

Playhouse Enters Development Partnership

A development deal has been struck between **Point Park University's** Pittsburgh Playhouse and **RWS Entertainment**.



Founded in 2003 by Point Park alumnus Ryan W. Stana, RWS Entertainment produces shows and custom brand experiences for resorts, cruise lines, theme parks and corporate events as well as for television and the stage. Stana

also serves on the university's board of trustees.

The news was first reported in a story written exclusively for *Variety* by Brent Lang. According to his article, new RWS shows will be produced by Point Park students at the university's new downtown theater. The point is to use the Pittsburgh Playhouse as a laboratory for potential Broadway plays and musicals. The first will be an [adaptation of the 1955 novella *The Old Man and the Sea*](#) written by Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961).

"Our students will be involved in every aspect of this production — from the creation of the stage sets to the lighting," Lang quotes Point Park University president Paul Hennigan. "It gives them invaluable hands-on experience."

Read the full article by clicking <https://variety.com/2018/legit/news/point-park-university-rws-collaborating-on-new-plays-and-musicals-exclusive-1203024338/>



End Of An Era: The Filmmakers' Auction

As part of its reorganization, the financially challenged **Pittsburgh Filmmakers/Pittsburgh Center for the Arts** (PF/PCA) held an auction at Pittsburgh Filmmakers' storied Melwood Avenue campus.



Established in 1945, the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts offers arts education programs and contemporary art exhibitions in a former mansion. Pittsburgh Filmmakers was formed in 1971 and soon became one of the nation's leading media arts centers. By the 2000's, both organizations were

facing financial troubles. They merged in 2006.

The November 17 auction was held to sell off cameras, lighting gear and other equipment. WESA-FM's Bill O'Driscoll covered the event, which many attendees saw as more an ending than a change -- something that new PF/PCA chief Dorinda Sankey disputes.

"I don't think that [Pittsburgh Filmmakers] is ending at all," O'Driscoll quotes Sankey. "In fact, it's being reborn." Sections of the Center for the Arts building will be converted into an equipment lending office, a photo darkroom and a screening room. The annual Three Rivers Arts

Festival is expected to fully return in 2019.

The Melwood Avenue complex is being sold. This will allow the organization to retire debt and provide funds for investment. Read O'Driscoll's full story at <http://www.wesa.fm/post/following-turmoil-new-leaders-pittsburgh-filmmakerscenter-arts-look-ahead>



The NY Times: More Moonves Revelations

A detailed expose published in the November 28 edition of the *New York Times* provides a troubling look at the long career of former CBS chief Leslie Moonves.



In Pittsburgh, **CBS Corporations** owns two television stations and (indirectly) four radio stations, most notably KDKA.

Les Moonves was one of the entertainment industry's most powerful men until sexual assault allegations torpedoed his career. [See [Pittsburgh Applause August 2018](#) and [Pittsburgh Applause October 2018](#) - ed.]

The article delves into an apparent pattern of behavior by Moonves going back decades. It does so by focusing on the story of former actress Bobbie Phillips and her agent, Marv Dauer.

In 1995 Dauer arranged a meeting between Phillips and Moonves, who was then president of Warner Bros Television, at his office. The article describes the event: "Mr. Moonves led her to an easel that showed the status of various Warner Bros. productions. She examined it, then turned to face him. 'Look how hard you make me,' Mr. Moonves said. She saw that he had undone his trousers, exposing his erect penis. 'Be my girlfriend and I'll put you on any show,' he said, in Ms. Phillips's recollection --- and then grabbed

her by the neck, pushed her to her knees and forced his penis into her mouth."

Moonves contends that the encounter was consensual. Nevertheless, the article chronicles his attempts to keep the incident secret. Read it at <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/28/business/les-moonves-bobbie-phillips-marv-dauer-cbs-severance.html>



Pgh Zoo's Baker Chosen To Chair ZAA

Dr. Barbara Baker, the president of the **Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium**, has been named chairwoman of the **Zoological Association of America**.



Founded in 1987, the Zoological Association of America (ZAA) is a trade organization dedicated to maintaining high professional standards in animal care. Dr. Baker was chosen in a unanimous

vote by the ZAA members at a meeting in New Jersey. The association has more than 60 member organizations across the country.

