

MARQUEE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ACTORS FUND

FALL 2009 ISSUE: VOLUME 12, NUMBER 2



Left to Right: Angela Lansbury and BD Wong, Heather Randall and John Goodman, Lynn Redgrave and Mike Nichols
Bottom Right: Annette Bening, Kevin McCollum, Tovah Feldshuh, Janet McTeer, Lynette McCollum and Brian Stokes Mitchell

Getting ready for the future

The Fund Launches a Special Campaign



Clockwise from Left: Kathleen Raitt from The Nederlander Organization with Joe Benincasa. IATSE Local One Recording Secretary Robert Score and AFTRA President Roberta Reardon. Jujamcyn's Paul Libin, The Broadway League's Charlotte St. Martin @ Campaign Co-Chair Jonathan Tisch

On June 22

The Actors Fund launched a campaign to raise **\$12.5 million** to meet the growing and diverse needs of our vital performing arts and entertainment community. The Campaign – with the goal of *Responding to Essential and Evolving Needs* – was constructed in recognition of those major areas where growth is necessary to address the needs of our constituency, both today and in the years to come. With the leadership of co-chairs **Annette Bening, Kevin McCollum** and **Jonathan Tisch**, The Fund is seeking to broaden awareness of our services and secure the resources necessary to respond quickly to the issues and circumstances facing those who work in performing arts and entertainment. Early support has provided more than \$8 million in pledges!

While The Fund is acknowledged as being among the best of all human services organizations, recognized with a 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator (the premier rating service of non-profits) the needs of our community have only increased during these challenging times. Professionals in performing arts and entertainment are, as we all know, among the most vulnerable to the tough times facing our country. Even during good economic periods, most entertainment professionals earn modest, inconsistent incomes and have difficulties affording housing, health care and other basic living necessities.

Only about 25% of dancers, 15% of actors and 30% of musicians are able to secure full-time work, and none of their median incomes exceeds \$25,000 a year. In comparison, 70% of the general population works full-time and has a median income of over \$30,000 a year. And only 4% of Screen Actors Guild members earn more than \$50,000 per year working in film and television, easily refuting the perception that actors have hefty incomes.

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Danny Leone

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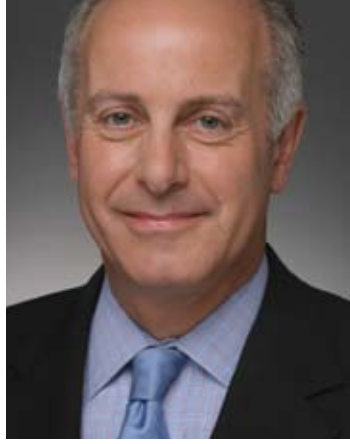


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VIEWS

Joe
Benincasa,
Executive Director



Health Care for Everyone

“Forty-seven percent of artists are self-employed: that’s a number three and a half times greater than the general population.”

It’s a simple goal which so many people have sought for almost a century. Yet how to get our country to reach this goal has eluded us.

The creative community served by The Actors Fund is famously resourceful in finding affordable housing, jobs to supplement income from careers in the arts, financial support and health care. To help our community secure affordable health insurance and health care, The Actors Fund has, among our many supportive programs, provided emergency financial assistance and case management, facilitated legislation in New York to offset the cost of COBRA and created the Al Hirschfeld Free Health Clinic (and partnered with other clinics) to provide medical assistance for those who are under- or un-insured.

And now we have launched a new website to educate about the need for health insurance and to give our community the tools to be involved and play a role in making sure that everyone is

insured. It’s called *Artists United for Health Care*.

The Actors Fund’s efforts in health insurance began in 1995 when we won a National Endowment for the Arts grant to develop a website to help artists across the country secure health insurance. As part of our Artists Health Insurance Resource Center, this highly valued service evolved with significant help from the Commonwealth Foundation and the SAG-IACF Fund and today provides state-by-state resources to more than 600,000 visitors a year at www.ahirc.org.

