

COVID Cans Festivals; Musicians Suffer

As many expected, this year's Three Rivers Art Festival has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The formal announcement came from the **Pittsburgh Cultural Trust** (PCT) on April 14. "As we continue to follow the leadership of Governor Wolf and our public health officials," reads the PCT statement, "it is with a heavy heart that we have come to the extremely difficult decision to suspend additional Pittsburgh Cultural Trust events, extending through June 14." This directly affected the Children's Theater Festival and the Three Rivers Arts Festival.

On a related note, the **Delta Foundation** has moved its annual PrideFest from June to late July with a cancellation still possible.

Cancelling the festivals is a major blow to the arts community, especially singers and musicians. The Arts Festival is an important revenue and audience-building resource for many local bands. It adds to the problems music pros continue to face. In an April 28 email to *Pittsburgh Applause's* James A. Richards, musician Steven Vance wrote that "going from 10-20 gigs a month to zero has been quite a change but the majority of my time has been spent rescheduling dozens and dozens of weddings and events that we had scheduled for March through June and into October --- so far." Vance added that "the rest of the time I have focused on music and

personal projects" like online performances and webinars.

Popular music venue **Howlers** was planning to remain open in its current Bloomfield location through August (it has acquired a new site in East Liberty). However, COVID-19 has upended those plans and all concerts have been cancelled through the end of 2020. The news was reported by Lisa Cunningham for *Pittsburgh City Paper*.

Even the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** has had to cancel three programs in May and June and reschedule two others. The orchestra has also announced salary reductions.

Scott Mervis recently reported for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* that a "Music is Essential" march is be-

ing planned for May 2. It's hard to know how strong the support is for the demonstration. The march is being promoted primarily through **Facebook** where many artists have posted criticism. "The entire idea of this event is irresponsible and stupid," wrote musician Shawn Macintyre. "Are you trying to kill musicians?"

The march is reflective of the several controversial efforts to reopen the country. However, many institutions are holding off. **The Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**, for example, announced on April 8 that "we have decided to cancel all programming, outreach and meeting room reservations through May 31, 2020. If we must extend the cancellations beyond that date, we will provide notice as soon as we are able."

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MORE COVID-19 STORIES



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COVID Cans Festivals; Musicians Suffer

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The Pittsburgh Public Theater has not scheduled any live performances before the start of its 2020-2021 season. Instead, spokeswoman Margie Romero says that the company is continuing its "PlayTime" online reading series. New editions are posted every Thursday and Friday at <http://www.ppt.org/playtime>.

Nevertheless, some are looking to a day when they will be open.

The New Hazlett Theater's Rene Conrad recently spoke with

WESA-FM's Bill O'Driscoll. The six-foot rule, should it remain in place, would be extremely challenging. Doing so, she tells Driscoll that the theater would "go from our [normal 300] to 500 seats to 52 seats" which would certainly impact ticket revenue. Then there's a show's cast. "There's very few performing endeavors that we can do that involve no one touching each other and everyone six feet apart."

