

## Pandemic Paralyzes Local A&E World

The seats of the O'Reilly Theater are empty. No one is performing on **Club Cafe's** stage and no one is in the audience. All four **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh** are closed. The global novel coronavirus pandemic has shut down the region's arts/entertainment world --- and the economic toll is rising.

Local producer Casey Droege tells *Pittsburgh Applause* that her company and its concept store have "cut hours, lost about 80% of our revenue and trying to pivot to become as digital as possible in the time. We haven't laid anyone off, but it's a likely outcome in the coming month."

Professional piano technician Peter Stumpf also explains to *Applause* that cancellations by clients like the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** (PSO) "have topped \$10,000" in lost business. Organizations like the PSO are important drivers in the local A&E industry. According to the **Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council's** *Culture Counts 2020* report, the region's non-profit arts organizations have over 30,000 full-time employees generating about \$641 million in household income. These organizations also sold more than \$4.6 million in paid admissions.

The crises has left the region's film companies in an expensive state of limbo. Sam Sandora of **Three Rivers Studios** emailed *Applause* that "we have had sev-

eral larger pending productions be placed on hold as a result of the virus. Losses are substantial when you lose potential revenues from a movie or television series looking to bring a large production in."

COVID-19 has also caused problems for **North Rivers Pittsburgh's** 31st Street Studios complex. "We have had to halt all construction at our studios (we have quite a lot of life safety work, like fire sprinkler systems, that needed installed) for the time being due to the virus," explains the company's Alyssa Falarski. "So it's impacting our ability to really bring in any business, period. Our staff at the studios has not been impacted, at least not as of yet. But we also do not directly employ the cast/crew of the productions themselves.

Those are the people who are being directly impacted the most in terms of employment. I can't predict the amount of lost revenue, but if we are unable to reopen in time for the summer, and therefore lose all chances of bringing a production in, we will be without income for approximately 75% of the year."

Recently, WESA-FM's Bill O'Driscoll spoke to numerous members of the non-profit component and the reports are stunning. The **Pittsburgh Glass Center** will furlough about half of its staff starting April 1. **Pittsburgh City Theatre's** cancellations have cost it about \$450,000. And Stephen Knapp, president of the Carnegie Museums of

*Continues on next page*



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## COVID Film Contest

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, **Steeltown** has announced a short film contest with cash prizes.

The pandemic and its fallout has hit Steeltown as it has everyone else.

The organization has cancelled the spring semester of its Steeltown Film Academy youth program (although still planning a summer session) and their primary annual fundraiser, the Elly Awards.

Steeltown's contest is called "Lights! Camera! Quarantine!"



The five-minute entries can be any genre, shot using any equipment from film camera to smart phone and must be inspired by the word "home." The organization is also encouraging entrants to follow the COVID distancing guideline (such as using a crew of one).

The contest has two levels: Youth (age 19 and under) with a \$100 prize and Adult with a \$200 prize. No admission fee is being charged and the deadline is April 10. Details are available by clicking <https://www.steeltown.org/light-camera-quarantine-film-competition/>



On March 25, the **Pittsburgh Film Office** posted on Facebook the following warning:

"It's come to our attention that scammers posing as real industry filmmakers are active again. Please disregard any strange job offers, and feel free to check in with our office about a project's legitimacy."

Contact the PFO by emailing [info@pghfilm.org](mailto:info@pghfilm.org)

### Continued from page 1

Pittsburgh, told O'Driscoll that the institution has been forced to draw funds from its endowment to cover an estimated \$1.4 million a month in losses. His full article is available at <https://www.wesa.fm/post/pittsburghs-arts-groups-adjust-uncertain-future>

Creative people are trying to adapt as creative people always do. Visual artist Gabe Felice explains that "I have observed that people aren't very focused on purchasing physical artwork in general. Therefore, I have shifted my focus to provide patrons with digitally created forms of my work in order to sustain my art practice." And at City Theatre, Nikki Battestilli says that "we're

all in the thick of rearranging our work patterns and most importantly figuring out ways to still provide our work to our community.'

