

Pittsburgh Symphony Wins Two Grammys

While Bruno Mars stole the show, the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** (PSO) scored two trophies at this year's Grammy Awards.



First presented in 1959, the Grammy (originally called the Gramophone) is awarded by the **Recording Academy** to recognize outstanding achievement in the recorded music and spoken word. This year's ceremony was held on January 28.

The PSO won Best Engineered Classical Album and Best Orchestral Performance for their recording, Shostakovich: Sym-

phony No. 5; Barber: Adagio" Featuring works by Dmitri Shostakovich and Samuel Barber.

Written in 1937 by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975), the 45-minute symphony has four movements, the last of which uses a poem written by Alexander Pushkin (1799-1837). The debut performance in St. Petersburg (then called Leningrad) is said to have received an ovation that lasted over 30 minutes. "Adagio for Strings" was written in 1936 by American composer Samuel Barber (1910-1981). The

composition is noted for its tense melody. One leading critic called the piece "full of pathos and cathartic passion" An excerpt is available at <https://youtu.be/youugpj3HnY>

Local band **Code Orange's** recording "Forever" was nominated for Best Metal Performance, but

Hanks To Star in Rogers Bio Pic

Tom Hanks is to play Pittsburgh's beloved children's television icon Fred Rogers (1928-2003) in a feature film.

Variety first broke the news on January 29 in an article written by Justin Kroll.

SONY

TriStar Pictures, a division of **Sony Corporation**, will distribute **Big Beach Films'** project titled "You Are My Friend." Big Beach is an independent company formed in 2004. Kroll writes that the film "is inspired by a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and award-winning journalist Tom Junod. In the story, a cynical journalist begrudgingly accepts an assignment to write a profile piece on the beloved icon and finds his perspective on life transformed."

Born in 1958, Tom Junod is one of the most respected magazine writers in the country. He was won the industry's highest honor, the National Magazine Award, twice. In 1998, Junod wrote a long, detailed article for *Esquire* about Rogers' life and his impact on generations of children.

Marielle Heller --- best known for directing the 2015 film "Diary of a Teenage Girl" --- will helm "Friend." She told Kroll that "the script knocked me out with its message of kindness and its exploration of the human spirit."

Production is expected to begin in the fall but, as of press time, it remains unclear how much of "You Are My Friend" will be shot in Pittsburgh.

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Vatican May Host Warhol

One of Pittsburgh's most accomplished sons, pop icon Andy Warhol (1928-1987), will have his work showcased at the Vatican reports Cristina Ruiz in *The Art Newspaper*,



According to Ruiz, the Vatican Museums are currently negotiating with the Andy Warhol Museum to present an exhibit of his religious-theme works in 2019.

"We are very interested in exploring the artist's spiritual side," Ruiz quotes Barbara Jatta, the director of the Vatican Museums. "It is very, very important for us to have a dialogue with contemporary art. We live in a world of

images and the Church must be part of this conversation."

Warhol was the son of Eastern European immigrants and a member of the Slovak Byzantine Catholic Church, an autonomous denomination affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church. He remained a faithful churchgoer his entire life, despite the church's teachings on homosexuality. Many members of Warhol's family still live in Pittsburgh.

The Art Newspaper's Ben Luke has penned an interesting commentary about the forthcoming exhibit which can be read at <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/comment/andy-warhol-goes-to-church>

Carnegie Int'l Update

Cameroon-born, independent exhibition maker and cultural producer Koyo Kouoh spent the last part of January preparing for the upcoming Carnegie International.



Happening sporadically since 1896, the Carnegie International is the oldest North American exhibition of contemporary art from around the globe.

Specializing in photography, video and art in the public space, Kouoh is perhaps best known for establishing the **RAW Material**

Company. The center for art, knowledge and society in Senegal's capital city of Dakar.

Kouoh will be creating a section within the International called "Dig Where You Stand." This exhibit-within-the-exhibit will present a range of objects selected by Kouoh from across the museum's collections to reflect on the institution and its history.

