



ACTORS' EQUITY LIAISON LETTER



A Publication of the Liaison Committee for the DC • Baltimore • Suburban MD • Northern VA Area

Fall/Winter 2009 Edition

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WARNING!!! THIS WILL BE THE LAST LIAISON NEWSLETTER THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE!!!



Carl

A NOTE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS of your Liaison Committee

by Carl Randolph and Jess W. Speaker, III



Jess

"What?!? The last newsletter? How can that be? Where will I find out about the local goings on? How will I get info about the upcoming meetings? Who can I turn to for information about the Annual Liaison Auditions with Casting and Artistic Directors from over 30 theatres? What will become of us?"

CHEER UP FOLKS! This is a good thing!

In an effort to save a few dollars, not to mention a few trees, AEA and the local Liaison Committee have agreed to cease the production of **HARD COPY MAILINGS** of our local newsletter. It will still be produced and made available as a pdf download on the exciting and newly revamped **AEA NATIONAL WEBSITE**.

...And thanks to many tireless efforts on both a local and national level, there will now be at least **3 NEW AND/OR IMPROVED** ways to keep up with any and all information about meetings, auditions and all of the other important goodies. (See inside)

SPEAKING OF AUDITIONS: We are proud to announce **THE 9TH ANNUAL EQUITY LIAISON AUDITIONS** to be held at Round

House Theatre Silver Spring on Mon. FEB. 1ST & Tues. FEB. 2ND, 2010. Be sure to check out the article on page 3 for the sign up info.

The past year has seen many exciting things and some that are not so exciting. A few theatres have closed their doors due to the economic climate and some have moved forward in their commitment to Equity members by increasing their contract status. (Signature Theatre from SPT to LORT D and Rep Stage from SPT 6 to SPT 8). We are also proud to have another **TONY AWARD WINNING THEATRE** (Congrats **Signature Theatre**) in our region as well as a Councilor from DC! Congrats as well to three local members now appearing on Broadway in **Ragtime, the Musical!** Tracy Olivera, Donna Migliaccio, and Dan Manning! You're making us look good up there!

As we continue to work together we will help to make our region and community thrive. The best way for this to happen is for you to become involved in your union. The Liaison committee is dedicated to helping our Baltimore/NoVA/DC membership, however, we need your help. Let us know what's happening out there. What are your needs and concerns? We are here to help, but only if we know what you need.

This may be the last newsletter mailing, but it's a keeper! Save a spot on the fridge. We look forward to seeing you at the next membership meeting as well as our annual auditions.

In solidarity
Carl Randolph & Jess W. Speaker, III

ACTORS' EQUITY LAUNCHES MAJOR WEBSITE EXPANSION

Home, Sweet Home (Page) for DC/Baltimore!

Actors' Equity has launched a major expansion of its website with the addition of 25 Area Liaison City web pages. The new web pages can be accessed via a link from the homepage or by clicking on <http://www.actorssequity.org/AboutEquity/liasons.asp> and using the convenient drop down menu.

"This has been a long-term, collaborative effort between the Communications and IT Departments," said National Communications Director David Lotz. "Along with the addition of the National Hotline System, it will enhance and facilitate communications for thousands of members who live outside of Equity's office cities."

Among the new features are a customized area description, a save-the-date calendar, local links to arts and labor organizations, the new hotline, and a photo album. Coming soon will be customized city-search features for Casting Call and the current online Equity theatre directory.

The AEA national website now has a page for the regional Liaisons. Click on the DC link and find out the latest news from the region.



All Equity Actors and Stage Managers are invited to our annual
Winter Membership Meeting

Monday, November 30, 2009 • 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

(Reception to Follow)



6:30 PM: *Meet and Greet* • 7 PM (SHARP) - 9 PM: *Meeting* • 9 - 10: *Social Hour*

Featuring an ALL-STAR Line-up of
VERY SPECIAL GUESTS, including:



- ★ Carol Waaser, outgoing Eastern Regional Director
- ★ Danisha Crosby, Round House Theatre
- ★ Kyle Prue, Everyman Theatre
- ★ Naomi Robin, Theatre J
- ★ Brad Watkins, Olney Theatre
- ★ Mark Ramont, Ford's Theatre

Additional casting associates from other theatres to be announced



To be held at
Round House Theatre, Bethesda
4545 East West Hwy • Bethesda, MD 20814

in the rehearsal room and lobby
(Please do not contact the theatre)



**NO MORE MAILINGS?
 NO PROBLEM!**

**Three Great Ways To Keep Up
 With The Latest Liaison Goings-On:**

Even though this will be the last newsletter mailing, we will still be doing our collective best to give membership better opportunities to stay informed. Take a few minutes and check these three options:

1. **The List Serve** - Not on it yet? Why Not? It's free, it's easy and it is the best way to keep up on local information. The simple instructions are on page 3. Take 5 minutes, go over to your computer now while you are thinking of it and get on board!
2. **The New AEA National Website** - While you are at your computer, log on and check out our page. Our link is <http://www.actorsequity.org/arealiaison/arealiaison.asp?liaisonCode=53>. Pretty neat! This is where we will post future pdf copiers of our newsletter. Make sure your contact information is up-to-date with Actors' Equity. Visit the Members Only section to manage/update your profile.
3. **The All New and Improved AEA Hotline** - 877-AEA-1913 ext. 839. Check it out. Check it often. It's even Toll Free!

