



FACT SHEET

Actors' Equity Association (Actors' Equity or 'Equity'), founded in 1913, represents more than 50,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions.

Equity is governed by its own members through an elected Council, representing principal actors, chorus actors and stage managers living in three regions: Eastern, Central and Western. Members at large participate in Equity's governance through a system of regional Boards and Committees. Equity has 24 designated area liaison cities with over 100 members each.

President: Kate Shindle
Executive Director: Mary McColl

Membership: Over 50,000 members, including singers, actors, dancers, stage managers

Founded: May 26, 1913, in New York City

Offices: New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Orlando

Among the benefits that may be included in Equity contracts are:

- Minimum Salaries, including overtime, pay for additional duties, housing and/or per diem while touring
- Contract Negotiation and Administration
- Health Insurance and Pension Plan, 401k, Supplemental Workers' Compensation Insurance
- Work Rules, Vacation and Sick Pay
- Bonding to guarantee Salaries, Benefits
- Job Access
- Dispute Resolution
- Just Cause (penalties for improper dismissal)
- Tax Assistance through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program
- Advocacy for Arts Funding and Legislation Benefiting Performing Artists, Non-Traditional Casting
- Access to Actors' Federal Credit Union, providing free checking, Visa cards, mortgages, car loans and more

Contracts:

Equity negotiates and promulgates over 40 national and local contracts including Production (Broadway and touring), LORT (League of Resident Theatres), Stock, Small Professional Theatre (SPT), WCLO, Dinner Theatre, Theatre for Young Audiences, Live Corporate Communications, Off Broadway, Chicago and Hollywood Area Theatres, and numerous agreements for developing not-for-profit theatres.

Service Organizations:

Equity supports many service organizations including the Actors' Fund, the Actors' Work Program, Actors Federal Credit Union, Artists Health Resource Center, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, Career Transition for Dancers, Cantzen Shoe Fund, Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative and Volunteer Physicians for the Arts

Affiliations:

AFL-CIO/DPE (Department of Professional Employees),
FIA (Federation Internationale des Artistes)
Associated Actors and Artistes of America (4As)

Website: www.actorssequity.org

Publications: Equity News