

# MARQUEE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ACTORS FUND

SUMMER 2007 ISSUE: VOLUME 10, NUMBER 2

## Preventing Crisis

“The Fund has developed a three-pronged approach—addressing financial wellness, stable employment and consistent health care—to help professionals stabilize their lives and prevent crisis from happening.”

For 125 years The Actors Fund has provided emergency financial assistance to performers and other entertainment professionals in crisis. Whether to stop a housing eviction or utility shut-off, obtain medical care due to an accident or illness, or buy food and clothing, The Actors Fund is there in times of disaster or need. But, as we all know, it's best whenever possible to prevent a crisis from occurring.

So The Fund has developed a three-pronged approach—addressing financial wellness, stable employment and consistent health care—to help professionals stabilize their lives and prevent crisis from happening.

**Financial Wellness** is not about being rich. It's the result of developing healthy financial attitudes and behaviors. It includes living within one's means, having little debt or a plan for decreasing debt, earning income consistent with one's abilities, and saving periodically

for long-term goals. To promote financial wellness, The Actors Fund offers education, skills-building workshops, supportive and solution-focused counseling and referrals to debt-relief and other resources.

The **Actors Work Program (AWP)** helps performing arts and entertainment professionals find secondary or sideline careers that support their industry work, utilize their skills and talents and offer meaningful and satisfying employment. AWP offers the only comprehensive employment and training program designed to meet the unique needs of performing artists.

The Fund supports **Consistent Health Care** through educating people about affordable health insurance and, for those with no insurance, providing care ourselves.

The **Health Insurance Resource Center (HIRC)** offers detailed information and options for obtaining health insurance and accessing health care for those who are uninsured. Through this program arts and entertainment professionals can receive objective, comprehensive information and guidance through the insurance and healthcare maze.

The **Al Hirschfeld Free Health Clinic** plays a unique role as medical provider for the performing arts. The Hirschfeld Clinic serves uninsured and underinsured entertainment professionals in the metropolitan New York City area.

In Los Angeles, the **Performing Artists' Clinic at the Venice Family Clinic** operates one night per month to provide free health care and referrals to members of the entertainment community.

The percentage of uninsured professionals in entertainment is more than double the national average—and with more stringent eligibility requirements, the numbers continue to increase. Adults without health insurance have a 25% greater chance of dying from a disease or condition than those with health insurance. The Fund is here to make sure that no one in our community delays care or goes untreated because of lack of insurance or an inability to pay.

### Profile

Kim  
Sykes



see page 6

### 125th Anniversary New York

Gala

News and Update  
see page 5



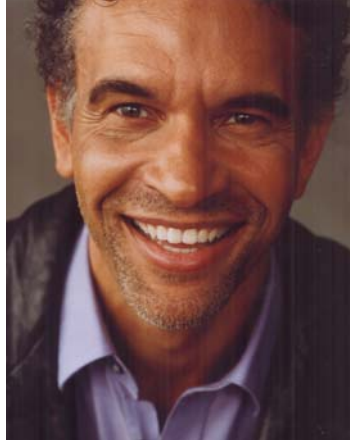
Another Way  
to Help  
The Actors Fund  
at  
[www.tourneeds.com](http://www.tourneeds.com)

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# VIEWS from Brian Stokes Mitchell, *Board President*



Dear Friends,

For 125 years The Actors Fund has made a dramatic difference for people in the performing arts and entertainment community. The Actors Fund exists to “be there” for performing arts and entertainment professionals in times of need, crisis or transition, and when they need a place to turn.

Often it is the small things that make a big difference in people’s lives. The Actors Fund in Chicago recently helped a young stage manager from the East Coast whose car had broken down on the way to a job on a production in Chicago. The \$400 she spent on an alternator meant she didn’t have enough money left for the security deposit on her new Chicago apartment. It could have been a disaster, but The Fund stepped in to help with the deposit and she was able to move in and start her job as planned.

In New York, one of our AWP counselors helped a young woman who didn’t have a computer fill out an online application for the New York Teaching Fellows program and set her up with an online email account. The woman was accepted into the program and has spent two years now teaching in the South Bronx.

And in LA, The Fund stepped in to help an 83-year-old retired singer get dental work so she could start eating solid food again.

These small things, a little money and a helping hand, make a huge difference in people’s lives.