Artists United for Health Care was developed with support from Leveraging Investments in Creativity (LINC), which receives support from the Ford Foundation, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Nathan Cummings Foundation, and the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI), a foundation which promotes knowledge sharing, networking and the financial independence of individual artists by providing business-related training,

grants and loans and also incubates innovative programs for the field.

Forty-seven percent of artists are self-employed: that’s a number three and a half times greater than the general population. A recent National Endowment for the Arts study showed that actors have a median income of just \$23,400, musicians earn just \$22,600 annually and the median for dancers is \$20,000. And, compared to the national average of 70 percent, only 15 percent of actors have full year, full-time employment. **Those who work in the arts are twice as likely to be uninsured as the general population, with over 30 percent unable to obtain health insurance.** So it’s clear that Health Care reform is a critical issue for the creative community.

We have an opportunity to reform our Health Care system so that EVERYONE is covered. Please visit www.artistsunitedforhealthcare.org, click on your state, then press the ACT tab. Thank you!

The Dancers’ Resource – Helping Dancers Get Back on Their Feet

As dancers move across the stage – whether on Broadway, at a performing arts center, or in a small, tucked-away hole-in-the-wall space – their commitment to their art, and the choreography they’re performing, goes without saying. Given their intensive training and the huge sacrifices dancers make to have a career in this unforgiving art form, it’s almost impossible to get a glimpse of what can lie behind the joyful faces of performing dancers – injury, depression, stress and fear among them.

Given the hugely competitive world dancers live in, and the brevity of a dance career, dancers often go out of their way to keep it quiet when they have an injury, afraid that it effectively means the end of their time in dance. From this awareness of the unique concerns of dancers, Actors Fund trustee and Vice President, award-winning dancer/actress Bebe Neuwirth, founded The Dancers’ Resource in 2007.

The Dancers’ Resource addresses the distinctive needs of dancers facing health problems or injuries, provides a safe space and community for counseling and discussion, and offers a portal for the dance community to gain awareness that all of The Actors Fund’s programs are available for them in times of need.

A recent study from the National Endowment for the Arts, called *Artists in the Workforce*, showed that, while all performing artists – actors, musicians, singers and dancers – earn on average much less than the average working American, dancers are the lowest in annual income, with a median income of less than \$20,000 a year and with just 25% having full-time positions. These conditions further highlight the need for a place to turn when crisis strikes.

The Resource quickly reached out to all facets of the dance community to identify and address the most crucial needs, and this Advisory Council continues to offer advice and counsel as well as outreach to help get out the word that The Dancers’ Resource is available to those who need it. The Council includes such well known names in dance as Mark Morris, Arthur Mitchell, Peter Martins, Ann Reinking, David Parsons, Carmen de Lavallade, master teacher David Howard and Dance Magazine editor-in-chief Wendy Perron as well as the top orthopedists and nutritionists who understand and, in Bebe’s words, “speak dance.”

In 2008 – the first full year of the Resource – The Actors Fund helped **785 dancers and choreographers** across the full spectrum of our programs, including \$426,000 in emergency financial assistance. With the support of a social worker specifically for the Resource, Alice Vienneau, The Dancers’ Resource now provides support, education and information through in-person, one-on-one counseling in the New York City area and through telephone and email support to dancers across the country. The Resource also has a “support system” that offers groups for dancers dealing with injuries or health concerns and a safe haven to express themselves and address their issues confidentially. The program also addresses issues of particular interest to the dance community, including mental health, eating disorders, substance abuse, depression and other clinical areas.

The Resource provides referrals for health care and health insurance, emergency financial assistance during recovery, educational seminars on injury prevention, nutrition, financial wellness and advocacy for workers compensation and disability insurance.

Alice Vienneau, a long-time performing arts professional herself, says that “many of these dancers started off when they were young and have made sacrifice after sacrifice for their dancing. It’s a profound and difficult time when their work is interrupted by injuries or personal crisis.” She adds, “It’s important that The Dancers’ Resource be a place where they can safely begin to heal – not just physically, but mentally – and get support for all of their needs.”

