

# THE EAGLET

The Episcopal Actors' Guild | Est. 1923 | For All Faiths and None



IN ADDITION TO ALWAYS WEARING OUR MASKS,  
THE EAG COMMUNITY HELPS SO MANY.

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Are there any puzzle fans out there? Puzzles were something my family and I always did on vacation, working on one through our week at the Jersey shore.

But the coronavirus meant no trips to the shore or to anywhere else, so I started doing puzzles at home. By now, I really have come to appreciate the reward of trying out different things and slowly making progress.

It's almost like running the Guild in a pandemic.

In March 2020, it was as if someone had dumped 1000 puzzle pieces on the table:

- The demand for our services had increased fourfold.
- Hunger became a critical issue as 1 in 4 people in our great city reported not having enough to eat.
- Theater everywhere shut down, leaving people out of work with no money.
- We had to close Guild Hall, where we see clients and distribute food.

It's a good thing the EAG staff likes a challenge and our community is so generous. Everything was reimagined, and our Guild is now stronger than ever!

- We have satisfied the increased need with \$76,000 in donations from folks like you, up 49% over last year.
- Grants from foundations have brought in over \$172,000, 31% more than last year.
- We have helped three times as many people with food over the past year, having food delivered to our clients or providing them with a grocery gift card so they can shop on their own.
- We continue to work virtually but are still in close contact with those we serve.
- We are currently planning safe strategies to reopen Guild Hall later this year.

If you or someone you know of is in need of financial assistance or food at this time, please don't hesitate to reach out.

To those who have donated, we are so grateful to you for your help at this time. Together, we are solving this puzzle!

Karen Lehman Foster  
Executive Director  
[karen@actorsguild.org](mailto:karen@actorsguild.org)

The Episcopal Actors' Guild of America  
1 East 29th Street New York NY 10016  
212.685.2927 | [info@actorsguild.org](mailto:info@actorsguild.org)  
[www.actorsguild.org](http://www.actorsguild.org)

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# THE PEOPLE YOU HELP

*In 2020, you donated 49% more than in 2019!*

*Here's how your dollars made a difference:*

As most people in the arts know, there can be fantastically high moments, and there can be terrible lows.

It was during a low point that **I went to EAG to speak with Karen Lehman Foster.**

It is inherently embarrassing to ask for help. The feeling of embarrassment disappeared the moment I sat down with Karen. I felt instantly seen, welcomed, and understood. EAG helped me get back on my feet during a time when I really needed it.

I can think of no other place that reminds you of how great it is to be an artist at a time when your faith is shaken.

**What a gift the EAG is.**

*—Actor and writer Ellie Devers*

**EAG has been an absolute godsend in these difficult times.**

I'm a laid-off actor and a single dad, and I still can't believe how generous and kind EAG has been in helping me with groceries over these last few months.

**I never thought I would need assistance like this and I'm so grateful to have found the selfless and altruistic souls at EAG to help me and my son get through this.**

*—Actor, director, and father*

**EAG was a life saver for me.**

I was depressed with my money being very low. I had no one to turn to.

They provided a grant and a few food certificates. I was able to stand up and take control of my life. The coronavirus is a disaster. Any assistance that folks can get is greatly appreciated. I have a lot of pride but had to swallow it and ask for help.

**I am much happier now. I know that I can survive with a little help from great organizations like EAG.** We must help each other during these difficult times. Words of encouragement, a smile, a few dollars and a shoulder to lean on all help.

Thank you, EAG, for helping folks like me. Any donations to help the organization would be greatly appreciated and put to great use.

*—Actress who lost all of her work due to the coronavirus*

# THANK YOU!

I have truly benefited from your generosity, being in the arts and having to always work so hard to just make ends meet.

**The food cards and food donations saved me** so much from eating crap food, especially now that I have a baby, I can supplement with nutritional foods wisely. It has also helped me to shop smarter and get the most out of what I can spend during these times we are still shutdown as performers.

Your one-time grant has also helped tremendously towards rent, especially when we had no income coming in before unemployment. **Every little bit counts, and we performers will always work for food and to keep ourselves sheltered.**

*—Mom of a one-year-old. She was booking network television work before COVID hit.*

Well, the Covid pandemic has left me, like the majority of artists, with no employment since March.

Coupled with the school closure, it has been difficult to accept any other kind of work because I have no child care.

**I am grateful for all the help EAG is able to provide for so many struggling artists, especially those of us with kids.** This year has been especially hard and isolating for them. Thank you for caring about our children, as well.

*—Actress, singer, and single mom*

*“Thank you,  
deeply and  
repeatedly!  
Your support  
has been  
unparalleled.”*

*“Thank you for  
being so ready to  
help financially  
and to always find  
ways to support me  
as an artist.”*