Musicians are among the hardest hit. Brendan Pester of **Opus One Productions** tells *Applause* that "all March and April shows will not be happening." Independent musician and educator Matthew Korbanic also reports that "I estimate that I will lose most [of my income] this year due to not being able to teach. Since the shut down order I've had some students [move their lessons] online, but this is a temporary fix. So some students lose interest. I've also had students discontinue lessons due to layoff or unemployment."

Local band **Code Orange** elected to cancel its hometown concert on

March 14 just as their fourth album was released. They immediately switched to an online show instead. "We had 48 hours max to pull it together," vocalist Jami Morgan told *Billboard*. "Instead of sitting there and saying 'woe is me' when this s\*\*t happens, you have to activate."

As of press time, it looks as if the national shut down will extend into May, jeopardizing major events such as the Children's Theatre Festival, Three Rivers Arts Festival and PrideFest among others.

**Scroll to page 4 for our attempted "guesstimate" of losses facing Pittsburgh's A&E community.**

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## GPAC Expands Emergency Fund

Starting on March 17, the **Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council** (GPAC) is temporarily modifying their Emergency Fund for Artists (EFFA) application guidelines to address the current needs of artists in the Greater Pittsburgh area.

Artists and creative workers living in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Washington, Lawrence, Indiana, Greene, Fayette, Washington and Westmoreland counties are eligible to request up to \$500. The fund will be open, but not limited to, offsetting losses due to cancelled events (such as performances) and lost opportunities for teaching artists.



In addition, artists and creative workers who have experienced an unforeseen, catastrophic event that has impeded their ability to continue their artistic practice may apply for general emergency funds through the Emergency Fund for Artists. These funds range from \$300 to \$1,000 and cover emergencies such as flood, fire, accident, destruction of artwork and theft.

There are no deadlines and the most critical, urgent situations will be given priority. Details are available at: <https://www.pittsburghartscouncil.org/programs/artist-services/emergency-fund>

**Scroll down to pages 12 and 13 for an extensive list of financial aid sources.**



Comprised of both non-profit organizations and commercial enterprises, Pittsburgh's arts & entertainment community is a vibrant industry. But just how much has the Novel Coronavirus 19 cost our industry? That's hard to calculate and the key players are still totaling the figures. But we can get a snapshot with these guesstimates.

Our guesstimates deal with a hypothetical single-night event and focuses solely on admission. (Other economic matters, such as parking and restaurants, are excluded). These numbers are **not** authoritative.

**BENEDUM CENTER: \$73,500**

The Benedum Center seats 2,800. This guesstimate assumes 75% of the seats sold at an average of \$35 each.

**BYHAM THEATER: \$24,375**

The Byham Theater seats 1,300. This guesstimate assumes 75% of the seats sold at an average of \$25 each.

**HEINZ HALL: \$64,224**

Heinz Hall seats 2,676. This guesstimate assumes 80% of the seats sold at an average of \$30 each.

**MR SMALL'S THEATER: \$17,000**

Mr. Small's seats 800. This guesstimate assumes 85% of the seats sold at an average of \$25 each.

**OAKS THEATER: \$8,600**

The Oaks Theater seats 430. This guesstimate assumes 80% of the seats sold at an average of \$20 each.

**PITTSBURGH CITY THEATRE: \$5,312.50**

Pittsburgh City Theatre seats 250. This guesstimate assumes 85% of the seats sold at an average of \$25 each.

**PITTSBURGH PUBLIC THEATER: \$18,200**

The O'Reilly seats 650. This guesstimate assumes 70% of the seats sold at an average of \$40 each.

**REX THEATER: \$5,700**

The Rex Theater seats 300. Sold out concerts are not uncommon. Therefore, this guesstimate assumes 95% of the seats sold at an average of \$20 each.

**STAGE AE: \$64,800**

Stage AE seats 2,400. This guesstimate assumes 90% of the seats sold at an average of \$30 each.