Any professional working in dance is welcome to call The Dancers’ Resource for Actors Fund services or referrals to community agencies where they can get help at 800.221.7303 ext. 177. The Dancers’ Resource will help them get back on stage and continue their careers in dance. For more information, please visit the Resource’s section on The Fund’s website (www.actorsfund.org) in the “Services and Programs” section.



Photo: Bebe Neuwirth by Howard Schatz

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The Actors Fund is a nationwide human services organization that helps all professionals in performing arts and entertainment. The Fund is a safety net, providing programs and services for those who are in need, crisis or transition.

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Fax: 312.372.0272

Western Region

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Fax: 323.933.7615

The Al Hirschfeld Free Health Clinic

475 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
212.489.1939

The Dorothy Ross Friedman Residences (formerly The Aurora)

New York, NY
212.489.2020

The Palm View

West Hollywood, CA
323.933.9244

The Lillian Booth Actors Home

Englewood, NJ
201.871.8882

Schermerhorn House

Brooklyn, NY
718.640.1845

Marquee

212.221.7300 ext. 176
Fax: 212.536.7669
iclark@actorsfund.org

Actors Fund Programs:

SOCIAL SERVICES

Entertainment Assistance Program
Mental Health
Chemical Dependency
HIV/AIDS Initiative
Phyllis Newman Women’s Health Initiative
Senior and Disabled Care
The Dancers’ Resource
Looking Ahead
Financial Wellness
Conrad Cantzen Shoe Fund
Funerals and Burials
Partner Programs

HEALTH SERVICES

Artists Health Insurance Resource Center
Al Hirschfeld Free Health Clinic
Brent Varner Project

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The Actors Fund Work Program (AWP)

SUPPORTIVE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Lillian Booth Actors Home
The Dorothy Ross Friedman Residences (formerly The Aurora)
The Palm View
Schermerhorn House

For more information on Actors Fund programs, please call 800.221.7303 or visit our website at www.actorsfund.org.

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Recent Event Highlights

The **Actors Fund** benefited from five unforgettable nights at **Feinstein's at Loews Regency**. The amazing performers who donated their time and talent for The Fund included James Barbour, Andréa Burns, the cast of *[title of show]* (Hunter Bell, Jeff Bowen, Heidi Blickenstaff, Susan Blackwell, Larry Pressgrove and Michael Berresse), Julia Murney and Norm Lewis.

On June 15 Fund favorite Seth Rudetsky hosted **The ALL NEW Nothing Like a Dame** at New World Stages. Benefiting our Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative (PNWHI) the evening featured six of the most exciting women of Broadway – Kelli O'Hara, Stephanie J. Block, Bebe Neuwirth, Andrea McArdle, Audra McDonald and Betty Buckley. These amazing women talked to Seth about the early days of their careers and each shared a gorgeous song for the sold-out crowd. And actors Barbara Graham and Lynnda Ferguson, both former PNWHI clients, spoke movingly about their experiences.

Nora and Delia Ephron's new play **Love, Loss, and What I Wore** had a Special Benefit Reading for The Fund on March 16 starring Tony Award® nominee Veanne Cox, Emmy and Tony Award winner Tyne Daly and Emmy winner Rosie O'Donnell along with Samantha Bee and Lucy DeVito. The reading, directed by Karen Carpenter, was based on the book by Ilene Beckerman. Special thanks to producer Daryl Roth for a very special night.