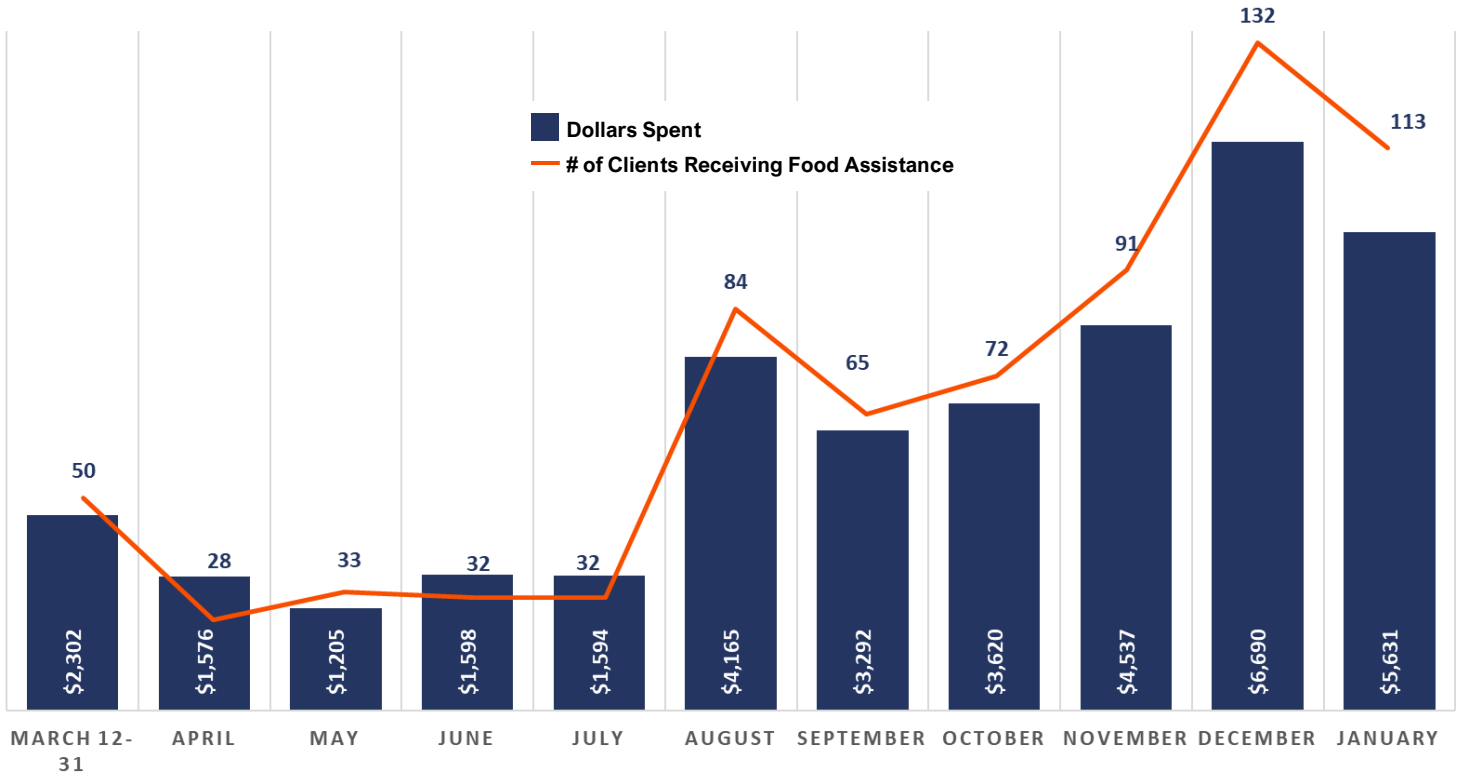
*“I’m getting so  
much from all the  
wonderful things  
you do for our  
community.”*

*“You helped me  
with rent relief,  
grocery gift cards,  
and the  
Masterclass  
membership!  
Thank you for  
supporting art!”*

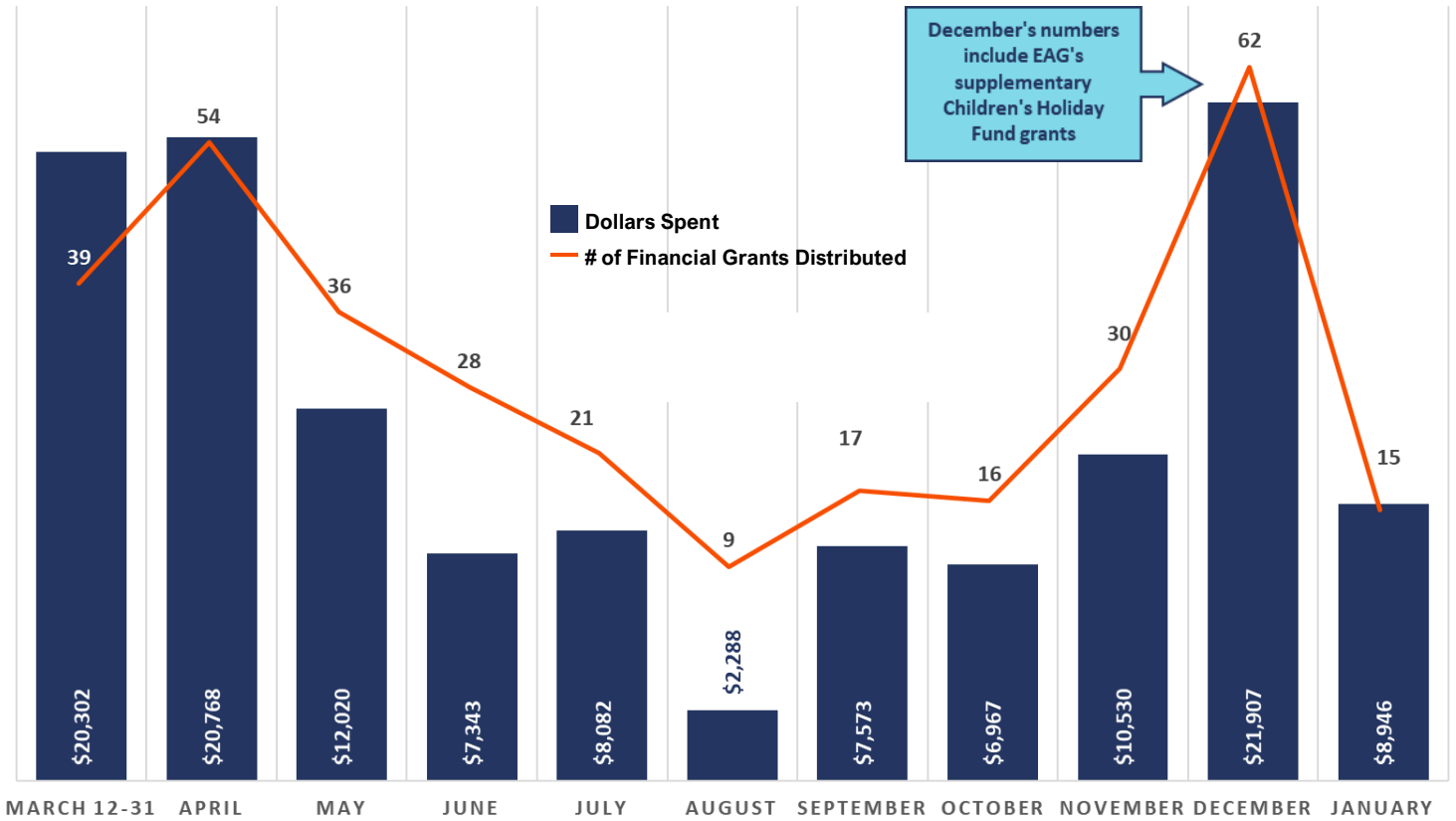
*“The gift cards for  
food are truly  
life-saving.  
I’m so grateful to  
all of you at  
EAG.”*