And not all of the news is bad. Sam Sandora, general manager of

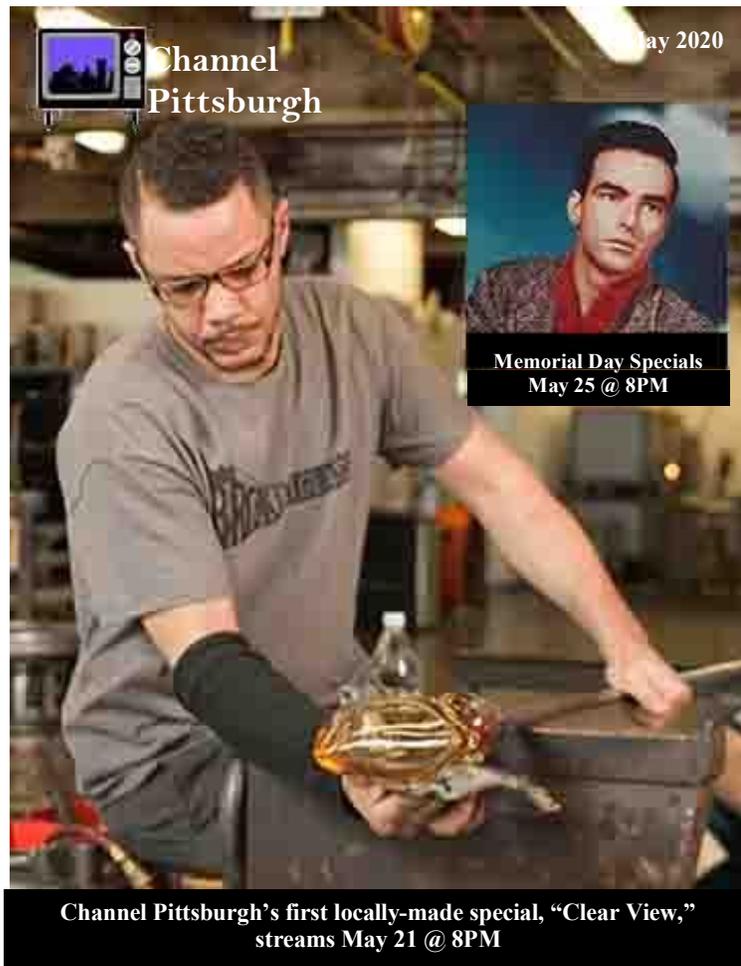
3 Rivers Studio, told Richards on April 28 that "we have one production company out of New York looking to shoot toward the end of May. There is also another medium production hoping to start in early June. And, we received another recent call from the larger production out of Los Angeles that had the studio on hold prior to the pandemic."

More Number Crunching

In last month's *Pittsburgh Applause*, publisher James A. Richards attempted to guesstimate some of the financial losses being incurred by the local arts & entertainment community/industry.

On April 29, **VisitPittsburgh's** Jerad Bachar was interviewed on WESA-FM's "Confluence" program. He explains that the industry (which is closely connected with A&E) as lost \$75 million so far.

Hear the interview by clicking <https://www.wesa.fm/post/>



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Brian Drusky Talks COVID Challenges

One of the region's leading concert firms is **Drusky Entertainment**. James A. Richards, publisher of *Pittsburgh Applause*, sent founder/owner Brian Drusky on April 28 a brief list of questions that he graciously answered.



How many shows have you had to cancel/post-pone?

Upwards of 150 to this point, with more to come.

Have you been forced to layoff people?

Unfortunately, we have been placed with decision to furlough a few employees, in addition to our independently contracted and gig workers who have lost work due to shows being postponed/cancelled by COVID-19.

Has anyone affiliated with Drusky Entertainment been infected with the virus?

Nobody within the company has been infected.

Has Drusky Entertainment applied to government's relief fund for help?

Yes, we have attempted at several outlets for government aid to no avail. We are hoping that we can get something with the second wave of the payment protection that will allow for us to weather the storm. Drusky Entertainment recently joined National Independent Venue Association (NIVA), which is a collective group of over 1000 independent venues and promoters nationwide. The mission of NIVA to help build awareness and fight for the survival of these units collectively, by advocating locally and taking action like lobbying in Washington, DC for direct federal aid to help the independent venues and promoters weather this

storm. We were the first to close [in Pittsburgh] and likely to be among the last to re-open. With a strain on the business while income is at a standstill, it's important to fight to stay alive and find any avenues available for federal assistance.

Have you set a target date for restarting a schedule of shows?

There's really no crystal ball that states when we'll safely be able to "re-open," as we are taking this day-by-day now that the economy and businesses are slowly starting to re-open. I think smaller clubs will be able to open sooner than larger venues, until there is infrastructure in place that safely accommodates that large number of people, especially in light of there being no vaccine for COVID-19.

We were hoping for June a few

weeks ago, but that doesn't look viable at this point.

What do you think the shutdown is doing to the local music industry as a whole?