## ACA Cans Confab

The Pittsburgh-based **ACA Connects** has cancelled its 2020 summit conference in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

What was originally called the American Cable Association is a trade organization representing independent companies that provide broadband, phone and video services to nearly 8 million customers primarily located in rural markets.



The event was originally scheduled March 17-19 in Washington, DC and the organization initially

planned to move it to this September. "Although we seriously considered and worked toward the fall for new dates for the summit," CEO Matthew M. Polka explained in a press release, "ACA Connects in the end concluded that now was simply not the time to reschedule the summit for later this year because of all of the unprecedented challenges facing our country and our members."

Nearly 300 members and dozens of vendors were expected to attend. Anyone seeking a refund should contact [aca@acacconnects.org](mailto:aca@acacconnects.org)

## Row House Rows On

Local specialty theater **Row House Cinema** is still screening movies despite having closed its doors due to COVID-19.

"We will have an online streaming Row House Cinema," owner Brian Mendelssohn recently told Next Pittsburgh's Michael Machosky. "We are working with distributors to bring films that would normally be in cinemas, available for a cinema-like streaming experience (you buy a ticket, you can then watch it on your computer, TV, Apple TV, Roku, etc.). We split the ticket with distributors just like we normally would if we are showing it on the big screen."

The theater is also launching a regular podcast. Read more at <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/latest-news/row-house-cinema-will-open-as-streaming-portal-with-first-run-movies-and-more/>

## Support Jim Richards and his projects:

- \* Money Donations
- \* Sponsorships/Advertising
- \* Comp Tickets
- \* Equipment/Supply Donations

*Sorry, but contributions are not tax deductible.*

[jim@james-richards.com](mailto:jim@james-richards.com)



## COVID-19: How The Museums Are Coping

The area's museums are closed during the COVID-19 crises. But some are still finding way to serve the community.

### **Carnegie Museum of Art/ Carnegie Museum of Natural History/Andy Warhol Museum**

The museums have posted on the web images from collections, samples of concerts, updated blogs and educational programs.

### **The Carnegie Science Center**

Each day at 8:00 a.m. on Facebook and Twitter, the Science Center will post "CSC's Three Things", a curated list of something to read, something to watch and something to do that will keep the whole family happy, learning, and exploring. At noon every day, the Science Center will

post a fun and easy-to-follow science activity designed for young learners using common household items. Examples include a chromatography flower activity using coffee filters and markers, and a "rain cloud in a jar" activity using food coloring and shaving cream.

### **Children's Museum of Pittsburgh**

The museum has launched an online program called "Museum at Home" with videos of craft projects for kids.

### **Frick Pittsburgh**

The museum has posted virtual tours and other programs on its web site.

### **Mattress Factory**

Interested persons can still visit the museum online with its "Virtual Experiences" program.

### **Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium**

The zoo is encouraging patrons to regularly visit the organization's online web cams.

### **Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center**

The center's Making History Blog is offering over 300 fascinating stories focused on Pittsburgh's rich and dynamic history. Images of some of the institution's artifacts are also available online as are virtual tours of some exhibits.

## REX THEATER COVID-19 STAFF-RELIEF



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## COVID Adaptations: Online Performances

In addition to independent artists, bands and other artists, some of the region's leading non-profit organizations are taking to the web to present performances to their audiences.

### PITTSBURGH IRISH FESTIVAL

Using their Facebook page as the stage, the **Pittsburgh Irish Festival** has launched a series of live streaming performances.

"We hope that this series will bring a smile to the faces of our online community, support bands and performers during this crisis, and perhaps introduce Irish music to many who are not already familiar," said executive director Mairin Petrone in a press release.

The free concert series began March 25 and will continue each weeknight indefinitely.

### PITTSBURGH OPERA

With their 2019-2020 season essentially cancelled, the **Pittsburgh Opera** has turned to the internet to keep engaging their audience.

The company has started a project called "Intermezzo," a series of videos from past performances, as well as serenades by the opera's resident artists as recorded from their homes. The series began March 25 and plans call for a daily upload throughout the COVID-19 crises.