New York (Top)
The Actors Fund team led by Captain Lynn Redgrave (center) at Central Park helped raise support for The Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative (PNWHI)

Revlon Run/Walk



Los Angeles (Right)
The Actors Fund team participated in the 16th Annual Revlon Run/Walk for Women in Los Angeles

The ALL New Nothing Like a Dame

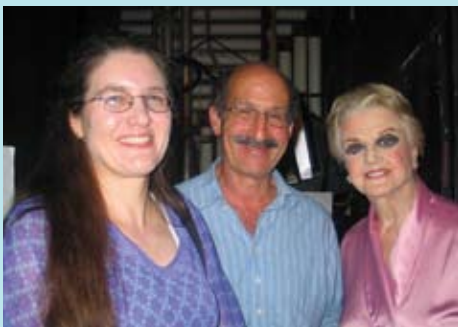


From top left clockwise: Nine months pregnant Kelli O'Hara kicked off the evening with a high-energy performance. Stephanie J. Block, Andrea McArdle, Seth Rudetsky, Betty Buckley and Actors Fund President Brian Stokes Mitchell at the Dame post-party held at New World Stages. Seth and Bebe Neuwirth talk shop. Audra McDonald during her performance rendition of "Bill" (CAROUSEL)

Auction of 1000 Stars



Clockwise from top: (l-r): Auction winner Marcelo Pevida and his wife and daughter (2nd, 3rd and 4th from left) with PHILANTHROPIST cast members. Auction Winner Justin Schwartz received a private voice lesson from Barbara Cook. Angela Lansbury with auction winners backstage after her performance in BLITHE SPIRIT



Love, Loss and What I Wore

A special benefit reading for The Actors Fund starring Lucy DeVito, Samantha Bee, Tyne Daly, Rosie O'Donnell and Veanne Cox



The only place to be on October 26!

In October, The Actors Fund presents **Chance and Chemistry: A Centennial Celebration of the Music of Frank Loesser.**

Co-chaired by Jo Sullivan Loesser and Sir Paul McCartney, the event will be hosted by our Campaign co-chairs Annette Bening, Kevin McCollum and Jonathan Tisch. Appearances will include Charles Busch, Liz Callaway, Debbie Gravitte, Hugh Jackman, Michele Lee, Audra McDonald, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Chita Rivera and John Stamos. This year's Actors Fund one-night-only concert is a fall season highlight.

Monday, October 26 at The Minskoff Theatre. For tickets or information call 212.221.7300 ext. 133, email tickets@actorsfund.org or visit www.actorsfund.org.

Tony® Awards Party

Top: At the 13th Annual Tony Awards Party in Los Angeles Chita Rivera, shown here with host Dick Van Dyke, was presented with the Julie Harris Lifetime Achievement Award. **Bottom:** Dick Gautier, Susan Watson, Chita Rivera, Dick Van Dyke and Rivera's daughter Lisa Mordente



Edwin Forrest Day



Geoffrey Rush, The Shubert Organization's Robert Wankel, Lynn Redgrave, Jane Powell, Shubert's Phil Smith and Brian Stokes Mitchell at the Lillian Booth Home celebrating the renovation of the Home and Shakespeare's birthday!

Actors Fund Special Performances

An exciting Broadway season has meant an equally exciting series of Actors Fund Special Performances – extra performances donated by cast, musicians, company management and front-of-house staff – on- and off- Broadway and in Los Angeles and San Francisco. And this year we've also enjoyed the newly-named Producer's Picks, with blocks of tickets being made available for the benefit of The Fund.

EQUUS

Richard Griffiths, Daniel Radcliffe and members of the company take a bow after their Special Performance of EQUUS



Mark your calendars

Don't miss these exciting events:

September 30

Love, Loss, and What I Wore
Special Benefit, New York

October 12 - 22 & October 19 - 29

Auction of 1000 Stars
www.auctionof1000stars.org

October 26

Chance and Chemistry: A Centennial Celebration of the Music of Frank Loesser
Benefit Concert, New York

October 28

Jersey Boys
Special Performance, Washington, D.C

November 30 - December 10

Holiday Edition of Auction of 1000 Stars
www.auctionof1000stars.org



SHREK cast members including Daniel Breaker Brian d'Arcy James, Sutton Foster and Christopher Sieber on stage after their Actors Fund Special Performance



The company of BILLY ELLIOT after their Special Performance

33 VARIATIONS
EVERY LITTLE STEP
IMPRESSIONISM
IRENA'S VOW
MARY STUART
MINSKY'S
THE STORY OF MY LIFE
THIRD STORY
YOU'RE WELCOME AMERICA



Acknowledgements



Continental Airlines is the official airline of The Actors Fund.