I think on the independent level, it will start to bring together entities that used to consider themselves competitors as allies fighting as a community to keep our lights on, our employees paid and to get back to normalcy. Additionally, once businesses are re-opened, the sense of accountability between venues/event organizers is so critically important to prevent a second outbreak. Everyone wants to get back to work, but we need to do it right. I think this will really force people to work together more closely before going back to any competitive nature. It's more important for the sake of human life and the potential sacrifice it creates, in addition to the economic stress of a second wave, to work together and collectively and hold each other accountable.

Mr. Drusky's answers were lightly edited for clarity and punctuation.



Pittsburgh Film Skips Theaters

The film "An American Pickle," which was shot in and around Pittsburgh last fall, won't be screened in theaters. Instead, reports *the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review's* Chris Pastrick, it will "open" online.

This is the latest example of the nation's film & television industry trying to cope with life during a pandemic. On April 28, the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences** has issued a one-time waiver to its rule that only films screened in theaters can qualify for consideration at the annual Oscars. For 2020-2021, films streamed online will also be eligible.

"An American Pickle" is a fish-out-of-water comedy starring Seth Rogan as a struggling immigrant who, in 1920, is preserved in a bizarre accident and revived 100 years later. **AT&T's** Warner Media division will debut it on its new HBO Max streaming service (which itself begins on May 27).

Not everyone is happy with the move from the physical world to the virtual world, even if it is just temporary. The mega chain **AMC Theatres** has been especially vocal regarding plans to release the film "Troll's World Tour" online.

Read Pastrick's full article by clicking <https://triblive.com/aande/movies-tv/seth-rogens-pittsburgh-filmed-movie-an-american-pickle-to-debut-on-hbo-max/>

AEA Seeks COBRA Support

The stage union **Actors Equity Association** is asking the federal government to subsidize COBRA payment for performers out of work because of the COVID-19 crises.

The acronym COBRA refer to the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, which mandates an insurance program which gives some employees the ability to continue health insurance coverage after leaving employment. The federal government offered subsidies during the 2008 financial crises.



"Equity members are proud to earn their health insurance one week at a time," states union executive director Mary McColl in a press release. "But the longer the industry is shut down, the more Equity members will be at risk of losing their coverage – to say nothing of members who planned

to qualify for health insurance this year because they accepted an offer of work. It is time for Congress to consider a 100 percent COBRA subsidy to ensure that no one loses their health care in the middle of a pandemic."

The request came after New York State reported that over 14,000 arts/entertainment workers filed for unemployment insurance claims as other states also indicate high numbers. Equity has hundreds of members in the Pittsburgh area.

In other news, Equity is postponing Spring dues payment. Members are normally billed in May (an automatic account debit for most), but the date has been pushed to July 31. And with talk of reopening the economy across the nation, the union has tapped public health expert Dr. David Michaels to help develop a new model of health and safety standards during the COVID-19 period.

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Viacom-CBS Buys Into Miramax

It was the company that the Weinstein brothers built. Now it's become part of **Viacom-CBS**.



Viacom-CBS owns two television stations in Pittsburgh and, through its stake in **Entercom Communications**, four local radio stations. On April 3, the company announced that it has secured a 49% ownership in **Miramax** from **beIN Media Group** (which retains the remaining 51%).

Miramax was founded in 1979 by Bob Weinstein and his now-

disgraced brother, Harvey Weinstein and acquired by the **Walt Disney Company** in 1993. During the Weinstein era, the firm produced several critically acclaimed films such as "Sex, Lies and Videotape" (1989), "My Left Foot" (1989), "The Grifters" (1990), "The Crying Game" (1992), "Pulp Fiction" (1994), "Bridget Jones' Diary" (2001) and most famously "Chicago" (2002). The brothers left Miramax in 2005 and Disney essentially shut it down in 2010. It was later sold to a holding company and eventually acquired by beIN.

According to a press release, about \$150 million was paid upfront with an investment commitment of \$225 million over the next five years. The deal also benefits another Viacom-CBS

division by giving Paramount Pictures an exclusive distribution agreement for Miramax's impressive library. Current management is expected to remain in place.