And part of being there, as this issue of Marquee so wonderfully explores, is the important role The Actors Fund plays in the areas of wellness and maintenance. It’s about the programs and services—and people—that help those in our community keep ourselves healthy and in balance—and to help avoid crisis before it happens. Taking care can be in the arena

of financial well-being, preventative health care and employment or educational opportunities.

It’s often said that, for many in the entertainment community, our bodies are our instruments, our livelihoods, our ... everything. Keeping ourselves in tip top shape—both physically and emotionally—is critical to our ability to grow our craft, do our work, and reach the artistic pinnacles to which we aspire.

At the same time, professionals in our community face so many issues that make it difficult to do what’s best for our bodies and our circumstances. Jobs and insurance are hard to come by; the fear of being known to be ill or in need makes many secretive; and an audition or a job almost always comes before taking care.

Please read on about the people and programs that are helping our colleagues stave off problems before they occur, and thank you for your continued support.

**The Actors Fund,  
for everyone  
in entertainment.**

Celebrating 125 years.

**MARQUEE** SUMMER 2007  
VOLUME 10, NUMBER 2

*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: 212.764.0238

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#### The Al Hirschfeld Free

**Health Clinic**  
475 West 57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
212.489.1939

#### The Aurora

New York, NY  
212.489.2020

#### The Palm View

West Hollywood, CA  
323.933.9244

#### The Lillian Booth Actors

**Home of The Actors Fund**  
Englewood, NJ  
201.871.8882

#### Marquee

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#### Actors Fund Programs include:

##### SOCIAL SERVICES

Entertainment Industry  
Assistance Program  
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Conrad Cantzen Shoe Fund  
Funerals and Burials  
Partner Programs  
Looking Ahead

##### HEALTH SERVICES

Health Insurance  
Resource Center  
Al Hirschfeld Free  
Health Clinic  
Phyllis Newman Women’s  
Health Initiative  
Brent Varner Project

##### EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Actors Work Program  
AIDS Training and  
Employment

##### SUPPORTIVE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Lillian Booth Actors  
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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](http://www.actorsfund.org).*

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## Staff Profile *Janet* **Pearl**

Janet Pearl is a familiar face to everyone who walks into the Al Hirschfeld Free Health Clinic in New York. Her job? To make sure people are healthy—inside and out.

To do this she coordinates medical care, helps patients get health insurance coverage and connects them with programs and services that make their lives better.

The Clinic serves people in the entertainment industry who are uninsured or underinsured. Janet sees what a difference that can make every day. “People come in and say, ‘Thank God you are here!’”

“People in the entertainment industry have unique needs,” says Janet. “These are people who have a passion. But many times that means we are seeing people who have not put

We are always conscious of money, of what they can and can not afford. We are always thinking about that.”

But for Janet, it is not just about taking care of immediate medical crises, it is about making sure people get well and stay well by getting health insurance that will allow them to get regular medical care.

“A lot of the people we see live sickness to sickness. They don’t have insurance. They don’t think there is anything they can afford. I can tell them there are options. There are actually some amazing programs that are simple and quick

**“For Janet, it is not just about taking care of immediate medical crises, it is about making sure people get well and stay well by getting health insurance that will allow them to get regular medical care.”**

their health care first. They come in with serious conditions that haven’t been treated.”

The clinic is part of the entertainment community through and through. “We understand that people may have auditions and need to re-schedule at the last minute. Or that they may feel they have to be seen immediately even if it is not medically urgent, because they have a show or an audition. The whole attitude at the clinic is that we appreciate and understand their art.”

And many times that means being aware not just of health issues, but of the bottom line. “We are able to give them options,” says Janet. “We can refer them to diagnostic testing or low-cost referrals, get them on patient assistance programs

to get on. We have Healthy New York, there are some great group insurance rates through The Freelancers Union and there is Medicaid.” Janet helps people consider their options and find the best fit.

That is what makes her job so rewarding. “I think everyone should be insured. In this country it is a tragedy that not everyone can have access to health care. The best days are when someone calls me up to say, ‘I just got health insurance!’”

For Janet, being part of The Actors Fund means being part of a larger family—the entire entertainment community. “We look at the physical, the mental and the emotional. This is about making people well. We give them an opportunity to follow their dream.”