"I am very excited to be part of the ZAA organization and have the opportunity to work with wonderful professionals to grow and meet new challenges in the world of animal care, welfare, and conservation," she said in a press release. "ZAA is all inclusive, focused on its members, and we welcome all individuals and zoo organizations. ZAA's programs, conferences and workshops, as well as other networking opportunities, assist zoos and aquariums

in improving and advancing their animal care and welfare programs."

Dr. Baker will continue to lead the Pittsburgh Zoo.



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Trump Nominates New NEA Chief

In early November, President Donald J. Trump nominated Mary Anne Carter to be the next chairperson of the **National Endowments for the Arts** (NEA).



Carter has been Acting Chairperson since June when President Barack Obama's appointee, Jane Chu, announced her departure.

"The choice of Carter to lead the agency is unorthodox," writes Andrew Russeth for ArtNews.com, "since she has little background in the arts, unlike most of the NEA's prior leaders." Nevertheless, "she has won praise within the agency for being an advocate for the department," reports the *New York Times'* Sopan Deb.

Conservatives have long criticized the NEA for being, in the words of Fox News' Tucker Carlson, as

"welfare for rich, liberal elites." President Trump has called for the agency's elimination multiple times. All of this despite the cultural and economic benefits for much of Rural America --- something that has resulted in much bipartisan support that included a recent funding increase.

Mary Anne Carter's nomination must be approved by the United States Senate.

Rogers' Revenge? Cartoonist's New Book

Fired *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* cartoonist Rob Rogers is publishing a new book, reports Game McMillan for *The Hollywood Reporter*.

Rogers was fired earlier this year after several of the Pulitzer Prize nominee's cartoons were rejected by the paper's new editor. It is believed that Rogers' criticism of President Donald Trump was behind the dismissal. he had been with the paper since 1993.

McMillan explains that the 184-page book *Enemy of the People: A Cartoonist's Journey* "is more than just a collection of the highlights from the past three years of the cartoonist's work; it will also feature two long-form comics by Rogers, as well as a tutorial on creating editorial cartoons, and essays from a number of other cartoonists and journalists on the

importance of the first amendment and political cartooning. The title also features a foreword from CNN's Jake Tapper."

The book is scheduled for release on December 11



Pittsburgh has a special connection to Ariana Grande's hit song "Thank U, Next" writes *Billboard's* Rob LeDonne.

Click the photo to read his article.

DOJ & Sinclair Enter Settlement Deal

On November 13, the Department of Justice (DOJ) reached a settlement with **Sinclair Broadcast Group** (SBG) and other media companies regarding anti-trust claims.



SBG owns two television stations in Pittsburgh. It's one of six broadcast companies charged with illegally sharing non-public information to gain unfair advantages with advertisers.

At the heart of the allegations, reports Deadline.com's Dawn C. Chmielewski, was the subject of "pacing" --- the practice of comparing a station's booked revenues for a specific time period with that of the same period a year earlier.

Chmielewski writes: "By exchanging pacing information, the DOJ says broadcasters were better able to anticipate whether their competitors were likely to raise, maintain or lower spot advertising prices, which in turn helped inform the stations' own pricing

strategies and negotiations with advertisers." Thus, giving them an unfair advantage over other stations.

Her full article is available at <https://deadline.com/2018/11/doj-settlement-sinclair-tribune-others-end-sharing-competitive-information-1202501004/>

ACA Challenges Sinclair With FCC Filing

On November 27, the Pittsburgh-based **American Cable Association** (ACA) filed a request with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding renewal some of **Sinclair Broadcast Group's** (SBG) television licenses.



SBG owns two stations in Pittsburgh, although they are not involved. The four that are involved are those in the cities of Washington, Baltimore, Lynchburg and Norfolk. Their status became an issue earlier this year after the FCC designated an administrative law judge to determine whether

Sinclair misrepresented itself during its failed attempt to acquire **Tribune Media**.

These licenses are not up for renewal until 2020. However, "processing Sinclair's renewal applications early will permit the FCC to resolve the serious charges it leveled against Sinclair as soon as possible," writes ACA President and CEO Matthew M. Polka in a press release. If these charges are true, "would speak to Sinclair's eligibility to retain any of its FCC licenses or acquire new licenses." (The full petition can be read by clicking <http://www.americancable.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/sinclair.filing.pdf>).