America's premier independent charity evaluator.



Top right: The company of WICKED in San Francisco, including the Wizard (David Garrison) and Madame Morrible (Patty Duke) before their Special Performance. Bottom: Company of WICKED in NY



Cast members of EXIT THE KING including Lauren Ambrose, Geoffrey Rush, William Sadler and Susan Sarandon with Brian Stokes Mitchell before their Special Performance



Angela Lansbury and the company of BLITHE SPIRIT backstage after their Actors Fund Performance



Company of WEST SIDE STORY before their Actors Fund Performance



The cast and crew of JERSEY BOYS



The NY company of THE LION KING. This was the 14th Special Performance by Lion King companies. Since the show opened, \$1,480,202 has been raised to help The Fund help colleagues in need all over the country.

The Actors Fund, for everyone in entertainment.

Donor Profile



Danny Leone's love of life ... and theatre ... and people is what has sustained this wonderful gentleman through a long and varied career – and led to his ongoing commitment as a member of The Actors Fund's Edwin Forrest Society.

Born and raised in New York, Danny's career started in 1939 when, at 11 years old, he was a boy soprano singing in the choir at the Actors' Chapel. His inspiration to perform as singer, actor and pianist came from his mother, whose love of music and drama rubbed off on all her children (Danny's brother, Richard, continues to be a working musician at the age of 90). Never outside the business, he attended Professional Childrens' School and The Theatre School of Dramatics.

Danny's first big break came when he was cast in Moss Hart & George S. Kaufman's *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. After that auspicious start he appeared in *They Knew What They Wanted* and has a resume of plays and musicals too numerous to mention.

His passion for entertaining drove him to find ways to help take theatre to the people. For a year he worked for the U.S.O., touring the US to entertain soldiers, sailors, marines and others in public service. When he was drafted into the army during the Korean War, he worked for Special Services, and never stopped performing.

After the war, Danny found a floating job at Cunard Cruise Lines, starting a unique adventure entailing many years of cruising around the world. As Cruise Director, he was in charge of entertainment, working with his staff to reproduce

such musicals as *My Fair Lady*, *South Pacific* and *Oklahoma!*

With a career in performing arts that spans over seven decades, Danny's words of wisdom to those interested in working in the arts is to "be careful with the teacher you select, don't let anyone push you to do what is not natural in you and be willing to make sacrifices."

Today Danny Leone lives in Pompano Beach, Florida and still performs at 82, but now mostly for those living in retirement homes in south Florida. And through an organization called Book Pals he volunteers to read to first and second grade school children at Charles Drew Elementary School— playing the various characters in the books — blending imagination with education.

What first drew Danny to give to The Actors Fund were the services The Fund offers to help his colleagues in the business. And he counsels those contemplating a donation to realize that there's no better place to make sure your money goes to a good cause. Ten years ago Danny was one of the first people to create a gift annuity at The Fund and he continues to earn money he can count on from it. He's happy to know that after he's gone this gift will continue to help others — in the arts community he so loves — for generations to come.



Lights on BROADWAY

Set for publication this fall is a children's book that teaches the alphabet by bringing the world of the theatre to life through terms, quotes, pictures and stories! Written by the award-winning children's book author Harriet Ziefert and fantastically illustrated by Elliot Kreloff, "Lights on Broadway" (Blue Apple, publisher) includes an introduction and postscript by our own Brian Stokes Mitchell, a CD of Stokes singing a special new version of "I Was Here" (from *THE GLORIOUS ONES*) by Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty and quotes from Whoopi Goldberg, Hal Prince, Liza Minnelli, Patti LuPone, Bernadette Peters and many more.

With a portion of the proceeds going to The Actors Fund, we hope you'll find a way to include "Lights on Broadway" in your holiday gift list, and you'll find it soon on The Actors Fund online store and in bookstores.