# Starbucks at The Aurora

The Starbucks Community Building Project first came to The Fund's Aurora residence in Manhattan in 2006. Local Starbucks store manager Ciara DiSeta contacted Thomas Pileggi, Activities Coordinator, to talk about Starbucks' outreach programs, which offer volunteers who can help make communities better. They felt that The Aurora community would enjoy seminars or classes that offered information about Starbucks, coffees and teas, and pertinent social, historical and cultural information, and of course there were samplings/tastings of drinks and pastries as a big part of the events.

The monthly seminars grew into a relationship that has seen Starbucks volunteers serving Thanksgiving dinner, making friendly visits and running errands for tenants and, this spring, sprucing up The Aurora's roof garden.



Volunteers from Starbucks arrive at The Aurora to begin work on the roof garden

The folks at Starbucks donated plants and soil to create a colorful and fragrant space, arriving at The Aurora in May with trays of plants, soil and spades (oh, yeah, they were also laden with boxes of some of their most delicious cookies, tarts and brownies) for what turned out to be an all-day gardening party on the roof. They arrived early morning and were joined by a small band of Aurora residents and immediately set out to clean the gardens, recondition the soil (with 15% coffee grounds, naturally) and put in a beautiful array of flowers and herbs. Everyone took a midday break on the second floor for pizza and goodies, and then it was back to the roof to finish. Mother Nature cooperated with rain the day before and after the planting, and now with the sun providing all its nourishment, the roof garden is lovelier than ever.

Starbucks volunteers donate more than time. Starbucks is matching their employees' donations of hours with direct donations of funds for The Aurora.

Many thanks to Ciara, her crew and Starbucks for all they do to help make The Aurora the special community that it is.



Starbucks manager and Aurora volunteer Ciara DiSeta & the whole Starbucks team at the end of a great day's work



Residents and volunteers worked together to plant the flower boxes

## STARRRS Performance



Actors Penny Jacobs, David McConeghey, Efsun Sweet and director Dave Groom before their June 2nd performance of *The Fisherman and His Wife* at PS 130's Saturday

Theatre. The production was part of the STARRRS program, a collaborative effort of The Actors Fund and the New York City Department of Education that puts professional actors, who are trained in arts in education, in schools in the South Bronx to use theatre and drama to help develop literacy and learning skills in the classroom.

## Another Way to Help The Actors Fund

On the internet, [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com) is a travel website that focuses specifically on the needs of the entertainment community. Launched by actress Lisa Morris, who toured for over a decade and realized how frustrating life on "The Road" can be without a little help along the way, [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com) lets people simply click on various cities to find the information they need before they arrive.

And the site provides much more—besides information for touring professionals, it is also an affiliate marketing site with links to hundreds of retailers such as Amazon, iTunes, Best Buy, Target, Body Shop, Staples, Office Depot, Fandango, Spa Wish, Barnes & Noble, Giftcertificates.com, 1-800 Flowers, Dean and DeLuca, Gourmetgiftbaskets.com, Walmart, Blockbuster, LUSH, Priceline, Orbitz, Travelocity and many more.



Lisa Morris

And every time you shop through [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com), a portion of the proceeds will go to The Actors Fund. Lisa says she decided to start her company, which she calls Road Concierge, as a way to help The Fund. "I feel that the work you do is so important, but since it is specific to those in the entertainment industry, most individuals, corporations and major donors outside of the industry may not give support. I decided to use this new business phenomenon, affiliate marketing, to help a non-profit organization."

"The idea of creating a way for people who don't have money to spare to still

be able to 'give back' is a huge one," says Lisa. "This is not a matter of the 'haves' giving to the 'have nots'; it is a simple way for anyone with a computer to be able to help The Actors Fund. In fact, the entire mission of Road Concierge is to provide an easy way for members of the entertainment community to support, educate, and help each other. This mission was inspired by Sir Winston Churchill's belief that *'we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.'*"

[www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com) also gives back to the community by offering free advertising to members of the Actors Work Program of The Actors Fund, promoting small local businesses in each city, offering free advertising for benefit performances, and posting links and information for entertainment union members.

Lisa is evangelical about the potential for [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com). "Do you realize, if we could get all of the businesses who currently support The Actors Fund to simply order their office supplies from Staples or Office Depot through [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com), how much money could be raised? All any company would have to do to help is have whoever orders their supplies go to [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com), click on the Staples icon and then shop as usual. That's it!!"