**M & M FUND
 (STILL) NEEDS YOUR HELP**

(Mailing and Maintenance)

True, we will no longer be mailing, but there is still a lot of maintenance. As spoken and written many times and many ways, the Liaison committee is a volunteer committee. We receive no funds from Equity to produce this newsletter, our auditions, or to hold our meetings. If you find our services helpful, please consider a small donation to the Mailing and Maintenance Fund to offset our personal costs. Any small token is greatly appreciated.

**If you would like to donate to the Liaison Committee
 M & M Fund, please send your contribution to:**



**AEA Liaison Committee
 8500 Manchester Road
 Silver Spring, MD 20901**

Special Thanks to Our Past and Current Contributors!

ANNOUNCING THE 9TH ANNUAL EQUITY LIAISON AUDITIONS

by R. Scott Williams

Your Actors Equity Association Liaison Committee for the Washington / Baltimore / Northern Virginia region is pleased to announce the 2010 Equity Liaison Auditions. These auditions were created nine years ago by your Liaison committee as an opportunity for the local membership to present their talents in an actor-friendly, professional showcase. Auditors from dozens of major local and regional theatres attend, as well as other casting professionals. Our next auditions will be held February 1 and 2, 2010, at the Round House Theatre's Silver Spring location, from 10 AM - 6 PM both days. Actors are given a total of 3 minutes in which to strut their stuff, with monologues or songs or both (an accompanist is provided both days).

Appointments for this season's auditions will be assigned via email, and registration will begin Monday, January 18, 2010, at 9 AM. Requests for appointments should be sent to EquityAuditions@aol.com, and should include your name as it appears on your Equity card, your email address, contact phone number, and your preference of audition date, including a preference for a morning or afternoon slot. It is not possible to accommodate each actor's preference, but every effort is made to do so. If you have no time preference, please indicate that as well. You will receive a return email within a week, with your specific audition appointment.

Please note that no emails sent prior to 9 AM on January 18, 2010 can be received or read.

There will be no waiting list created in advance, but a stand-by list will be available on site each audition day, for those actors who failed to secure an appointment. Equity members will be placed at the top of that list, first come, first served, but we encourage Equity Membership Candidates (EMCs) to place their names on the stand-by list as well. The day moves quickly, and the Liaison Committee has a proud tradition of doing its best to insure all actors who have the stamina to hang around eventually get seen. Sadly, we cannot accept EMC email requests for appointments in advance. EMCs must be on site with proof of candidacy in order to be placed on the stand-by list.

All local Equity members are invited to attend these auditions, which yield results. Further information will be available at the Winter Membership Meeting on Nov. 30. The audition announcement will also be circulated via the local Equity listserv, and on the new AEA Casting Hotline, 877-AEA-1913 ext 839, in late December.

THE LISTSERVE

*If We Can't Reach You,
We Can't Help You!*

Are you on our listserv? The listserv is the best method of keeping informed of what's happening in our region. From auditions to classes to free offers this information is for you. All contact information is kept confidential and is not shared with anyone. It's free and it's easy to be a part of it. Just send an email from the account you want on record to DCBALTOACTOR@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name and membership number as the listserv is for members only.

HOT NEWS: A NEW HOTLINE!



All local auditions and announcements can now be found on the new toll-free National Actors Equity Casting Hotline. (The local Equity Casting Hotline has been discontinued.) Dial this number to access local casting calls and announcements:

877-AEA-1913 ext. 839

And it's easy to remember! Area code: 877 (okay, you'll have to memorize that part), prefix: AEA (that's easy to remember), followed by: 1913 (the year Equity was born), and our own extension: 839 (spells TEX. Or VEX. It may have nothing to do with our region, but is easier to remember than 839).

All the regional casting hotlines have been consolidated into this national toll-free number, each receiving its own extension, which can be accessed by all Equity members throughout the country. Check this number often, to receive local audition information, membership announcements, and details regarding our upcoming Equity Liaison Auditions.

SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thank you to our good friends at Round House Theatre for their continued support and the use of their Bethesda and Silver Spring facilities for our upcoming meeting and 2010 auditions.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind membership not to contact the theatre for any information concerning Liaison events. Also, please remember that the Winter Meeting will be held in the Bethesda location and the Auditions will be held in Silver Spring.

For more info about Round House Theatre, visit www.roundhousetheatre.org.

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This is a publication of the Washington/Baltimore/Northern Virginia Area Liaison Committee. The Committee is solely responsible for its content and in no way means to suggest that it speaks for Actors' Equity Association, either directly or indirectly.

Casting Directors and Artistic Directors from over
30 AEA Theatres local and national!

Announcing the
2010 LIAISON AUDITIONS

MON. FEB. 1ST & TUES. FEB. 2ND, 2010
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

To be held at **Roundhouse Theatre - Silver Spring**
8641 Colesville Road • Silver Spring, MD • 20910
Visit roundhousetheatre.org for direction, parking info, and hotel info.



Appointments for this season's auditions will be assigned via email.
Registration begins Monday, January 18, 2010, at 9 AM.

Requests for appointments should be sent to **EquityAuditions@aol.com**

Please include your name as it appears on your Equity card, your email address, contact phone number, and your preference of audition date, including a preference for a morning or afternoon slot. You will receive a return email within a week, with your specific audition appointment.

No emails sent prior to 9 AM on January 18, 2010 can be received or read. Please do not call/contact Roundhouse Theatre.

For complete information, please read the article on page 3 of this newsletter.

AEA Liaison Committee
8500 Manchester Road
Silver Spring, MD 20901

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Call the Hotline for Audition and Committee info
877-AEA-1913 ext. 839