The 57th Carnegie International will begin October 13, 2018 and run through March 25, 2019.

ICE Detains Local DJ

The nation's debates over immigration has hit Pittsburgh's arts and entertainment community, reports Ryan Deto for *Pittsburgh City Paper*.

Popular disc jockey Vicente Sandoval was at a restaurant/club in Oakland on January 11 when officials from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrived to take the 47-year-old Mexican immigrant into custody.

Deto writes that "Sandoval is well known in Pittsburgh's small but growing Latino community. He has been the go-to DJ for Garfield's **Los Sabrosos Dance Company** for the last few years, and goes by the moniker "DJ Pirata, el chef de la salsa." He has no criminal record in Allegheny, Beaver or Westmoreland counties." When not performing as a DJ, he works as a cook.

However, ICE may face some legal complications of their own with the arrest, as Deto explains at <https://www.pghcitypaper.com/pittsburgh/vicente-sandoval-a-fixture-in-pittsburghs-latin-dance-community-has-been-detained-by-us-immigration-officials/Content?oid=6359082>

Friends and fans have started a crowd funding campaign to aid Sandoval's arrest which can be accessed by clicking <https://www.youcaring.com/>

ACA On Comcast-NBC

The Pittsburgh-based **American Cable Association** (ACA) is urging the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to extend its conditions regarding **Comcast's** 2011 acquisition of **NBC-Universal/**



ACA is a trade organization representing smaller and medium-sized, independent cable companies who also provide broadband services for subscribers primarily located in rural and smaller suburban markets. When Comcast merged with NBC, the FCC placed various conditions regarding the enlarged corporation addressing content and competition concerned.

However, the ACA insists that Comcast-NBC has fallen short of the goals set for the conditions. The association adds that the Department of Justice (DOJ) has "expressed concerns about 'vertical integration' of content and delivery networks. In filing suit to block AT&T's acquisition of Time Warner, it explained that the combination, by virtue of its control of 'must have' content, would 'hinder its rivals by forcing them to pay hundreds of millions of dollars more per year for Time Warner's networks, and it would use its increased power to slow the industry's transition to new and exciting video distribution models that provide greater choice for consumers.'"

The ACA contends that "the programming controlled by Comcast-NBCU is at least as 'must have' as the programming that AT&T would acquire under its proposed merger with Time Warner. Comcast-NBCU's national bundle, major broadcast networks, and regional sports networks rank among the most essential networks that distributors must carry to attract subscribers."

Read the association's full statement at <http://www.americancable.org/aca-urges-fcc-to-strengthen-program-access-rules-following-expiration-of-comcast-nbcu-conditions/>

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IATSE –Golf Channel Deal

More than 300 free-lance broadcast technicians at the Golf Channel are back at work, reports David Robb for Deadline.com. The union **International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees** (IATSE) has negotiated a new two-year contract that ended an 11-day strike.



The channel is owned by **Comcast-NBC**, which operates Pittsburgh's cable television franchise. IATSE has three locals and hundreds of members in the Pittsburgh area.

Golf Channel freelancers have been working without a contract

since June 2017. "This is the power of solidarity," Robb quotes IATSE International President Matt Loeb. "Golf Channel technicians supported one another and achieved something they could not have hoped for on their own. Everyone who works in sports broadcasting will benefit from this contract because it raises the floor for all workers."

Read more at <http://deadline.com/2018/01/golf-channel-strike-over-new-iatse-contract-nbc-sports-group-1202268723/>



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Group Fights Hollywood Theater Sale

An effort has been launched by the non-profit **Friends of the Hollywood Theater** (FOHT) to prevent the historic movie house from being sold to a national organization.

The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* Maria Sciullo reports that an agreement was reached between the building's current owner, **Kelly-Rielly-Nell-Barna Associates** to the non-profit **Theatre Historical Society**. FOHT rents and programs the theater.