So next time you are looking to shop online, think of starting at [www.TourNeeds.com](http://www.TourNeeds.com). Every click helps The Actors Fund.

## Join

BECOME A MEMBER

of The Actors Fund and help professionals in need in performing arts and entertainment.

The Actors Fund provides vital services and financial assistance to over 8,000 performing arts and entertainment professionals every year. Whether they are facing a serious illness, financial problems, a housing crisis or unemployment, The Actors Fund is here to help the people who brighten our stages and screens and make the world a better place for us all. But we can't do our work without the support of members and friends like you.

If you haven't yet become a member, please join today and receive some very special benefits:

- House seats at cost
- Tickets for Special Performances
- Invitations to "Insider" Events
- Private Screenings
- The Actors Fund newsletter
- And much more!

For more information on the benefits of membership please visit our website at [www.actorsfund.org](http://www.actorsfund.org) or call Judy Fish, Director of Individual Giving, at 212.221.7300 ext. 127.

# In the Spotlight

**THANK YOU** to members of *In the Spotlight*—the premiere giving society of The Actors Fund. *Spotlight* donors make a significant contribution, providing support to The Fund and receiving special benefits including complimentary tickets to Special Performances, priority phone access for House Seat purchases and invitations to “Insider” events and parties. For more information on how to join *In the Spotlight*, please contact Megan Barrett at 212.221.7300 ext. 108 or [mbarrett@actorsfund.org](mailto:mbarrett@actorsfund.org)



Joyce Randolph and Actors Fund Trustee Fran Gaar with cast members from *SOME MEN* at the In the Spotlight reception and talkback session on April 4th at Second Stage

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## Actors Fund Special Performances

The tradition of Actors Fund Special Performances was launched in 1927, when an agreement was reached between The Fund, Actors' Equity and the Producing Managers Association which granted The Fund the exclusive privilege of calling for an extra performance of any production playing on Broadway or the road, with all revenue from the performance going to The Fund. This was a giant step forward toward assuring The Fund a steady income from the donations of actors' (and others') services. Over the last 80 years, Special Performances have been a mainstay of fundraising for The Actors Fund, thanks to the continuing generosity of the theatrical community. In 2006, Special Performances brought in over \$895,000 to support the vital programs and services of The Fund, carrying on the tradition of performers taking care of their own.



Fund supporter Christine Urquhart with cast member John Lloyd Young before the April JERSEY BOYS Special Performance



The cast and company of *A CHORUS LINE* following the March 25th Special Performance



Vanessa Redgrave and the company of *THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING* following their June Special Performance in New York

### Did you know

that the first Special Performance was the Theatre Guild's production of *Porgy* in 1928?

Want to receive advance notice of Actors Fund Special Performances? Sign up for our email updates! Just send your name and email address to [info@actorsfund.org](mailto:info@actorsfund.org).

### Acknowledgements

Continental Airlines



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The Actors Fund,  
for everyone  
in entertainment.

Celebrating 125 years.

# Tony Awards® Party



**Left:** Event host Bruce Vilanch presided over the raffle at the Tony Awards® Party which raised money to support the programs and services of The Fund  
**Above:** Karen Morrow presented Jerry Herman with the Julie Harris Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's Tony Awards® Party in LA

# Revlon Run/Walk



**LOS ANGELES -**  
The Actors Fund participated in the Los Angeles Revlon Run/Walk for the first time ever, joining thousands of runners and walkers on May 12th at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum



**NEW YORK -** The Actors Fund team in Central Park during the annual Revlon Run/Walk on May 5th in New York. More than 125 walkers and over 60 volunteers turned out to participate in the event which helps raise support for The Fund's Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative. Thanks to our major and generous supporter EIF—the Entertainment Industry Foundation—for this project.