Initial videos starred vocalists Caitlin Gotimer, Tyler Zimmerman and Angel Romero. Check them out by visiting <https://www.pittsburghopera.org/season/free-low-cost-events/intermezzo-videos>

### PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

On March 20, the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** announced a series of online musical offerings while Heinz Hall is temporarily closed:

"There is nothing like music to uplift and energize our spirits in the best of times --- and, in the most challenging," the PSO's Melia Tourangeau explained in a press release. The new series "will continue to offer music to you as we weather this crisis together."

Called "Extraordinary Measures" the series is expected to debut by April 1. Regular segments will include music video self-produce by PSO musicians; clips of recently curated performances and various educational element.

Begin watching it by clicking [https://pittsburghsymphony.org/psos\\_home/web/extraordinary-measures](https://pittsburghsymphony.org/psos_home/web/extraordinary-measures)

### PITTSBURGH PUBLIC THEATER

Talk about the show going on: the **Pittsburgh Public Theater** has launched an online series featuring local celebrities reading classic plays. It's called "PlayTime" and is available at <https://zoom.us/j/805576064>

**James Richards, publisher of *Pittsburgh Applause* and founder of Channel Pittsburgh, is offering the streaming TV station as an outlet for members of the local arts & entertainment community. Scroll down to the next page for information.**



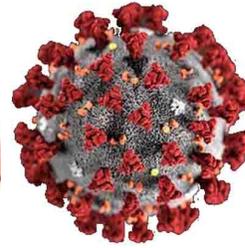
## Images



*Justin Emeka has joined the Pittsburgh Public Theater as its new Associate Artist.*



Channel  
Pittsburgh



## **CHANNEL PITTSBURGH OPPORTUNITY FOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS, INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS, BANDS & OTHER CREATIVES**

**[www.channelpittsburgh.org](http://www.channelpittsburgh.org)**

Jim Richards is offering members of Pittsburgh's arts & entertainment community the opportunity to utilize Channel Pittsburgh as part of their mission during the coronavirus crises: by producing your own half-hour special to appear on the channel's prime time schedule in May 2020 **for free**.

Unlike many other online video outlets, the audience will be able to watch your special on their smart television set as if it were airing on a major broadcaster or network!



This will also help Jim in building up Channel Pittsburgh's audience which will, in turn, provide more opportunities for the region's arts & entertainment community.

- ◆ 25 minutes of Channel Pittsburgh prime time (total) in May 2020 with a break (roughly) in the middle for public service announcements and station promos.
- ◆ You can produce almost anything (exhibit tour; performance; lecture, preview an upcoming event/season or other presentation).
- ◆ Once Jim has scheduled your special, you need to promote it through press releases, social media, etc.
- ◆ The file must be in mpeg4 format.
- ◆ Deadline: April 17, 2020.
- ◆ Send to [jim@james-richards.com](mailto:jim@james-richards.com) along with a suggested program description for the station's program schedule booklet.

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The various ways local A&E professionals are responding during the COVID-19 pandemic, per their Alignable and LinkedIn posts.



**Maria Angelica Caruso,**

**Bodiography**

The Maria Train is full steam ahead! Bodiography artists have been in class all week and we are ready to take Bodiography Center for Movement and La Roche University Dance students on a wild virtual ride starting tomorrow [March 22]. We are back in session and working towards our summer performances. There is no stopping us!

**Delvina L. Morrow,**

**Pittsburgh Penguins**

I am looking for virtual story time readers for children in our community!!! Have a children's book at home? Record yourself reading it, send it to me, and I'll help to distribute your video to a local school looking for story time readers!!!

**Carrie Nardini, I Made It Market**

We are listing our I Made It! Market artists' online shops at <https://lnkd.in/eWNmU6j> If you can, [hashtag#shoplocal](https://lnkd.in/eWNmU6j) many artists will ship items to you like bath and body products, gifts, greeting cards, and more.