You can get guaranteed income – while helping those in need – with a Gift Annuity to The Actors Fund, and The Fund can now offer annuities across the country. For more information please call 212.221.7300 ext. 128 or wmunro@actorsfund.org.

Donor Profile

Artists Health Insurance Resource Center



CALIFORNIA
HEALTHCARE
FOUNDATION

The Actors Fund's Development group is continuing to grow new relationships with organizations around the country committed to providing grants and other forms of philanthropy that support our essential programs. A new affinity was found last year between The Fund's goals for our *Artists Health Insurance Resource Center* and the objectives of the California HealthCare Foundation, our featured funder.

An independent philanthropy committed to improving the way health care is delivered and financed, specifically in California, the California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF) uses two primary means to accomplish these objectives. One is by supporting innovations in care and the second is to promote broader access to information. They consider both to be crucial components of ensuring that all Californians have access to the care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford.

CHCF's Senior Program Officer Marian Mulkey has been aware of The Fund's work in California by the Artists Health Insurance Resource Center over the past 10 years and admires AHIRC's methods and successes in bringing health insurance and health care solutions to performing arts and entertainment professionals. In her words, "In these trying economic times, CHCF sees an opportunity to build on the relationships and resources that AHIRC employs with its core constituency by encouraging outreach to the broader California community of displaced workers who need similar guidance on health insurance and health care issues."

As a first step, CHCF provided support for AHIRC's creation of the "How to Get Affordable Health Care In..." guides for San Francisco/Oakland, San Diego, San Jose, Sacramento and Santa Ana/Anaheim, and has recently expanded their support of Fund programs. This new grant will fund a general public outreach program using the AHIRC model and called "Maintaining Access to Healthcare While Unemployed." This grant will make possible a series of workshops, seminars and webcasts for San Francisco and Los Angeles-area participants led by AHIRC staff as well as podcasts on the AHIRC website for continuous access. The project is scheduled to run between August and the end of October this year, and will reach people with important information that can make a difference.

The Actors Fund applauds California HealthCare Foundation – and all of our funders – for their key role in making our programs possible.

Serving in New Ways in Los Angeles

The Actors Fund continues to seek new ways to reach our extensive, and far-flung, community in the Western Region. For example, many of our colleagues in Southern California have found it difficult to travel the long distances required to reach our offices in Hollywood, particularly as gas prices have increased. So we simply decided to bring our services to them!

The Fund approached our friends at Local 80 IATSE in Burbank, who immediately offered to act as our host at no cost to The Actors Fund. In early July, we held our first full day of off-site services in the San Fernando Valley. Over 130 people came to a morning job networking breakfast, more than 50 attended afternoon workshops on health insurance and resume writing and many others received individual appointments with Fund staff.

We've also recently begun a series of volunteer-based, community-building activities with colleagues who are seniors or living with HIV or other disabilities. Basing these activities at our residence, the Palm View, in West Hollywood, which provides garden apartments and social services for people living with HIV/AIDS, The Fund is offering weekly painting classes with supplies made available through private donations, and we organized a decorating committee of Palm View residents to participate in the updating of the Common Room. Residents voted on the new color of the space and flooring and are putting together a priority list for other improvements when donations become available.

We've also connected with UC Davis' Master Gardener Volunteer Program, whose purpose is to teach sustainability and organic methods of gardening. Master Gardeners visited with residents and provided advice, seed and supplies for the development of the community garden at Palm View as well as participants' private gardens on apartment terraces. Plans are in the works to begin volunteer-based writing and meditation classes this fall.

The Actors Fund Launches Special Campaign

continued from page 1

The Campaign is working hard to broaden support for The Fund using statistics like these, and is also reminding those who may give about the economic boost provided by the arts and how, for example, the creative sector generated \$25.7 billion for New York City's economy in 2005 and \$110 billion for Los Angeles County in 2007 (the last years for which information is available). In taxes, New York City collected \$904 million in 2005 and Los Angeles County collected \$1.9 billion in 2007 from the arts and artists. The arts generated nearly 330,000 jobs in New York City and Los Angeles County combined. A thriving culture is crucial to our economic recovery, while inspiring hope and providing joy.