"The FCC will ultimately have to resolve questions about Sinclair's behavior one way or the other

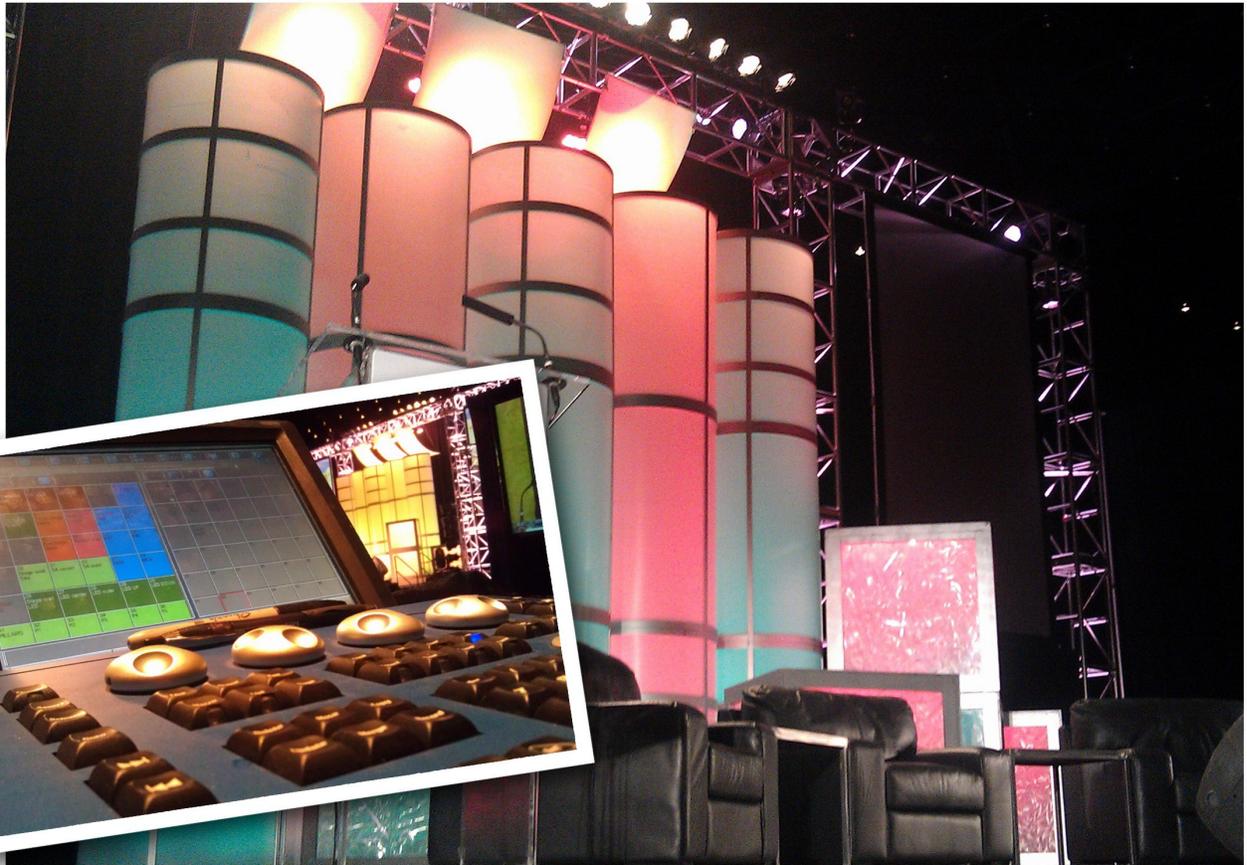
before Sinclair should be permitted to renew its existing licenses or obtain new ones. All parties --- Sinclair not least among them --- will benefit from resolution of these issues sooner rather than later," Polka said.





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New Animation Pact

Members of the performers union **SAG-AFTRA** have voted overwhelmingly in favor of new agreements for animated film and television projects.



Along with pay raises, the new deals call for increases in pension contributions.

SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris said in a press release that "this was a very important negotiation for our members who work on television animation projects due to the expansive growth

of streaming media. It was imperative that we ensure our members receive compensation that reflects an evolving business model. With approval of these agreements, members will continue to be fairly compensated for the work they do."

In other news, the union claims that "producers have engaged stunt performers to work under inappropriate schedules" and that SAG-AFTRA is "pursuing claims on this issue and will continue to challenge" any apparent violations.

Pgh TV Show Gets Pilot Order

A pilot production order has been given to a Pittsburgh-set sitcom, reports Nellie Andreeva and Denise Petski for Deadline.com.