**Tim Sullivan, Hearst/WTAE-TV**

Our friends at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank need monetary donations to help respond to the immediate COVID-19 needs in our community. Learn more here: <https://lnkd.in/ezMnz7g>

**Tom, Kurlander, JumpStart Films**

In post-production on a digital short JumpStart Films shot for PittMoss, a company with great products, as seen on Shark Tank.

**Bill Bara, Disc Jockey**

I just uploaded "DJ Bill Bara & 2 Turntables" to Vimeo <https://lnkd.in/edwZKEb>

**Icarus Witch {Band}**

Admittedly we don't update the band LinkedIn profile as often as the other socials, but we did want to check in and let everyone know we're stoked by the support from both the [hashtag#HardRock](https://lnkd.in/eWNmU6j) press and the fans to our latest album, Goodbye Cruel World on [Cleopatra Records](https://lnkd.in/eWNmU6j). Currently, we're in the writing phase for the followup which will be the 7th release of our 15-year career. We're 7 songs deep already and look forward to getting back into the studio as well as 2 overseas tours this year. If you haven't already, please give our latest a spin and let us know what you think. If you dig it, follow us on [Spotify](https://lnkd.in/eWNmU6j) to stay updated on new tunes.

**Larry Berger, Saturday**

**Light Brigade**

SLB has been concerned about the lack of youth voice regarding the COVID-19 epidemic. We've rolled out a new app to help address that. Please encourage youth you know to visit this link to share their thoughts for possible broadcast. <https://lnkd.in/db9Usm2>. Thanks!

**Charlene B, Andy Warhol Museum**

I am so thankful for my coworkers at [The Andy Warhol Museum](https://lnkd.in/db9Usm2) during this stressful time. Everyone has done such a great job of coming together to help share the museum in a virtual way, to provide Warhol-related art activities that people can do with their families at home, and to implement timely communication related to our postponed and rescheduled events. And there are more virtual offerings to come. If you're interested in what we are doing virtually while we are closed to the public temporarily, be sure to follow our social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube).

**Gina Vensel,**

**Easy Street Promotions**

The events and entertainment industries are upside down right now. Most events are canceled or postponed. We have to weather this storm and hope that everyone will support local special events, concerts, galas and parties when this is all over. I'm the publisher of Sensi Mag Pittsburgh, and we are going digital to for a couple months to give our clients a break on their ad costs. We are all in this together. One day at a time. Let's care for one another as neighbors, friends, and fellow humans. As a PGH native, I know we are Pittsburgh Strong. We can get through this! Wishing you all well.

**James Gourlay, River City Brass**

We at River City Brass have been shut down as concerts may not take place. We will be offering some free live streaming shows however.

**Donald Firesmith, Author**

As an author, sheltering in place (and thereby saving commuting to work) helps give me more time to write.

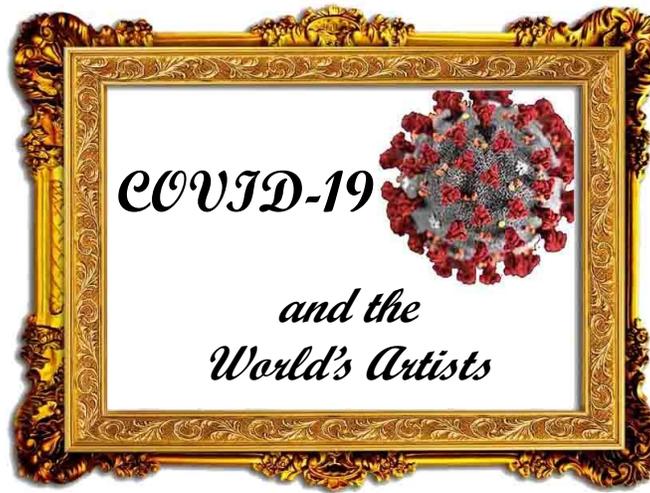
**Paul Liberati,**

**Exceptional Limousine**

Well, all my booked trips for this weekend have cancelled so it's not good

**Daphne Alderson, Vocalist**

At this point, since our opera, Stravinsky's "Mavra," was cancelled, I'm writing songs and working on repertoire for summer festivals (fingers crossed that they will come to pass). I'm learning to FaceTime my private students, a good thing. But, the best thing is what is free to us all: runs/long walks in the fresh air, more time to look up at the blue sky, listen to the birds and watch the Springtime unfold. I'd miss that if I were working inside. Each day, I'm calling loved ones near and far and checking in...& my real passion is vintage film, so I'm getting reacquainted with Bette Davis—that strengthens anyone's resolve: Gumption!