Founded in 1969, the Theatre Historical Society of America (THS) promotes the legacy of America's historic theatres and insure the documentation of their architectural, cultural and social history.

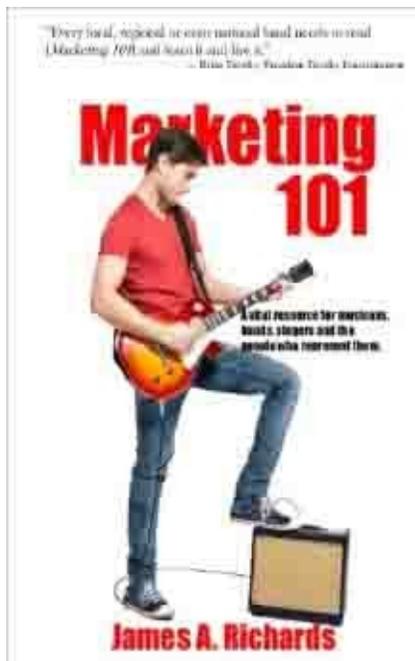
Hundreds of people have already signed FOHT's online petition (https://www.change.org/p/theatre-historical-society-of-america-hands-off-the-hollywood-theater-keep-our-local-theater-out-of-national-hands?re-cruiter=850699041&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=share_petition) opposing the sale.

It is expected that THS will turn the Hollywood into a second-run theater. It currently shows an eclectic slate of classic, independent and cult films.

The petition states that "with so few art house theaters remaining in Pittsburgh, and a poor track record for second-run theaters in the region, it is imperative that the Theater continue to operate as it has."



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— Andy Mulkerin, *Pittsburgh City Paper*

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Stuntman Charges SAG-AFTRA With “Politicizing” On-Set Safety

A stuntman who once ran for president of **SAG-AFTRA** is charging the union of "playing politics with safety," reports David Robb on Deadline.com.



The performers union has hundreds of members in the region and a full-time office in Downtown Pittsburgh.

Robb writes that Peter Antico "has filed a complaint with the union and the Secretary of Labor claiming that the union's newly formed safety commission has been stacked with political allies of SAG-AFTRA president Gabrielle Carteris [an actress best known for the television series "Beverly Hills 90210" - ed.] and that too few of them have any expertise in stunts or safety."

In November 2017, Carteris announced the formation of a Blue Ribbon Commission on Safety after stunt performers lost their lives working on the television series "The Walking Dead" and the film "Deadpool 2."

Antico has repeatedly criticized the union under Carteris' leadership, with the commission his latest target. He points out that of the eight regular members, only two are stunt performers and only one of the eight opposed Carteris in the union's most recent presidential election. Robb's full story can be read by clicking http://deadline.com/print-article/1202266793/?KeepThis=1&TB_iframe=1&height=500&width=750

In other news, SAG-AFTRA is responding to the recent sexual harassment scandals by developing a code of conduct for its members.

Dave McNary writes in *Variety* that the number of harassment complaints received by the union now averages about five a day. He also reports that "SAG-AFTRA reps will continue to directly address issues that arise on sets --- including shutting down a production when abuse is reported until the problem is addressed, being physically present with members to address a specific complaint, and working directly with the producer when complaints arise."

Read his full article at <http://variety.com/2018/film/news/sag-aftra-code-of-conduct-sexual-harassment-1202670267/>

SAG Awards

The critically acclaimed Pittsburgh-set television show "This is Us" won the SAG Award for Outstanding Performance by a Ensemble in a Drama Series.

First held in 1995, the SAG Awards recognize outstanding performances in film and prime time television. This year's ceremony was held January 21. Details are available at <http://www.sagaftra.org/outstanding-film-and-television-performances-honored-24th-annual-screen-actors-guild-awards®>

“Dance” Star Nears Release

Controversial reality show star Abby Lee Miller may be released from prison early, writes Rachel DeSantis for *The New York Daily News*.

