dove
Dinah Hughtt
New York City Ballet
David F. Doyle & Anita Doyle
Anita Doyle
Alexander J. Dubi
Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS
Elomora Duse
Family Foundation
Calvert DeForest
Anonymous
Lester E. Degenstein
Shirley Brownegg Charitable Trust
Rick Derby
Eileen Hughes
Dinah Small
Carol DeLuca
Irene R. Desasa
Ellen Dowell

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Thank you to the company of A Bronx Tale for their Special Performance. Photo: Jay Brady Photography.

The legendary Hal Prince received the 2017 Medal of Honor at our Annual Gala.
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