*“EAG nourishes  
body and soul and  
is much loved.”*

## EAG HAS BEEN KEEPING PERFORMERS FED SINCE COVID-19 BEGAN



## EMERGENCY GRANTS GIVEN BY EAG SINCE BROADWAY CLOSED



# COMMITTEES CORNER

*EAG is run on  
PEOPLE-POWER.*

*We have 14 committees  
working to keep us  
focused on our mission  
and helping us reach  
EAG's goals.  
Read on to learn more  
about what some of these  
committees have been up  
to lately and discover  
how you can help!*

## Pantry Committee | Rebecca Lovett

EAG's Actors Pantry continues to be a vital part of the sustenance services we offer to our Emergency Aid and Relief Program (EARP) clients.

Due to Covid-19, food insecurity is at an all-time high, and requests for food assistance have MORE THAN DOUBLED. We have observed that performers over the age of 65, those with disabling illness, and those with small children have been at particular risk of experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

In order to meet this increased need, the Guild is actively seeking funding from both individual donors and foundation grants so we can keep providing grocery gift cards to those in need, while Guild Hall and our on-site pantry remain closed. We are not seeking donations of non-perishable food items at this time.

If you know someone at a foundation, corporation, or grocery store whom we could approach about partnering with us for this program, please let us know!

*You can contact Rebecca at  
rebecca@actorsguild.org.*

## Events Committee

The Events Committee is looking for tech enthusiasts with experience producing/stage managing virtual events on Zoom. We have some great events coming up this year and could use your help in setting them up, hosting them, running them so they come off smoothly, and jumping in if Zoom goes wonky.

Be a part of the team that's presenting our exciting events!

*You can contact  
co-chair Leslie Middlebrook at  
brookmoore3@gmail.com,*



## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee | Chris Chinn

I would like to introduce EAG's first DEI (Diversity Equity Inclusion) Committee: Amelia "Mimi" Anderson, Tyrone Henderson, Marci Occhino, and Fran Sisco. The DEI Committee is currently evaluating anti-racism training options for EAG's Council and staff members. Since we are an all-new committee to EAG, we are looking to learn and expand as we go and are open to any thoughts, input or opinions that specifically pertain to staying true to three simple principles: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, and INCLUSIVITY...for ALL! "Because there's STILL a lot of work to be done."

*You can contact Chris at xchinn@hotmail.com.*

*To learn more about Chris and EAG's DEI commitment, please see Chris's article on the next page.*

## Grants Writing Committee | Karen Lehman Foster

EAG just received notification that we have been awarded \$10,000 by New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) in support of our Headshot Project, Artist Afternoons, and Open Stage space grant in 2021!

And we are happy to announce that EAG received a \$27,000 in-kind donation from Masterclass for our Artist Afternoon program. We were granted 150 annual memberships (valued at \$180 each) to be distributed to our EARP clients. (Using the Masterclass platform, recipients of these granted memberships will be able to stream on-demand hundreds of video lessons.)

*You can contact Karen at karen@actorsguild.org.*

## Finance Committee | Suzannah Grady

The Finance Committee is responsible for monitoring our income and expenses vs. budget periodically over the course of the year. We also review the performance of our investment portfolios. We work with the Executive Director on drafting the budget each year, and also review our annual audit with our accountants. We are particularly in need of accounting expertise and strong data management skills to help us process our financial data more efficiently.

*You can contact Suzannah at suzmgrady@gmail.com.*

## Little Theater Around the Corner | Eric Stamm

It's 2021, and that means the Archives Committee celebrated its 23rd anniversary in January. Hurrah!

With more light in our future, the Committee can look forward to getting back to work in the coming year. But I'll say it - *I miss Guild Hall*. For an intensely spiritual space, it shares a sense of life and vitality that is energizing. Guild Hall is a place I find my center. (Thank you, Rev. Ray.)