# 125th Anniversary New York Gala



John Pizzarelli performing with his 16-piece band at The Actors Fund gala



**Left:** Special guest Angela Lansbury took part in the evening's performance  
**Below:** Michael Berresse (A CHORUS LINE) and Hunter Bell (TITLE OF SHOW) backstage at the Gala



David Hyde Pierce and John Mahoney entertained at The Actors Fund 125th Anniversary Gala at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York on April 30th



Valerie Harper arriving at the Gala



John Lloyd Young (JERSEY BOYS) and Laura Bell Bundy (LEGALLY BLONDE) at the Gala pre-dinner cocktail party

# 125th Anniversary — Awards and Recognition

Throughout the 125th Anniversary Year The Actors Fund is honored to be recognized by prestigious organizations across the country. In April, trustee and 3rd Vice President Lynn Redgrave represented The Fund at the theatre community's Helen Hayes Awards in Washington D.C. Attendees learned about The Fund's history and, not incidentally, the programs and services available to them.

On April 30th, at The Actors Fund's Annual Gala, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), Local One, New York City's stagehands union, presented The Fund with an IATSE Gold Card, making The Fund an honorary member of the union. Only 14 individuals and one organization have ever received this highest honor.

At New York's Lucille Lortel Awards recognizing the year off-Broadway, Fund Trustee 4th Vice President Bebe Neuwirth accepted a Special Award from the current star of *Company*, Raul Esparza. Both shared the history and purpose of The Fund as part of the presentation.

President Brian Stokes Mitchell represented The Fund at both the

NY Outer Critics Circle Awards and the Theatre World Awards. And, in front of a huge and cheering crowd over-flowing Shubert Alley, The Fund received the Star Award from Gerald Schoenfeld, representing The League of American Theatres and Producers, and Vanessa Redgrave at the annual *Stars in the Alley* concert on June 6th as well as special recognition by Katherine Oliver, Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting.

These events serve to spread the word to those who may need Fund services that The Fund is never more than a phone call away. We thank the many organizations who have chosen to include The Actors Fund in their events this year!



IATSE Local One President James J. Claffey, Jr. and Recording Secretary Robert Score, joined by Executive Committee members William Nimmo, Kevin McGarty, Robert Nimmo and Robert McDonough, presented an IATSE Gold Card to Brian Stokes Mitchell and Actors Fund Executive Director Joe Benincasa before the Annual Gala



# The Celebration Continues

On June 4th, The Fund partnered with the 92nd Street Y to present a panel discussion on "The Life of an Actor" as part of the Y's acclaimed summer series. Focused on the disparity between perception and reality and what it means to be an actor in New York today, the evening was both dramatic and delightful as panelists Harvey Fierstein, Tonya Pinkins, Christian Hoff and Michael Berresse talked about their lives in "the business." WNYC's Leonard Lopate was the terrific moderator. Keep an eye on The Fund's website for more events as the year unfolds.



Michael Berresse, Christian Hoff, moderator Leonard Lopate, Tonya Pinkins and Harvey Fierstein at the 92nd Street Y on June 4, 2007, during the Y's celebration of The Actors Fund's 125th anniversary



**Left:** Actors Fund Trustee Lynn Redgrave accepting special recognition on behalf of The Fund at this year's Helen Hayes Awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.  
**Above left:** Actors Fund Trustee Bebe Neuwirth with stage and television actor Bobby Cannavale at this year's Lucille Lortel Awards

# Actors Work Program

Entertainment industry professionals have many skills that are both applicable to and valued in the “civilian” labor market. Their interpersonal skills, ability to learn quickly and organizational skills have all contributed to success in non-industry work, as evidenced by The Fund’s Actors Work Program (AWP). Working closely with career counselors and other AWP staff, clients identify work that provides a steady auxiliary income and, in some cases, rewarding secondary careers. AWP staff is also pro-active in educating both the New York and Los Angeles employer communities in understanding the skills and talents of our clientele, and how they can contribute to an organization’s mission and bottom-line.

To help people be more competitive in the current market, AWP also offers classes that can help meet each person’s specific goals. In both New York and Los Angeles, clients have the opportunity to develop strong computer skills—from those with little or no computer experience to those with comprehensive knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite. Many utilize their new computer skills for jobs in administrative support, while others who have their own businesses or are considering sales or marketing have found the courses critical to their success.