Titled "Happy Accident," the one-camera comedy is about two Pittsburgh families who are forced together after a long buried truth comes to life. The script was written by Abraham Pollack (who was born in Washington County) and Jon Pollack. The two have worked together in the past, most recently on the hit series "Modern Family."

More information is available by clicking <https://deadline.com/2018/11/happy-accident-family-comedy-modern-family-duo-abc-pilot-production->

Equity Meeting

Members of **Actors Equity Association's** (AEA) Eastern Region have gathered to make some key decisions.

The meeting was held on October 19, but the results were not posted in an online blog until after *Pittsburgh Applause's* November issue.



Among the accomplishments announced:

- Negotiations for the New England Area Theatre Agreement have resulted in a 28% increase in wages.
- AEA secured overtime payments due to some performers.
- Forty-three media agreements have meant that 127 AEA members have received over \$68,000 in payments.
- Regional staffers have made liaison visits to engage members and organize producers.
- AEA members helped win new dedicated public arts funding for Washington, DC.

[commitment-abraham-higginbotham-and-jon-pollack-1202508991/](https://deadline.com/2018/11/happy-accident-family-comedy-modern-family-duo-abc-pilot-production-) At press time, it was unknown if the pilot or series will be shot in Pittsburgh.



Chabon Film

Will Ferrell has agreed to star in a film adaptation of an article written by Pittsburgher Michael Chabon, reports Brian Welk for TheWrap.com.

The article, titled "My Son the Prince of Fashion" appeared in the September 2016 issue of *GQ* magazine. It describes the author's experience attending Paris Fashion Week with his son. The article can be read online at <https://www.gq.com/story/my-son-the-prince-of-fashion>

Gus Van Sant is slated to direct the film for **Amazon's** streaming service.

Poet On Film

Local poet Rachel Ann Bovier is to be the subject of a new documentary film, reports the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* Maria Sciullo.

A transgender woman, Bovier was born Bill Nardozzi and prefers to be known simply as Rachel. She has been slowly building a following over the years for her engaging live readings. Among these followers is **Carnegie Mellon University** educator and independent filmmaker Brett Yasko.

Read Sciullo's full article at <https://www.post-gazette.com/ac/movies/2018/11/26/Billie-Nardozzi-Rachel-poetry-Brett-Yasko-documentary-Pittsburgh-billboard/stories/201811140152>

Glynn Film

Award winning short filmmaker and Pittsburgh native [Charlotte Glynn](#) is preparing for her feature debut, reports Jamie Lang for *Variety*.

The film is called "The Gymnast" and tells the fictional story of a girl in 1993 Pittsburgh whose Olympic dreams are threatened by an injury. Read Lang's interesting article by clicking <https://variety.com/2018/film/festivals/billions-producers-pitch-debut-feature-charlotte-glynn-the-gymnast-los-cabos-1203024296/>

At press time, no decisions have been made regarding when production might begin and whether the film will be shot in Pittsburgh.

“Sons” Film Coming 2019

Pittsburgh and New Orleans will be the principal locations for the feature film "Son of the Cross".

According to *Variety's* Dave McNary, the film "is a spiritual tale of good versus evil told through the life of a New York detective thrust in the middle of a global conspiracy after investigating a series of brutal murders."

There was no news about production dates or crew opportunities as of press time.

Images



Actor, musician and singer Hershey Felder portrays legendary composer Irving Berlin in a special show at the O'Reilly Theater.

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ShowClix Makes Deal With Muzooka

Pittsburgh-based ticket firm ShowClix has announced a new partnership with data company **Muzooka Inc.**

Muzooka provides a digital platform where artists and their teams manage media assets on multiple platforms from one central dashboard. Started by local entrepreneurs, ShowClix is currently owned by **Patron Technology**.



More than 45 million people watch "The Temptations" when it first aired on NBC in 1999. Recently, members of the miniseries --- which was shot in Pittsburgh in 1998 --- marked the production's 20th anniversary with *Billboard's* Erica Thompson.

"The Temptations" tells the story of how the Detroit vocal group formed and rose to significance. The production received wide-spread critical acclaim. Among the miniseries' many honors was an Emmy Award for director Allan Arkush.

Read Thompson's full article by clicking the image.

A press release explains that the partnership will allow artists to integrate their Muzooka material (such as biographies and music videos) with their event/ticket listing on ShowClix.