Guild Hall itself has so much history it will require at least a monograph, so for now vignettes will have to do. The Guild scrapbook contains 16 news clippings from 9 newspapers, including all major NYC ones, announcing the March 23, 1925 (a Monday at 3 pm) opening of the of

the "Little Theater at the Little Church Around the Corner." Having a theater in a church was newsworthy. A *NY Telegraph* article states, "A stage has been erected at one end of Guild Hall, with modish drapes and lighting equipment." The scrapbook also has a program for the evening that featured 2 one acts—*The Chinese Lily* and *You Can't Beat a Woman*, the latter featuring First Guild Executive Secretary Rexford Kendicks.

Since that first theatrical performance at the Guild almost 96 years ago, how many productions has Guild Hall accommodated! And how much has our "Little Theater" been missed by all of us over the past year.

## EAG ♥ DEI | Chris Chinn

Diversity. Equity. Inclusion. What do I know about these 3 things?

Well, being raised in Hawaii, I am well aware of diversity. Because our ancestors came from all over the world to work on the sugar cane plantations, Hawaii is one of the most DIVERSE populations in the world. I myself am Japanese, Chinese, Hawaiian & Spanish (and quite possibly Russian?).

Being a gay Asian man, I have had my share of INequity, inequality, and many experiences—both personally and professionally—of not being treated as an EQUAL.

And because of those, experiences, I also know what it is to not be INCLUDED.

These three things I know...but not better than any of you. And I don't pretend to know your OWN experiences; whether you're Black, White, Hispanic, Woman, Trans. I don't pretend to know or speak for any group of people that I myself am not...but I am desperate to listen, to learn and to serve.

I am deeply grateful to Karen, Tony, and EAG for appointing a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and offering me the position of DEI Committee Chair. I promise to LISTEN to all of you and represent EAG to the best of my abilities.



EAG premiered its original public service announcement, *EAG Loves BLM*, online on February 1, 2021. **Click on the image above to watch.** The video features a diverse group of EAG members coming together to share personal stories of racism and discrimination, acknowledges the work that still needs to be done, and affirms EAG's support of racial justice and the Black Lives Matter movement.

## Welcome, New Members!

Esperanza Alcastle  
Karen Archer  
Jody Atkinson  
Susan Berkowitz  
Jeffrey Birnbaum  
Natae Bush  
Anna Castner  
Aisha Cook  
Patrick DiBuono

Gene DiNapoli  
Vince Edgehill  
Ariel Estrada  
Ellen Jung Fox  
Michael Freeman  
Dor Green  
Raynesha Green  
Ivanka Hahnenberger  
The Rev. Patt Kauffman

Jim Kerr  
Jeanne Lehman French  
Valerie Lemon  
UNëk Mac  
Heather MacRae  
Damon Maher  
Christopher Raishun Marshall  
Alisa Matlovsky  
Ernest Mingione

Maureen Mooney-Pellegrini  
Bob Ost  
Michael Potts  
Maya Pruitt  
Carrie Schalter  
Ryan Sett  
Jenny Stewart  
Wendy Stuart  
Jacqueline Milena Thompson



## Welcome to EAG's New Vice President and New Council Members!



**Jennifer Fouché**  
Actor, Singer  
(AEA, SAG-AFTRA,  
ASCAP)

*Elected Vice President  
2020, has served on  
Council since 2008*



**Sergei Burbank**  
Actor, Playwright,  
Producer (AEA)  
*New to Council 2020*



**Margaret Goodman**  
Actor, Singer  
(AEA, SAG-AFTRA)  
*New to Council 2021*



**Tyrone Mitchell  
Henderson**  
Actor, Teacher,  
Artistic Director  
(AEA, SAG-AFTRA)  
*New to Council 2020*

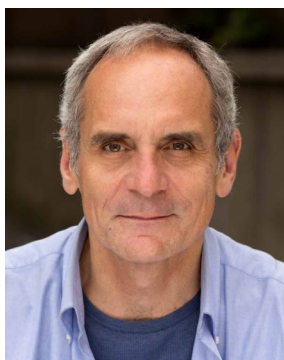


**Mervyn Kaufman**  
Editor, Playwright  
*New to Council 2020*



**Reynaldo Piniella**  
Actor, Playwright  
(AEA, SAG-AFTRA)  
*New to Council 2021*

## Meet EAG's New President, Anthony Newfield | Richard Alleman



**Where are you from originally?** I come from a California family. From the Bay Area—Berkeley, Walnut Creek.

**How long have you lived in New York City?** I've been here forty-five years.

**How did you wind up in New York—and not Los Angeles?** I kept trying to get back to California, went out there a few

times, but kept returning to jobs in New York. I went out once to do a play. "Don't do it," friends told me. "No one will see you." It wasn't a very good play, but the playwright was working on it, and I told myself it was getting better and went because I like LA and have family up and down the state. The show was painful, but I loved being there.

**How did you prepare for being an actor?** The American Conservatory Theatre (San Francisco); Carnegie Mellon University in conjunction with the Moscow Arts Theatre (MXAT), Russia, MFA. Classes at HB Studios (Bill Hickey, Alice Spivak), Ada Brown Mather (Shakespeare); BADA (Oxford, England). My goal when I got into this business was to be a company member of ACT in San Francisco, to teach in their conservatory, and to perform onstage and direct. I was accepted into their MFA program but was working in New York and in regional theatres so put it off. Eventually I did the CMU/MXAT program, spending close to six months in Russia studying and performing.