Hundreds of thousands of people across the globe have been tested positive for COVID-19 and the world's creative community hasn't been spared.

Here is a partial list of known artists, performers and entertainers to have contracted the virus --- including many who passed away (and least in part) due to the infection.

Sergio Bassi, Singer/Songwriter (Died March 16)	Aurlus Mabele, Singer/Composer (Died March 19)
Maurice Berger, Curator/Historian (Died March 23)	Detto Mariano, Musician/Composer (Died March 25)
Chuck Billy, Singer/Songwriter	Rachel Matthews, Actress
Giovanni Blandino, Sculptor/Painter (Died March 22)	Debi Mazar, Actress
Mark Blum, Actor (Died March 25)	Terrence McNally, Playwright (Died March 24).
Lucia Bose, Actress (Died March 23)	Naomi Munakata, Musician/Conductor (Died March 26)
Jackson Browne, Singer/Songwriter	Khamis Mwinjuma (a.k.a. Mwana FA), Rapper
David Bryan, Musician/Songwriter	Ed O'Brien, Guitarist
Laura Bell Bundy, Actress	Sandi Patty, Singer
Max Clayton, Actor	Marcelo Peralta, Saxophonist (Died March 10)
Andy Cohen, Entertainer/Executive	Thelma Plum, Musician
Manu Dibango, Saxophonist (Died March 24)	Greg Rikaart, Actor
Placido Domingo, Opera Singer	Troy Ryan (a.k.a. DJ Webster), Rapper/Disc Jockey
Matt Doyle, Actor	Michael Sorkin, Architect/Writer (Died March 26)
Idris Elba, Actor	Oliver Stokes Jr. (a.k.a. Black N Mild), Disc Jockey (Died March 19)
Paul Goma, Dissident Writer (Died March 25)	Tarcisio Stramare, Writer (Died March 20)
Vittorio Gregotti, Architect (Died March 15)	Stayve Thomas (a.k.a. Slim Thug), Rapper
Tom Hanks, Actor/Director	Aaron Tveit, Actor
Kristofer Hivju, Actor	Indira Varma, Actress
Olle Holmquist, Trombonist (Died March 26)	Andrew Watt, Musician/Singer
Brandon Hoover, Musician	Harvey Weinstein, Producer
Natalie Horner, Singer	Rita Wilson, Actress/Singer/Producer
Brad Jordan (a.k.a. Scarface), Rapper	Nashom Wooden, Actor/Drag Artist (Died March 23)
Daniel Dae Kim, Actor	
Chad Kimball, Actor	
Olga Kurylenko, Actress	
Charlotte Lawrence, Singer	
Jean Leber, Violinist (Died March 18)	
Mike Longo, Pianist (Died March 22)	



# COVID-19 Emergency Funding Sources For The Arts & Entertainment Community

## **ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION**

<https://actorsequity.org/>

The union has established the Curtain Up Fund to provide support for members at risk due to work cancellations resulting from COVID-19.

## **THE ACTORS FUND**

<https://actorsfund.org/am-i-eligible-help>

Emergency financial assistance is available for people who are unable to pay their basic living expenses (food/housing/health care) over the next two months. While some of the funds are for members of entertainment unions, you do not need to be a union member to receive help from The Actors Fund.

## **AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS**

<https://agmarelief.org/>

Any AGMA member in good standing is entitled and encouraged to apply for financial assistance. Grants are awarded on a case-by-case basis, based on need.