"This integration shows that ShowClix is committed to helping not just their event partners, but also the artists that play those events," Muzooka founder and CEO, Shawn Wilson, said in the same press release. "By putting the power to control their media assets in the hands of artists and managers, along with helping

musicians get paid their proper live performance royalties, we can make a real difference for promoters and performers alike. One of our primary goals is making the live space more profitable and easier to manage for everyone involved. Working with ShowClix is a huge step toward that goal."

PGHevents Gets Visual

PGHevents: The Pittsburgh Events Web Site is gradually becoming more visually-oriented.

First operating from 1999 to 2006, PGHevents was among the first events web sites until it was absorbed into the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's site. Founder James A. Richards (editor of *Pittsburgh Applause*) revived the site in 2015 at www.pghevents.net.

The site has always been a source of quality content and easy navigation (all listings must have a clear and appropriate event description). Soon, every event and venue will have a relevant image attached to it as well. Video links are also being considered.

In addition, Richards is looking for a media partner --- such as a radio station or magazine --- interested in linking to a quality online calendar. Those interested should contact him at jim@james-richards.com





SAT
1



WED
19



MON
3



SAT
22



SAT
8

TUE
25



SAT
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WED
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THU
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MON
31



Opportunities

KDKA-TV, part of **CBS Corporation**, has an opening for an on-air personality. The chosen individual will co-host "Pittsburgh Today Live." <https://cbscorporation.jobs/pittsburgh-pa/lifestyle-entertainment-show-co-host-producer/0EAB7014625B4CFFA08E79E074F63237/job/>

Applications for the next round of Investing in Professional Artists grant program are being accepted through January 15, 2019. <https://pittsburghfoundation.org/Investing-in-Professional-Artists-Program>

The next round of auditions at the **Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre** have been scheduled for March 9, 2019. <https://www.pbt.org/the-company/about/employment/>

Three branches of the **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh** are seeking people to work with youth and in security positions. <https://www.carnegielibrary.org/careers-at-clp/current-opportunities/>

The short film "Occurrence at Mills Creek" is seeking cast members for paid roles. <https://www.pghfilm.org/listing/casting-call-for-short-film-occurrence-at-mills-creek/>

Two part-time positions are available with the **Pittsburgh Cultural Trust**. https://trustarts.org/pct_home/about/employment

Auditions for viola positions with the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** are scheduled for four days in February 2019. https://www.pittsburghsymphony.org/psos_home/web/about-landing/career-opportunities/auditions

The Andy Warhol Museum is looking for an artist/educator. Other units of **the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh** have openings in theater, visitor services, special events and research. <https://carnegiemuseums.org/opportunities/search-careers/>

The Uniontown Church of the Brethren is seeking a church pianist who will be paid between \$25 to \$65 per performance/rehearsal session. Call (724) 438-8372 for more information.

The popular Oakland retailer **Top Notch Art Supply** is seeking a part-time staff member. Interested individuals should visit the store at 411 South Craig Street.

www.pittsburghapplause.com www.pittsburghaebook.com

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Beehive Stops Buzzing

After nearly three decades as an artist haven, the **Beehive** coffee shop has closed.

The Beehive was one of the city's first coffee shops when it opened on East Carson Street in 1991. It quickly became a hip hangout on the city's South Side for teens, artists and non-drinkers who wanted an alcohol-free venue for socializing.

Many artists have fond memories of the shop. These include popular jazz vocalist Mandy Kivowitz-Delfaver --- better known by her

stage name, Phatmandee.

"[Founders Scott Kramer and Steve Zumoff] didn't just make a place for artists and weirdoes to go, they made a place where we could work," she told *Pittsburgh City Paper's* Amanda Waltz.

"They supported an entire community of 'others' who didn't really fit in with anyone else."

The environment has changed considerably since 1991. with more local competition (such as the **Crazy Mocha** chain) and the rise of the South Side's party culture. Beehive closed for good on November 25.

PSO Hires Two Musicians

On November 1, the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** (PSO) has announced the appointment of two new musicians to its strings section.

These musicians are violinists Justine Lamb-Budge and Meredith Kufchak. Be-

fore joining the orchestra, Lamb-Budge was the Associate Concertmaster of the **Kansas City Symphony** and Kufchak recently earned her master's degree in Chamber Music from the **San Francisco Conservatory for Music**.

"Justine Lamb-Budge and Meredith Kufchak are exceptional musicians that truly embody artistic excellence and passion for the artform. Both have strong back-

grounds and have performed with leading musical organizations across the country," said PSO Music Director Manfred Honeck in a press release. "We are honored to have them join our roster and help us create musical experiences that are not only enjoyable, but also help enrich the quality of life in our city and surrounding communities."