Born in 1966, the Pittsburgh native and dance instructor became a reality television star with the series "Dance Moms" which followed aspiring child dancers and their often over-involved mothers.

In June 2016, Miller pleaded guilty to felony bankruptcy fraud. The following May she was sentenced to one year and a day in federal prison.

O’Driscoll Jumps To WESA-FM

Long-time *Pittsburgh City Paper* arts editor Bill O’Driscoll has moved across town and joined the staff of local public radio station WESA-FM.

Another *City Paper* editor, Charlie Deitch has penned a salute to O’Driscoll citing some of the latter’s most interesting stories.

Read Deitch’s column at <https://www.pghcitypaper.com/pittsburgh/a-sendoff-for-pittsburgh-city-papers-longtime-arts-editor-bill-odriscoll/Content?oid=6405522>

Aviary Parrot On “Tonight”

Australian teen television personality --- and the only son of conservationist Steve Irwin (1962-2006) --- Robert Irwin appeared on the January 25 telecast of the "Tonight Show" with a special guest.



That special guest was a hyacinth macaw named Tyler who is a resident of the **National Aviary**. Ty-

ler was among the interesting and adorable creatures Irwin shared with host Jimmy Fallon.

The audience was given an additional thrill when Tyler flew in the studio.

See the video by clicking <https://www.aviary.org/media/news-coverage/tonight-show-hyacinth-macaw>

Images



This is an image of actors Gavan Pamer and Stephen DeRosa as they appear in the current Pittsburgh Public Theater production of “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.”

Photo by Michael Henninger

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Tull Calls Pittsburgh Home

The billionaire former CEO of Legendary Films, Thomas Tull, is making Pittsburgh his permanent headquarters, reports the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* Patricia Sheridan.

Tull was a co-founder of Legendary, which is now a subsidiary of the Chinese conglomerate **Wanda Group**. Many of its projects, such as the 2008 film "The Dark Knight" were shot in Pittsburgh.

"It's no secret how much I like Pittsburgh," Tull tells Sheridan. "This has felt for a very long time to me like home. I love this city

and we are excited about raising our children here.

Tull already owns a farm nearby in rural Washington County and has a minority stake in the **Pittsburgh Steelers**. The move also means relocating his holding company, **Tulco**, to Pittsburgh.

Learn more by clicking <http://www.post-gazette.com/business-top-stories/2018/01/11/Billionaire-Thomas-Tull-is-the-most-recent-transplant-to-Pittsburgh/stories/201801110122>



Channel Pittsburgh



Local Artists Get USA Fellowships

Two Pittsburgh artists have been named as 2018 fellows of **United States Artists**.



Established in 2005, United States Artists (USA) supporting the work of living American artists by the granting of cash awards called fellowships.

Bill Shannon is a conceptual, interdisciplinary performance and media artist who resides in Pittsburgh and Brooklyn. Since childhood, he has a physical disability that effected his ability to bear weight in his hips. That condition has informed his art. More about Shannon is available on his web site at <http://whatiswhat.com/>

Pittsburgh artist Vanessa German explores the intersection of human rights and social change through her performances, photography and sculpture.

A complete list of fellows is available by clicking <http://www.unitedstatesartists.org/award>



PGHevents.net is experiencing technical difficulties that are in the process of being addressed

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Opportunities

Shooting sometime this month for the **Independent Ventures'** film "Bloodlines," which is seeking two actresses -- one Caucasian and one African-American to appears in film about a real-life relative of horror writer H.P. Lovecraft (1890-1937). These are paid roles. Contact claythorne01@gmail.com

Among the job openings available at the **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh** are presenters and artist educators. See the full list at <https://carnegiemuseums.org/opportunities/search-careers/>

With deadlines at the end of this month, the International Symposium of Electronic Art is accepting artist applications. Details at <http://www.isea-international.org/isea2018>

A unit of **CBS Corporation** is accepting crew resumes for production of the pilot season in the Pittsburgh region. All resumes should be submitted to onedollarpittsburgh@gmail.com