## **ARTIST RELIEF PROJECT**

<https://artistreliefproject.org/>

Any artist in any discipline who has been impacted by COVID19-related cancellations and closures may apply for assistance. Stipends and support will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## **ARTISTS' FELLOWSHIP**

<https://www.artistsfellowship.org/financial-aid>

The organization is currently limiting relief and assistance applications to those qualified applicants who are dealing with immediate medical emergencies and their aftermaths.

## **CERF+**

<https://cerfplus.org/get-relief/apply-for-help/>

Emergency grants are available for studio artists who have been infected with the virus and require intensive medical care.

## **CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING**

<https://www.cpb.org/>

The recently enacted COVID-19 economic stimulus law includes funds to help struggling nonprofit television and radio stations.

## **ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FOUNDATION**

<https://www.eifoundation.org/>

The foundation has established a fund to provide relief to those who work in the entertainment industry who are most vulnerable to the effects of the economic crisis.

## **FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS**

<https://www.foundationforcontemporaryarts.org/grants/emergency-grants>

A temporary fund has been established to meet the needs of experimental artists who have been impacted by the economic fallout from postponed or canceled performances and exhibitions.

## **GREATER PITTSBURGH ARTS COUNCIL**

<https://www.pittsburghartsCouncil.org/programs/artist-services/emergency-fund>

The organization is providing grants of up to \$500 to local artists experiencing loss of income due to the coronavirus outbreak.

## **THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES (IATSE)**

<https://iatsecares.org/>

The union created an assistance program called "IATSE CARES" to provide support to its most at-risk, elderly or disabled members during the coronavirus crisis.

## **INTERNATIONAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC ASSOCIATION**

<https://ibma.org/bluegrass-trust-fund/apply/>

Each request for assistance is judged on its own merits and should demonstrate a financial emergency or circumstance involving dire need. There is no limit to the amount an applicant may request, but grants have generally range from \$500.00 to \$5000.00.

## **JAZZ FOUNDATION OF AMERICA**

<https://jazzfoundation.org/covid-19fund/>

The foundation has established a COVID-19 Musicians' Emergency Fund to help musicians and their families with basic living expenses.

*Continues on next page.*



# COVID-19 Emergency Funding Sources For The Arts & Entertainment Community

*Continued from last page.*

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

<https://www.arts.gov/COVID-19-FAQs>

The recently enacted COVID-19 economic stimulus law includes funds to help struggling nonprofit arts organizations.

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

<https://www.neh.gov/COVID19-FAQs>

The recently enacted COVID-19 economic stimulus law includes funds to help struggling nonprofit humanities organizations.

## PEN AMERICA

<https://pen.org/writers-emergency-fund/>

In response to the pandemic, PEN America will distribute grants of \$500 to \$1,000 based on applications that demonstrate an inability to meet an acute financial need.

## PINETOP PERKINS FOUNDATION

<https://www.pinetopperkinsfoundation.org/pinetop-assistance-league>

The foundation provides financial assistance to elderly musicians for medical and living expenses.

## PITTSBURGH FOUNDATION

<https://pittsburghfoundation.org/emergencyactionfund>

A collection of local philanthropic organizations, led by the Pittsburgh Foundation, has established a COVID-19 Emergency Fund. Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis to emergency service providers and nonprofit organizations serving on the front lines of recovery.

## PLUS1

<http://plus1.org/covidrelief>

The collective is working with leading organizations around the country to provide immediate assistance to musicians and music industry workers affected.

## THE RECORDING ACADEMY

<https://www.grammy.com/musicares/get-help/covid-19-relief-fund-faq>

The academy's COVID-19 Relief Fund has been established to help music artists who have lost income due to the cancellation of scheduled gigs or performances as a result of the pandemic.

## SAG-AFTRA

<https://sagaftra.foundation/assistance/disasterrelief/>

Open only to union members, a program has been established to help those who are in an emergency financial crisis related to COVID-19. Aid is provided to cover basic expenses such as rent, mortgage, utilities, medical bills and other essential needs.