Mellon COVID Grants

Forty-four nonprofits are receiving \$3.5 million from the **Richard King Mellon Foundation** (RKMF) as part of a COVID relief effort, reports Next Pittsburgh's Michael Machosky.

"Our nonprofit partners have been hit hard by COVID-19," he quotes RKMF's Sam Reiman. "It is essential we help them to continue their important work at this difficult time."

Most of the grants are going to community groups that provide housing, medical and food assistance. However, some is being used to help organizations such as **Westmoreland Museum of Art** and **City Theatre Company**.

RKMF will eventually distribute \$15 million.

Mac Miller Tape Streams

As he promised last year, **Rostrum Records'** Benjy Grinberg has made Pittsburgh rapper Mac Miller's 2010 mixtape "K.I.D.S." available for streaming. Carl Lamarre reported the news for *Billboard*.



Mac Miller was born in 1992 as Malcolm James McCormick and began performing hip-hop and rap at various Pittsburgh locations as a 15-year-old. His music focused on partying, drugs, sex and money

earning the moniker "frat rap." Miller lost his long battle with substance abuse in 2018. "K.I.D.S." was his fourth mixtape and the project that first brought him to the attention of critics and major labels.

Many of the works on "K.I.D.S." are now considered by fans to be Mac Miller classics. It was released for streaming in April 29 and Lamarre has posted it with his article at <https://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/hip-hop/9367871/mac-miller-kids-mixtape>



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Patron's New Service

The parent company of Pittsburgh-based ShowClix, **Patron Technology** has announced a new service for virtual events.



According to a press release: "The platform features live streaming, video and collaboration capabilities integrated directly into its ticketing products, where event organizers can provide unique and secure access to enter their virtual events. The solution is designed to provide a way for event organizers to manage virtual events through a single platform, collect valuable customer data, and offer multiple ways to monetize their online events --- all while offering ticket buyers a highly-anticipated, engaging online experience."

Patron's new service includes fan engagement, community building and various reporting features providing producers with valuable audience data.

The company has created a special section on its web site, which can be accessed by clicking <https://www.patrontechnology.com/solutions/virtual-events>



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Museum Gets LEEDS Cert

The MuseumLab at the **Children's Museum of Pittsburgh** has been awarded a Gold Green Certification.



Certifications are provided by the **U.S. Green Building Council** (USGBC). The acronym LEED refers to Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design). LEED is the most widely used green building rating system in the world.

A press release explains: "MuseumLab, created by and located adjacent to Children's Museum in the historic 1890 Carnegie Library, achieved LEED

Gold certification for implementing practical and measurable strategies and solutions in areas including sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. Green buildings allow companies to operate more sustainably and give the people inside them a healthier, more comfortable space to work."

More details are available in the full press release, which can be read by clicking https://s3.amazonaws.com/emop_production/downloads/603/MuseumLab%C2%AE_Awarded_LEED%C2%AE_Gold.pdf

Images



The Pittsburgh Glass Center is the subject of Channel Pittsburgh's first locally-produced special. "Clear View" streams Thursday, May 21 at 8pm



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.

ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS COMMUNITIES

<https://www.artistcommunities.org/emergency-relief-programs>

The organization has created a special page on its web site offering information on a variety of resources.

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.

AUTHORS LEAGUE FUND

<https://authorsleaguefund.org/>

This organization exists to help professional writers continue their careers with dignity by providing no-strings-attached "loans" to pay for pressing expenses. Repayment of this emergency support is not required. A special COVID program has been launched.

BLACK ART FUTURES FUND

<https://www.blackartfutures.org/black-art-futures-fund-2020-emergency-grants/>

The fund is designed to support small black arts organizations. It has suspended general grant requests to focus on COVID-related applications.

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 \$75 million to help struggling nonprofit television and radio stations.

DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA

<https://www.dga.org/The-Guild/Coronavirus-Resources-and-Updates.aspx>

The union often updates its list of information and resources for members.

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.

Continues on next page.