Job openings that remain on the **Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens** include chief financial officer, events manager and in the gift shops. Visit <https://www.phipps conservatory.org/careers>

The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is seeking a full-time database coordinator to help with the institution's annual fundraising efforts. Details at https://s3.amazonaws.com/cmop_production/downloads/419/Database_Coordinator.pdf

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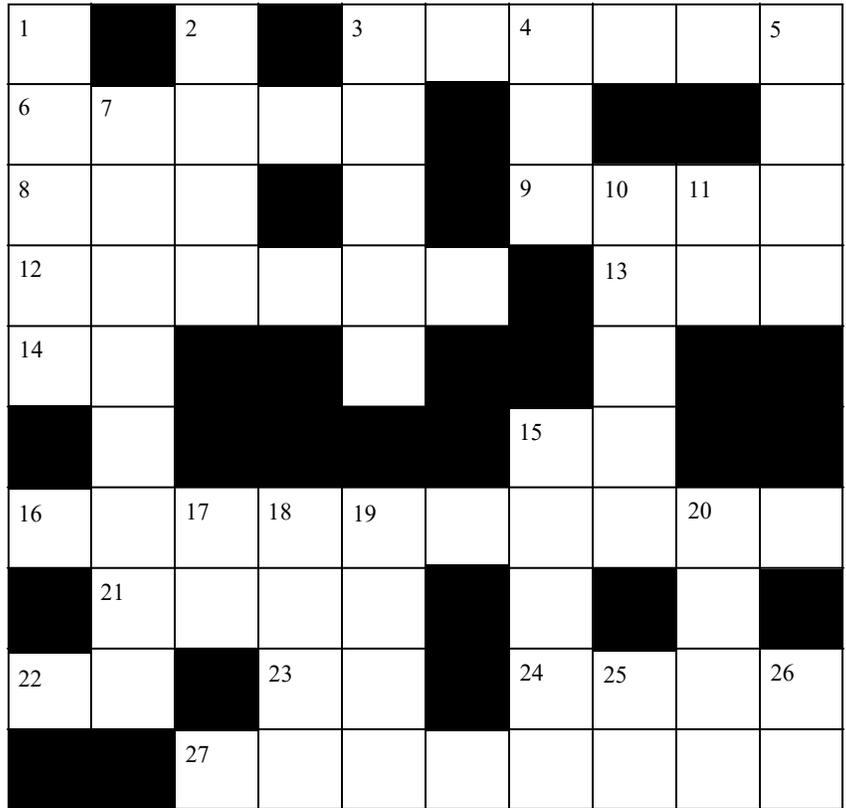
Jim Richards does many things for Pittsburgh arts community --- most for free --- despite limiting health issues. So show your support in one or more of the following ways:

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Across

- 3. Hilarious play currently at the O'Reilly
 (with 6-Across, 7-Down, 16-Across
 and 27-Across)
- 6. See 3-Across
- 8. Canoe need
- 9. Scary movie based on a scary novel
- 12. The first act of a concert at Stage AE
- 13. Carnegie Library domain?
- 14. EP predecessor
- 15. Not you
- 16. See 3-Across
- 21. Arab prince
- 22. Card with your name and photo, briefly
- 23. Soldier, briefly
- 24. Simple way to learn
- 27. See 3-Across



Down

- 1. Backless chair at the Backstage Bar
- 2. Employ
- 3. On the same page
- 4. ET's transport?
- 5. Yin's partner
- 7. See 3-Across
- 10. Dollar or Euro
- 11. 1980's TV sitcom or 1990's TV
 medical drama, both starring
 George Clooney
- 15. Lead-in to economics
- 17. Former Pittsburgh mayor, initially
- 18. Classic western movie: "___ Noon"
- 19. One of the Great Lakes
- 20. Pittsburgh Ballet dancer fashion?
- 25. Hospital cutting room, briefly
- 26. En's partner

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