**How did you become involved with EAG?** The Rev. Norman Catir, rector of the *Little Church Around the Corner*, told me that as a young actor I should join.

**Why is it important to provide emergency assistance to actors now?** The need is there. The COVID crisis has hit our community especially hard. Actors are out of work and will continue to be out of work for some time. It's a precarious

life in the best of times, but it's especially hard now. I am humbled and moved every time I hear the stories of those we are assisting. A grant to help parents buy shoes for their child. To buy food. To pay their rent. Here. In the Greatest City in the World. And it is great. But there are people falling through the cracks in this great city, and we need to help them.

**What kind of help is EAG currently providing?** We can help professional actors if they meet our requirements. Help can include a grant to pay a Con Ed bill, to pay rent, to pay a medical bill. We have a food pantry that helps get food to people.

**How can we make sure, given the current economic crisis, that EAG doesn't run out of funds to continue its work?** A careful monitoring of our portfolio, wise spending, grants, and donations. We have been pleased that many organizations have recognized our worth and have been very generous with us over this past year. I read a piece recently about ten billionaires who have made a lot of money from the COVID crisis. If anyone knows any of them, please introduce me. I'd love to sit down with him and talk about his donating to us.

**Do you have an agenda? What changes would you like to see EAG make?** I want to see us grow into the new future. Post-COVID, things are going to be different. Zoom meetings may be with us from now on. The needs of people in our community falling through the cracks will continue. We need to grow our finances. I'd like to see more events that will attract new people and will keep them coming back. I'd like to see us grow to help more people, to give more. But to do that we need to raise more money. Hello, billionaires...?

**What's your favorite food?** Bread. Good, fresh, warm bread. When I lived in Brazil, it was my job to buy the fresh-out-of-the-oven bread for our *café de tarde*. The bakery was a block away. By the time I got home, I'd broken off a good chunk of the baguette and eaten it. Before I left the country, I was buying two baguettes and had put on ten pounds.

It was spring 1964 and a theater-party night for an organization I belonged to. The play was *Baby Want a Kiss*, with Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, written by and featuring James Costigan, the Newmans' Connecticut neighbor.

Because so many audience members knew each other, there was more than the usual pre-curtain buzz, but the elderly couple beside me spoke only to each other. And it was clear that the husband not only had hearing loss but little interest in being present. How did I know? Because the moment they opened their programs, the wife began a nonstop sales pitch—touting the Newmans' various film and stage awards, each of which elicited an indifferent grunt from her spouse.

The play was a comedy, so to make sure her husband got every laugh, she repeated each punch line and at a volume loud enough to connect. I recall little about the play except a whispered line uttered during a key scene between Woodward and Costigan, during which he reminded her that they'd once had a relationship, while she kept insisting they'd been just friends. When, in exasperation, he baldly described what their relationship had been, the woman beside me nudged her husband and practically shouted the line: "He banged her!" It got the evening's biggest laugh.

This month your columnist marks six years of "senior living" in New Jersey's Monmouth County, and with it an adjustment from Broadway to local theaters, ranging from the equity professionalism of Millburn's famed Paper Mill Playhouse and the streamlined Two River Theater complex in Red Bank to the well-rehearsed year-round venues in area towns like Manasquan and Spring Lake. Reflecting the New York theater scene of recent decades, these non-union productions offer mostly musicals, with just a smattering of straight plays.

While musicals obviously require larger casts, musicians, sets, costumes and choreography surpassing the simpler staging needs of *Born Yesterday* or *Barefoot in the Park*, how did these New Jersey theaters come up with local talent of such quality and dedication? The answer was soon gleaned from a perusal of the Playbills for these productions, opening my big-city mind to an after-school world of classes and training in the performing arts. In fact, many of the younger cast members' program bios indicated their acceptance for advanced training at Juilliard or NYU. And apparently, the availability of local musicians was sufficient to fill the orchestral needs of *West Side Story*, *Annie* and *The Music Man*, to mention a few of the excellent productions offered in area venues in recent pre-pandemic seasons.

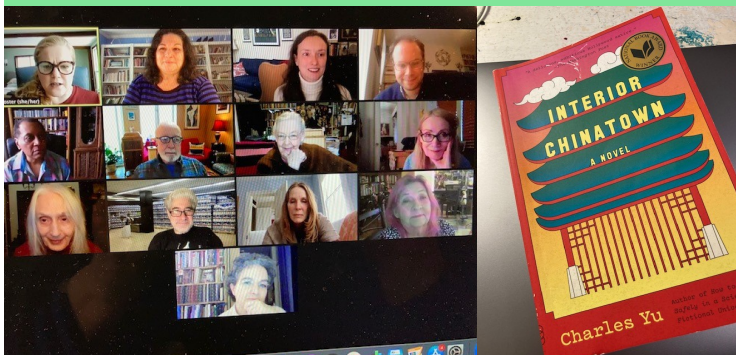
Fellowship via Zoom

**"Tonight, reading *A Christmas Carol* made me forget for 75 minutes what Covid was. And I hope that did the same for all who watched and listened."**

—Chris Chinn, member of the *A Christmas Carol* cast



The cast of EAG and House of the Redeemer's *Holiday Party 2020* reading of *A Christmas Carol* wishes everyone a good night



Broadway Book Club meets to discuss Charles Yu's *Interior Chinatown* (photos by Joan Kane)

**"Yesterday was really fun and it was nice to hear from everyone about a REALLY interesting book. Then, we get the extra added attractions of new titles of books, reviews, and shows to look for! The club has really grown into an important part of my life, especially in the absence of live theater."**

—Broadway Book Club member Robert Sinclair

### SEPTEMBER 2020...

**Cynthia Shaw** did a virtual performance of her solo show *Velvet Determination* for the San Francisco-based group, The Marsh, as a part of their *Solo Arts Heal* series on September 23. On October 16, she did a Zoom reading of *Pink Leather*. And she made her storytelling debut on *Queens Theatre at Home* on November 23.