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

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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/covid19fund/>

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

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

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

The recently enacted COVID-19 economic stimulus law includes \$75 million 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 \$75 million to help struggling nonprofit humanities organizations.

NATIONAL INDEPENDENT VENUE ASSOCIATION

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

This organization was recently formed to help small and mid-sized performance venues facing losses due to the pandemic.

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.

RICHARD KING MELLON FOUNDATION

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

Various options exist for different kinds of non-profit organizations.

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.



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

Jennifer Aydin, Media Personality
Daniel Azulay, Comic Book Artist (Died March 27)
Brooke Baldwin, Journalist/Host
Sara Bareilles, Actress
Sergio Bassi, Singer/Songwriter (Died March 16)
Jay Benedict, Actor
Julie Benett, Actress (Died March 31)
Ray Benson, Singer/Songwriter
Maurice Berger, Curator and Historian (Died March 23)
Chuck Billy, Singer/Songwriter
Giovanni Blandino, Sculptor and Painter (Died March 22)
Mark Blum, Actor (Died March 25)
Lucia Bose, Actress (Died March 23)
Patricia Bosworth, Actress/Author (Died April 2)
Tim Brooke-Taylor, Actor (Died April 12)
Jackson Browne, Singer/Songwriter
David Bryan, Musician/Songwriter
Laura Bell Bundy, Actress
Doris Burke, Sports Announcer

Danny Burstein, Actor
Floyd Cardoz, Chef & Media Personality (Died March 25)
Todd Chrisley, Media Personality
Max Clayton, Actor
Menggie Cobarrubias, Actor (Died March 26)
Andy Cohen, Host/Executive
Forrest Compton, Actor (Died April 4)
Nick Cordero, Actor
Christopher Cross, Singer/Songwriter
Chris Cuomo, Journalist/Host
Allen Daviau, Cinematographer (Died April 15)
Jamell Demons a.k.a. YNW Melly), Rapper
Manu Dibango, Saxophonist (Died March 24)
Joe Diffie, Singer/Songwriter (Died March 29)
James Dolan, Entertainment Executive
Placido Domingo, Opera Singer
Matt Doyle, Actor
David Driskell, Artist (Died April 1)
Hilary Dwyer, Actress (Died March 30)
Kenneth Edmonds (a.k.a. Babyface), Rapper
Idris Elba, Actor
Bernard Epin, Author (Died April 1)
Marianne Faithful, Singer/Actress
Lee Fierro, Actress (Died April 5)
Martinho Lutero Galati, Conductor (Died March 25)

Allen Garfield, Actor (Died April 7)
Juan Gimenez, Comic Book Artist (Died April 2)
Paul Goma, Dissident Writer (Died March 25)
Eric Goulden (a.k.a. Wreckless Eric), Singer/Songwriter
Lucian Grainge, Music Executive
Vittorio Gregotti, Architect (Died March 15)
Henry Grimes, Musician (Died April 15)
Tom Hanks, Actor/Director
John Benjamin Hickey, Actor
Kristofer Hivju, Actor
Olle Holmquist, Trombonist (Died March 26)
Brandon Hoover, Musician
Natalie Horner, Singer
Jan Howard, Singer/Songwriter (Died March 28)
Ahmed Ismail Hussein, Musician (Died April 7)
Andrew Jack, Dialect Coach (Died March 31)
Brad Jordan (a.k.a. Scarface), Rapper
Paul Karlslake, Artist (Died March 23)
Daniel Dae Kim, Actor
Chad Kimball, Actor
Olga Kurylenko, Actress
Charlotte Lawrence, Singer
Jean Leber, Violinist (Died March 18)
Liu Shouxiang, Painter (Died February 13)
Mike Longo, Pianist (Died March 22)
Aurlus Mabele, Singer/Composer (Died March 19)
Detto Mariano, Musician and Composer (Died March 25)
Ellis Marsalis, Jr., Musician (Died April 1)
Rachel Matthews, Actress
Debi Mazar, Actress
Eddie McGinnis (a.k.a. Eddie Large), Comedian (Died April 2)
Todd McShay, Sports Commentator