## URBAN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF PITTSBURGH

<https://www.ura.org/pages/covid-19>

Working through the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, the authority has launched a program for households at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI) who have been affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This program is designed to provide short-term assistance to workers who have experienced a reduction in hours and are facing a financial hardship to pay rent and utilities.





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## Keaton Feeds Kids During COVID-19 Crises

Pittsburgh native and award winning actor Michael Keaton is financing a local meal distribution program, reports Kristy Locklin for Next Pittsburgh.

His donation has provided hundreds of meals to children who would normally get their lunches at school --- something that's not possible during this COVID-19 lock down.

Leah Lizarondo of **412 Food Rescue** told Locklin that " she was thinking about doing some kind of bus stop meal distribution as soon as she heard Pennsylvania schools were closing." Read her full article by clicking <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/latest-news/with-help-from-michael-keaton-pittsburgh-nonprofits-distribute-meals-to-kids-at-bus-stops/>

## COVID-19 & Billy Porter

Award winning actor and Pittsburgh native Billy Porter recently spoke with *The Hollywood Reporter's* Lacey Rose about life in the age of COVID-19.

Porter had just started shooting the third season of his {streaming?} television series "Pose" when production was shut down.

In the article, the Tony Award honoree talks about self-care, spending more time with his husband and even writing his memoirs. Read the full piece by clicking <https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/how-im-living-now-billy-porter-pose-star-1286928>

## “Rust” On Hold

Maura Tierney has been signed to co-star with Jeff Daniels in the cable television adaptation of the novel *American Rust*.

Written by Philipp Meyer and published in 2009, *American Rust* is



set in a struggling rural Fayette County town and the recent high school graduate facing difficult life choices. General information on the series is available at <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1532495/>

The series was due to begin production in Pittsburgh by the end of March, but the COVID-19 pan-

demic has suspended work. There has been no word at press time when shooting may resume. "Rust" is to air on **ViacomCBS'** pay cable network Showtime. The company also owns local TV station KDKA.



An online survey has been established to help better identify the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on individual artists and non-profit arts organizations.

The survey is being conducted by **Americans for the Arts** and takes an estimated five minutes to complete. To participate, click <https://surveys.americansforthearts.org/s3/CoronavirusImpactSurvey>

## Across

1. Poet Kilmer who wrote 27-Across, to pals
5. Famously exiled Roman poet
9. Weapons per a military
11. Kimono accessory
12. Macho postage?
14. Half of Captain Picard's first name
15. *Losing Earth* author, initially
16. Common style of 4-Down (with 18-Across)
18. See 15-Across
19. Big Wall Street event, initially
20. Important university person
23. What an actor holds on stage
26. Fictional TV newsman Nessman, to pals
27. Famous nature poem
29. In addition
30. Vital boat tools
31. River in western France
32. You may find these in 27-Across

1		2	3	4		5	6	7	8
		9			10		11		
12	13						14		
15			16			17			
		18							
19						20	21	22	
		23	24	25			26		
27	28					29			
30							31		
32									

## Down

1. Famous poet who wrote *Paradise Lost*
2. Popular side dish at Thanksgiving
3. Award winning 2004 film
4. Famous American poet (with 8-Down)
6. Chevrolet plug-in car
7. Beer bitterness scale, initially
8. See 4-Down
10. Exciting poetry event
13. The title of a 1980's TV sitcom or a 1990's TV drama
17. Homer's neighbor
18. "Three's Company" spinoff
21. Dutch poet de Waard, to pals
22. Famous fable fellow
24. "Take five"
25. Free cloud computing platform, initially
28. Actress Charlotte

### Last Month's Solution

B	U	G	S		D	A	V	I	D
O		U		C	E	L	I	N	E
W	A	N	E		C	A	S	K	
I	N			J	A	N	I	S	
E	M	T		O			T		P
	Y	E	L	P					H
F	L	A		L	I	E	D		I
B	E	S	T	I	E		I	M	P
			R	N		H	O	O	P
R	E	B	A		B	A	N	D	S