**Michael Joseph Ormond** directed a live virtual benefit reading of *Glory Be Columbia* for the S.S. Columbia Project through Untapped New York on September 21.

A reading of **Benja K. Thomas'** *Point & Shoot* was live-streamed on the *Snack Sip and Show* on Facebook on September 27 along with a reading of Jamal William's *Party Like It's 1969*, which she directed.

### OCTOBER 2020...

**Jo Yang** appears as the "dolled-up" comic relief in the short film *Daddy* (starring Ron Rifkin and Dylan Sprouse), which premiered on [YouTube](#) on October 1.

On October 4, **Mary Goggin** performed her solo show *Runaway Princess* live online. A recording of this performance was screened by Empowerment Collective of Long Island and Cinema Arts Center on January 21. You can watch on demand at [vimeo.com/ondemand/runaway](https://vimeo.com/ondemand/runaway).

The love story *Saving Stan* kicked off Ego Actus's new *Survival is Insufficient* Zoom reading series on October 6. The reading starred **J. Dolan Byrnes** and was directed by **Joan Kane**.

**Clara Francesca** was part of the cast of [Colapesce: An Audio Adventure](#) (produced by Trinacria Theatre Company) which premiered with an online listen party on October 10.

*Outside the Door* by **Fran Handman** was livestreamed on October 16 as part of Cosmic Orchid's *Behind Closed Doors* online short play reading series.

**Fran Sisco** performed original spoken word pieces at *Art in the Park* at the Pelman Art Center in Pelham, NY on October 18. Her outdoor installation *Nature Culture Sculpture* was also exhibited at the event.

*The Jim Masters Show* episode honoring **Michael Colby** aired on YouTube on October 19. The audiobook version of Michael's *The Algonquin Kid* is now available through Blackstone Publishing/[Bearmanor Media](#).

**Noelle McGrath De Paula** starred as Fonsia Doresy in New Lamps, Lighting Up the Classics' production of *The Gin Game*, live-streamed from Revelation Gallery at St. John's in the Village on October 24.

This election season, **Antwayn Hopper** appeared as the Narrator in [Old Country: A Musical Remedy for Democracy Blues](#) which premiered on YouTube on October 28. He also appeared with **Zonya Love** in MCC Theater's LiveLab series reading of *On Love* on February 11.

### NOVEMBER 2020...

On November 16, **Jonah Bokaer** Choreography performed *Softer Distances* as part of FIAF's *Le Petit Gala | Soiree Outside The Box*, a live online cultural program.

National Black Theatre presented the Workshop Radioplay of *Retreat* as an online, on-demand experience November 19-22. The cast featured both **Jennifer Fouche** and **Kevin R. Free**.

### DECEMBER 2020...

The Snarks (Virtually) Live Radio Play adaptation of *It's A Wonderful Life* streamed on Broadway On Demand for their subscribers on December 9-12. The production featured **Amelia V. Anderson** and **Betsy Ross**.

**W.D. (Bill) Schell** gave a preview reading from his forthcoming book, *Poems from the 63rd Floor*, on December 15 via Zoom and in-person at Broadway Au Lait (across from Union Theological Seminary, NYC).

### JANUARY 2021...

On January 30 and 31, **Leviathan Lab** (EAG's 2020/2021 Barbour Award partner) presented a filmed online workshop of writer/performer **Ariel Estrada's** solo work *Full Contact*.

### FEBRUARY 2021...

On February 2, **Michael Gnat** was a part of the cast of *Science and Beyond*, and you can catch him in [The Problem](#) on February 23 (both readings presented as part of Planet Connections Winter Zoom Fest).

On February 10, **Stephen S. Miller** debuted his new online weekly talk show [Tawkin' With the Roses](#). The first episode welcomed guest Daphne Maxwell Reid (*Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*). The guest for the second episode (airing February 17) is Broadway's Zachary Booth. New episodes go online weekly.

Triangle Theatre Company (Artistic Director, **Elowyn Castle**) is featuring the one-act plays by **Constance George**, **Mervyn Kaufman**, and **Fran Handman** at [People Will Talk](#) on Zoom on February 19. The cast include **Amelia V. Anderson**, **Glauco Araujo**, **Eric Kuzmuk**, and **Sally Sherwood**.

### MARCH 2021...

After the successful opening of their 14th season in December with *Follies*, Out of the Box Theatre Company will be back online March 5-7 with *The 28 Stairs: A Radio Play Parody*, written and directed by **Lin Snider** with musical direction and original score by **Woody Regan**, featuring performances by **James Harter**, **Laurel Lockhart**, **Betsy Ross**, **Sally Sherwood**, **Lin Snider**, and **Jennifer S. Stock**. Tickets are now available at [ShowTix4U.com/Events/OutOfTheBoxTheatre](https://ShowTix4U.com/Events/OutOfTheBoxTheatre).

## ONGOING...

**Patricia Angelin** continues to teach the [Alba Technique](#), which deepens one's knowledge of the 6 neurologically basic emotions and empowers one to identify, create, and manage real emotion using only the body.