Teaching—whether working with young children, adolescents, college students or adults—are a particularly popular choice for many in the Actors Work Program. The Fund’s relationship with the teacher’s union in New York, and Teachers’ on Reserve, an LA organization that places substitute teachers in private

**“To help people be more competitive in the current market, AWP also offers classes that can help meet each person’s specific career goals.”**

schools, has given them important resources to explore this option. Work counselors help gain appropriate accreditation for those who want to work for the K–12 system

And there are teaching opportunities that, while not having special requirements, do require special skills. Those interested in working as teaching artists, i.e. “guest artists” in the K–12 system helping students develop academic and cognitive skills through the arts, are able to learn these fundamentals in AWP’s arts-in-education training program. In New York, clients also have the opportunity to learn how their artistic skills and talents can be used to teach ESOL—English for Speakers of Other Languages.

The Actors Fund is fortunate to receive support that makes these excellent training opportunities possible, including funding from Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, Screen Actors Guild, Actors’ Equity Association, American Guild of Musical Artists, Dana Foundation, Motion Picture Welfare Fund, The Shubert Foundation, HELP USA & Affiliates, Con Edison of New York, Consortium for Worker Education and North Hollywood Church of Religious Science.

**W**ant to keep up to date on all workshops, seminars and groups offered by The Actors Fund? It’s easy! Just sign up for our monthly email that features a calendar of Actors Fund programs. Send an email to [nyprograms@actorsfund.org](mailto:nyprograms@actorsfund.org) and let us know if you would like to receive the calendar for New York or Los Angeles.

## Mark your calendars

*Don’t miss these exciting events:*

**September 8**  
*Falsettos*  
Los Angeles

**September 30**  
*Curtains* Special Performance  
New York

**October 15**  
*Brian Stokes Mitchell at Carnegie Hall*  
Benefit Concert  
New York

**November 11**  
*Les Miserables* Special Performance  
New York

**December 11**  
*Mary Poppins* Special Performance  
New York



Profile

## Kim Sykes

**A**sk Kim Sykes who should check out The Financial Wellness Program at The Actors Fund and she will tell you—anyone choosing to work in the arts. A member of SAG, AEA, and AFTRA for more than 20 years, Kim has experienced the ups and downs typical of a career in the entertainment industry and has seen her financial life take dramatic swings. When Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005, much of Kim’s family in the Gulf Coast was displaced and all of Kim’s available resources went to trying to help. This left her with no financial security of her own when the business changed and she found herself struggling again.

In 2006 Kim decided to look into workshops regarding financial education. She discovered that The Fund offers a series of workshops designed to address the challenges of living with a variable income, a situation so familiar to those who work in arts and entertainment.

After completing the workshop “Managing Cash Flow for Artists”, where Kim learned strategies for organizing and balancing multiple sources of income, she went on to take the “Debt Relief” workshop. Debt Relief, designed as a course for people looking to improve their management of credit and debt, was a natural progression of the skills Kim had developed

in the first workshop. Through her participation in Debt Relief she was able to further advance her financial picture by learning how to successfully negotiate reduced interest rates on her credit accounts.

In Kim’s case, it was enormously helpful to be in a room with other industry professionals “who knew what it was like to have 20 different W-2 forms for a single year.” Likewise, she found the information and materials provided in the workshops to be tailored for people in her situation.

Kim wishes now that she would have taken these financial wellness workshops at the start of her career and feels that

those in the business should think seriously about how money impacts the life of a performing artist. These days “if you miss a couple of months of rent you can owe thousands,” says Kim, and finding oneself in those kinds of temporary dry spells is inevitable during a long career.

But financial wellness programs are not just for those who are experiencing hardship. Kim advises, “Financial wellness workshops are great for everyone in the business no matter their particular situation” because “knowledge is power.” These lessons can help professionals attain something they might have thought was impossible—financial stability.

In Kim’s case, rebuilding financial stability not only meant creating a balanced earning and spending plan, but also taking control over her credit. Since the workshops, Kim has been able to develop an organized payment plan, reduce rates, and consolidate debts at lower interest to the tune of saving well over \$1,000 a year on payments.

Kim has been an enthusiastic advocate for the financial wellness program at The Actors Fund. The workshops, offered for free to all members of the professional arts community, help participants integrate their financial choices with all of the other choices they are making about their lives, careers, and relationships. For Kim, financial wellness means family security, stress-free acting, and looking forward to the future. “It’s a consciousness that is part of your everyday life, and is part of being healthy.”

**“For Kim, financial wellness means family security, stress-free acting, and looking forward to the future.”**