Channel Pittsburgh

Miller's Death

The official cause of Pittsburgh rapper Mac Miller's death has been determined, reports Sean Burch for *TheWrap.com*.

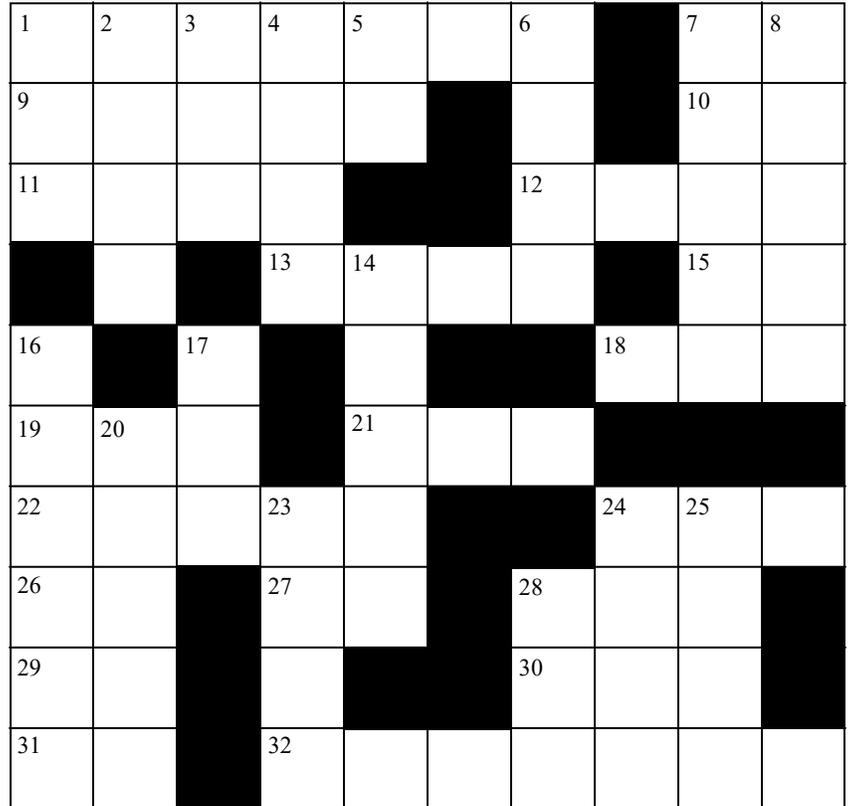
Malcolm James McCormick (the artist's real name) was found dead in his California residence on September 7.

Burch writes that the Los Angeles County Coroner's office has declared that Miller succumbed to an accidental drug overdose. "The coroner said Miller died from 'mixed drug toxicity' with cocaine, ethanol and fentanyl --- the potent opioid that also played a role in the deaths of musicians Prince and Tom Petty in recent years --- was found in the Pittsburgh native's system."

Mac Miller was 26 years old.

Across

1. Famous last cinematic words spoken in 6-Down (with 32-Across)
7. Toy gun ammo
9. Common martini garnish
10. Baboon character in Cartoon Network's "I am Weasel"
11. Eric of "Troy"
12. Stage name of hip-hop artist Rory Ferreira
13. See 6-Down
15. "Carol Burnett Show" regular, initially
18. Controversial writer Rand, to pals
19. Actress/director Lupino, to pals
21. Head topper
22. Method of printing, briefly
24. Type of punch
26. Musical note preceding re and mi
27. He needed to phone home
28. Early internet provider
29. Actor O'Neil or Asner, to pals
30. Big denim brand
31. Aden Evens and Ian Ilavsky music project
32. See 1-Across



Down

1. Famous San Francisco Hill
2. Common Norwegian king name
3. Container
4. Shape of a famous office
5. State south of PA
6. Title of the famous last words' 1959 film (with 13-Across and 14-Down)
7. He directed 6-Down (with 16-Down)
8. See 24-Down
14. See 6-Down
16. See 7-Down
17. Feline pet
20. Common electronic component
23. Plant often used to make clothing or paper
24. The actor who spoke those famous last words (with 8-Down)
25. Actor Guinness or Baldwin, to pals
28. Furry TV alien who might have dined on 17-Down

Last Month's Solution

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O	P	E	R	A			O	R	E
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