Aan Steele conducts a weekly forum, *Acting With Peers*, from 2-4pm ET on Wednesdays for those wanting to improve their on-camera acting skills. This class is presented through the SAG-AFTRA Conservatory. Please email Aan at [aansteele@mac.com](mailto:aansteele@mac.com) for details about the class.

**Bonita Elery** invites everyone to check out her comedy podcast *I Am Not A Robot* at [anchor.fm/iamnotarobot](http://anchor.fm/iamnotarobot). It's two crazy gals who met in a sketch-comedy class dishing on life, love, very bad decisions, food, the comedy scene and kooky characters they have met along the way.

Grammy-nominated and Voisey recording artist **Tanyayette Willoughby** has started her own radio station: VOISEE-FM, where you can hear music from all walks of life and genres of every category, including the music of your favorite Voisey artists, all in one place. Listen at [zeno.fm/voisee-fm](http://zeno.fm/voisee-fm).

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE AWARD WINNERS...

**Maureen Taylor** was a 2020 MAC Award Nominee for Best Female Vocalist for her Don't Tell Mama show (soon to be an album) *Cosmic Connections: The Lyrics of Michael Colby*.

*#SondheimMontage* directed by **Sondra Lee** (starring **KT Sullivan** and Jeff Harnar) received the 2020 Broadway World Cabaret Award for Best Revue.

## SEEKING SUBMISSIONS...

**Sasha Spielvogel** and Labyrinth Dance Theater is putting out a call for photos of loved ones who died of AIDS to use as an introduction for the video version of their show, *Come Back Once More So I Can Say Goodbye, Gay Life in NYC 1965 - 1995*. *Come Back Once More* was performed at the Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theater in June 2019 for the 50th Anniversary of Stonewall and Gay Pride coming to NYC. The company is looking for headshots and casual snapshots as close as possible to high-resolution jpegs (300 dpi). Tony-nominated **John Herrera**, who performed *Broadway Baby* in the show's Bathhouse scene, will do the accompanying narration. EAG Council member **Glauco Arujo** also appears in the show. For more info [www.labyrinthdancetheater.org](http://www.labyrinthdancetheater.org). Submissions should be sent to [labyrinthdance@msn.com](mailto:labyrinthdance@msn.com).

**The Women In The Arts and Media Coalition** is looking for scenes, short plays, short films, monologues, music, poetry, dance, paintings, sculptures and photography from members of their [organizations and affiliate organizations](#) for the upcoming virtual event, *Conversations in America—2020 Vision: The Year We Saw Everything*. Nothing to exceed 3-5 minutes. For all of the details, please visit their website: [www.womenartsmediacoalition.org/submissions](http://www.womenartsmediacoalition.org/submissions). Submissions will be accepted February 14 - March 21 at [conversations@womenartsmedia.org](mailto:conversations@womenartsmedia.org).

## THIS ISSUE'S EAG MEMBER SPOTLIGHT...

My name is **Ladd Boris** and I am the founder and owner of **Creative Artistic Companions**, a white-glove companion service for seniors looking for someone to share time with them on a regular or "at need" basis, for outings and other activities.

Our Companions become friends to their clients by sharing the cultural interests and passions their clients love. They also have experience with people living with dementia and Alzheimer's. And we take every precaution to employ safe protocols at all times, especially during the pandemic.

If the clients are comfortable and seeking "in-person" companionship, they can be comforted in the knowledge that all Companions are required to test for Covid EVERY 7 DAYS and provide proof of their negative results. Masks are worn at all times. Gloves are worn, if requested by the client. We maintain a safe (6 foot) distance from the client. Of course, we are being creative...if people find that they have someone to navigate a "video chat" platform or are savvy themselves, we have found a way to use the "virtual" options available to us. One of the most successful examples is providing personalized "parlor concerts" for the client. It can be on a regular basis and can be ANY kind of performing arts that can be presented in a "hybrid" pre-recorded performances (for better quality) and live interaction.

Here is an example of me doing a quick song for a concert prepared especially for a client based on their requests and interests: [youtu.be/pUY4sb-ctNQ](https://youtu.be/pUY4sb-ctNQ).

Of course, IF a "virtual experience" is something that is comfortable for the client (I would offer assistance to make that happen and even loan a computer or a tablet so that the client can have the visit), the possibilities are greatly increased! It's not limited to just musical presentations—it can be almost anything, from a poetry reading, to a play reading, to a concertized version of a play reading, to reading the *New York Times* together, or to just be virtually connected while we share a movie from TCM on our own televisions! There are SO MANY ways to be creative, based on the client's interests. Which leads me to the most important part of my "pitch":

The Companion is chosen for the client. Not taken from the "roster on file" UNLESS that Companion is a match! The Companions I engage are closer in age to the clients and actually share a common love and knowledge of the art forms the clients have enjoyed all their lives. My goal is to form a bond, a friendship. I meet with the prospective clients and find out what cultural (or other) interests enrich their lives, and then I go to work finding the "right" person for them. Most commonly, these are retired performers, cooks, art lovers, etc.

Please visit our website [creativeartisticcompanions.com](http://creativeartisticcompanions.com) for further information on our mission, story, and endorsements.

—Ladd Boris

# COMING SOON

Click on the name of the event below to purchase tickets/register/RSVP.

All times are Eastern (New York) unless noted otherwise.

All events take place online unless noted otherwise.