Supporters of our Campaign will help us to **1) strengthen our ability to respond to social and emergency financial needs, 2) increase access to health care and insurance services, 3) offer more affordable housing and 4) expand employment and training opportunities.** The Fund will be able to provide greater emergency financial assistance for essential living expenses, including rent, utilities or medical costs (a major program where we provided \$3.8 million in assistance last

year). We will be able to increase access to our health care programs and assist more people. And The Fund will also be able to move forward on new housing opportunities in communities where a significant number of arts professionals live and work, including Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Newark and New York. The Campaign will also help us to expand and strengthen our employment efforts through The Actors Fund Work Program (AWP).

The Campaign's success to-date is the result of the hard work and dedication of our Campaign Co-Chairs, Cabinet and Ambassadors. As advocates for The Actors Fund, this group has helped us develop our "case statement" and secured early support from individuals, corporations, unions and other organizations. They are now focused on engaging the greater philanthropic community, leading up to our next public report on the Campaign at The Fund's fall event, *Chance and Chemistry: A Centennial Celebration of the Music of Frank Loesser* on October 26.

For more information on the Campaign, visit The Actors Fund website or call 212.221.7300 ext. 129 or 800.221.7303.



Campaign Ambassadors Bebe Neuwirth (2nd from left) and Brian d'Arcy James (far right) with Constantine Maroulis and Andréa Burns at the June 22 launching of the Special Campaign

Campaign Co-Chairs

Annette Bening
Kevin McCollum
Jonathan Tisch

Campaign Cabinet

Jed Bernstein
Jeffrey Bolton
John Breglio
Pat Collins
John Connolly
J. Nicholas Counter, III
Rocco Landesman
Matthew Loeb
Kara Medoff Barnett
James L. Nederlander
Dale Olson
Roberta Reardon
Daryl Roth
Scott Rudin
Abby Schroeder
Charlotte St. Martin
George Zuber

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Lauren Bacall
Alec Baldwin
Patricia Barry
Matthew Broderick
Andréa Burns
Stockard Channing
Kristin Chenoweth
Alan Cumming
Olympia Dukakis
Christine Ebersole
Tovah Feldshuh
Sutton Foster
John Glover
John Goodman
Marcia Gay Harden
Amy Irving
Brian d'Arcy James
Allison Janney
Nathan Lane
Angela Lansbury

Laura Linney
Constantine Maroulis
Janet McTeer
Anne Meara
Brian Stokes Mitchell
Bebe Neuwirth
Phyllis Newman
Mike Nichols
Kelli O'Hara
David Hyde Pierce
Jane Powell
Phylicia Rashad
Lynn Redgrave
Doris Roberts
Geoffrey Rush
Liz Smith
Jerry Stiller
Lily Tomlin
Harriet Walter
Dianne Wiest
BD Wong
as of September 1, 2009

A Look at Our Campaign Leaders

The Fund's Special Campaign is very proud of the leaders who have stepped forward to co-chair this effort.



ANNETTE BENING

An award-winning stage and film actress, Annette Bening received Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations as well as a Screen Actors Guild Award and the BAFTA (British Academy) Award for the critically acclaimed film *American Beauty*. For *Being Julia* she earned her third Oscar nomination and was named Best

Actress by the National Board of Review while winning the Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Motion Picture – Musical/Comedy and receiving a SAG nomination. On TV she starred in "Mrs. Harris" with Ben Kingsley for HBO, earning Emmy, SAG, and Golden Globe nominations.

Her extensive resume includes major award nods for *The Grifters* (Academy Award nomination and National Board of Review award), Rob Reiner's *The American President* (Golden Globe nomination) and *Bugsy* (Golden Globe nomination). Among many notable films are *Love Affair*, *Regarding Henry*, *Guilty by Suspicion*, *Valmont* and *Postcards from the Edge* as well as Tim Burton's *Mars Attacks!* and Sir Ian McKellen's adaptation of Shakespeare's *Richard III*.