## MARCH 2021...

More info at [actorsguild.org/calendar](https://actorsguild.org/calendar)

[reservations@actorsguild.org](mailto:reservations@actorsguild.org)

212-685-2927

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Artist Afternoon:

### **Self-Tape Auditions 101**

**Wednesday, March 10 | 2:00pm-4:00pm | FREE, Registration Required. Space is Limited.**

Demystify the TV/Film Self-Tape in this seminar with Self Tape Artist **Ian Whitt**, whose clients have booked LEAD/SERIES REGULAR, GUEST STAR, and CO STAR roles in major feature films in SUNDANCE, on NETFLIX, CBS, FOX, FX, ABC, AMAZON PRIME, and countless other networks. Many of these clients have submitted tapes to agents and managers and received representation. The class will cover technology, industry standards, mindset, time management, and habits that lead to booking more work and enjoying the process.

## APRIL 2021...

Broadway Book Club:

### **A Mask of Shadows by Oscar de Muriel**

**Monday, Apr 12 at 2:30pm on Zoom | FREE, RSVP Required, Must Have Read the Book**

Edinburgh, 1889. The Scottish Play is coming home. But before the darlings of London theater—Henry Irving and Ellen Terry—take their acclaimed *Macbeth* to the Edinburgh stage, terror treads the boards: A grisly message is found smeared across the cobblestones in blood, foretelling someone's demise. As the bloody prophecies continue to come to fruition, Edinburgh's own beloved pair of detectives—"Nine-Nails" McGray and Inspector Ian Frey—enter the scene. Frey scoffs at what he believes is a blatant publicity stunt, while McGray is convinced that the supernatural must be at play. One thing is clear: by occult curse or human hand, death will take a bow the night the curtain rises.

### **Reopening Broadway: The Producer's Eye View**

**TBD, April | 7:00pm | Pay What You Will (Suggested Donation: \$15)**

Tony Award nominee and EAG Council Member **Margot Astrachan** (*A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* [Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards], *Diana: A New Musical* [heading to Netflix prior to its Broadway debut]) will be joined by some of her fellow Broadway and Off-Broadway producers to talk about their shows that have been locked up due to the pandemic and what their reopening plans are for in-person performances. All proceeds from this event will go to support the charitable programs of EAG and NYC's performing artists in need.

## MAY 2021...

Artist Afternoon:

### **The Complete Observer :**

### **Writing and Performing an Observation Monologue**

**Wednesday, May 12 | 12noon-1:30pm | FREE, Registration Required. Space is Limited.**

Actors and writers: Are you ready to flex your observation and character development muscles? When you register for The Complete Observer, we'll send you a simple writing prompt and some easy-to-follow directions from instructor **Tyrone Mitchell Henderson** (EAG Council Member, NYU Tisch-Stella Adler Studio of Acting, Black Arts Institute-Billie Holiday Theatre) to get you started. Then, we'll gather on Zoom for a group session on May 12th. There we will circle up in our virtual space to discuss what you learned through your observations. Everyone will have the chance to present their brand-new original two-minute monologue!

## Behind the Curtain :

### A Virtual Talk and Tour of the Beginnings of Broadway

**Thursday, May 20 | 7:00pm | Pay What You Will (Suggested Donation: \$15)**

*Behind the Curtain* is a unique look at New York City's earliest theaters—the birth of Broadway—through images of its locations, its builders and managers, and the actors who made history on its stages. Join downtown theater-maker **Ralph Lewis** of **Peculiar Works Project** for a virtual tour up Broadway and the Bowery from Lower Manhattan to Astor Place. Inspired by a rare 1851 book, Before and Behind the Curtain by William Knight Northall, Lewis shares the writer's passion for the struggles and the growth of theater in New York City, from a single venue to an entire Theater District. See the sites today where the first theaters once stood, why they succeeded, and what became of them, with over-the-top anecdotes from the book and over 100 images. For anyone interested in American popular theater and its NYC history, this is the down-n-dirty story of how the Great White Way was born! All proceeds from this event will go to support the charitable programs of EAG and NYC's performing artists in need.

## **RECURRING EAG EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS...**

EAG's FREE, Monthly, Members-Only Acting Class

### Actors Night

**Every Third Tuesday of the Month (Mar 16, Apr 20, and May 18)**

**at 7:00pm on Zoom**

**FREE, Members Only, Registration Required**

Actors Night with **Peter Von Berg** is a judgment-free zone, where EAG members can work on monologues, scenes, commercial copy, cold readings, your own material—anything!—before a group of supportive and talented fellow artists. Whether or not you get constructive feedback is up to you.

### Sustainable Conversations

**Last Monday of the Month (Feb 22, Mar 29, Apr 26, and May 24\*)**

**at 7:00pm on Zoom**

**FREE, Registration Required**

Members of EAG's staff and Council and author/actress/EAG member **Helena-Joyce Wright** (*Zora Is My Name!*, *Amen Corner*, *Jerry's Girls*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*) are continuing their discussions centered around race and racism in America and the arts.

*\*May's Conversation will take place one week early due to the Memorial Day holiday at the end of the month.*

### Yoga Mondays

**Every Monday at 1:00pm on Zoom**

**\$10, Registration Required**

Stretch and strengthen, and start your week right with some soul-soothing yoga with **Rebecca Ambrose**.

### Pilates with Marla

**Tuesdays at 10:30am & Thursdays at 2:30pm on Zoom**

**FREE, Registration Required**

Stretch, work that core, and have fun with certified personal trainer **Marla Altberg**.