She was seen most recently in writer-director Diane English's remake of *The Women* and also starred in *Running with Scissors* (Golden Globe nomination). Upcoming film projects include *Mother and Child* for writer-director Rodrigo Garcia and *The Kids Are All Right* opposite Julianne Moore and Mark Ruffalo.

Ms. Bening has been honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Boston, Palm Springs and Chicago Film Festivals, received the Donostia Prize at the San Sebastian International Film Festival, won the Actress of the Year award at the Hollywood Film Festival and received the Montecito Award at the Santa Barbara Film Festival.

Born in Topeka and raised in San Diego, she graduated from San Francisco State University and trained at the American Conservatory Theater. In New York Ms. Bening received a Tony Award nomination and the Clarence Derwent Award for most outstanding debut performance for her role in *Coastal Disturbances*, first at Second Stage, then on Broadway. Her theater credits include Chekhov's *The*

“Whether you're watching a live performance, viewing a film, imagining the creative process and the crew behind the scenes or simply enjoying the magical results of our work, you can make an impact on the lives of those who have dedicated their careers to the arts. The challenges many of these individuals face are, at times, overwhelming. Through our support of The Actors Fund, we can insure that they have a better chance of withstanding troubled times.”

– Annette Bening

Cherry Orchard at the Mark Taper Forum, Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads* and Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, both also in LA. She will next appear on stage in *Medea* at UCLA, and in *The Female of the Species* at the Geffen Playhouse.



KEVIN MCCOLLUM

Kevin McCollum, a trustee of The Actors Fund, won Tony Awards for Best Musical for *In The Heights* (2008), *Avenue Q* (2004) and *Rent* (1996), which also won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and was made into a motion picture. Mr. McCollum also produced *The Drowsy Chaperone* (2006), winner of five Tony Awards; Baz Luhrmann's Broadway

production of Puccini's *La Boheme* (2002), which won two Tony Awards; *High Fidelity* (2006); *[title of show]* (2008); the touring and Broadway productions of Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*; and the Off-Broadway hit *De La Guarda*. Mr. McCollum received his undergraduate training at the Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and earned a master's degree from the Peter Stark Program at the University of Southern California.

“We have an opportunity to help those who truly are in need and have no place else to turn. These individuals contribute so much to our lives through their artistry and creativity – now it's our turn to support the organization they can't live without – The Actors Fund.”

– Kevin McCollum



JONATHAN TISCH

Jonathan Tisch is Co-Chairman of the Board and a member of the Office of the President of Loews Corporation, one of the largest diversified financial holding companies in the U.S., and is also Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of its subsidiary, Loews Hotels.

Mr. Tisch is widely known and praised for creating a corporate culture that places a high value on partnerships. His leadership philosophy was explored in his best-selling book, *The Power of We: Succeeding Through Partnerships* and his best-seller follow-up book, *Chocolates on the Pillow Aren't Enough: Reinventing the Customer Experience*, was nominated for a Quill Award as one of the five best business books of the year.

He has served since 1995 as Chairman of the Travel Business Roundtable, a prominent coalition of chief executives in the travel and tourism industry and, in 2003, he was appointed to the United States Department of Commerce U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board. For six years he served as Chairman of NYC & Company, the City's official tourism marketing agency and, after 9/11, he served as Chairman of "New York Rising," a task force to help rebuild the city through tourism.

Believing you can do well and do good at the same time, Tisch has served on a variety of Boards, including the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, the Tribeca Film Institute and the Business Council for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In addition, he is on the Board and is the Treasurer of the 2007 Super Bowl Champion New York Football Giants. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including being named one of the "Top Ten Most Influential Business Leaders" by Crain's.

“A strong cultural community is an engine for both a strengthened economy and a vital, engaged, accomplished populace. By providing critical assistance to this very important industry segment, The Actors Fund is supporting the lifeblood of culture in this country.”

– Jonathan Tisch