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Maria Mercader, Entertainment Executive (Died March 29)
 Alan Merrill, Singer/Songwriter (Died March 29)
 Brian Stokes Mitchell, Actor
 Terrence McNally, Playwright (Died March 24)
 Timothy Montgomery (a.k.a. Olan), Actor/Artist (Died April 4)
 Alecia Moore (a.k.a. Pink), Singer/Songwriter
 Naomi Munakata, Musician/Conductor (Died March 26)
 Khamis Mwinjuma (a.k.a. Mwana FA), Rapper
 Philippe Nahon, Actor (Died April 19)
 Ed O'Brien, Guitarist
 Sandi Patty, Singer
 Marcelo Peralta, Saxophonist (Died March 10)
 Bucky Pizzarelli, Guitarist (Died April 1)
 Thelma Plum, Musician
 John Prine, Singer/Songwriter (Died April 7)
 Henri Richelet, Painter (Died March 18)
 Greg Rikaart, Actor
 Wallace Roney, Musician (Died April 1)
 Luigi Roni, Singer (Died March 26)
 Troy Ryan (a.k.a. DJ Webster), Rapper/Disc Jockey

Adam Schlesinger, Singer and Songwriter (Died April 1)
 Matthew Seligman, Musician (Died April 17)
 Gene Shay, Radio Personality (Died April 17)
 Jeff Shell, Entertainment Executive
 Ken Shimura, Comedian (Died March 29)
 Sturgill Simpson, Singer/Songwriter
 Michael Sorkin, Architect/Writer (Died March 26)
 George Stephanopoulos, Journalist/Host

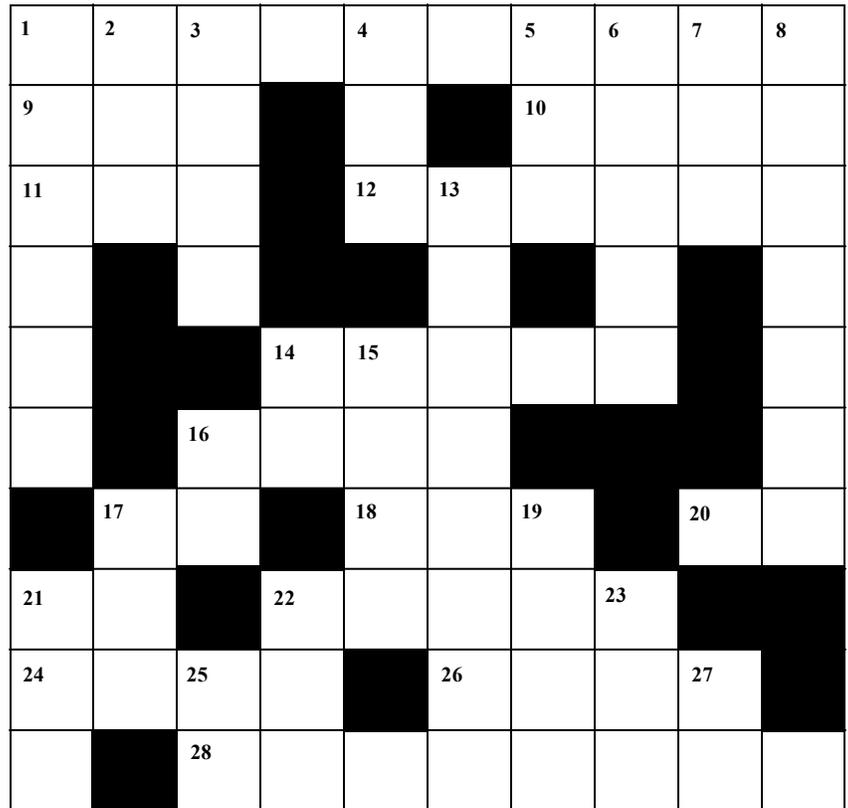
Oliver Stokes Jr. (a.k.a. Black N Mild), Disc Jockey (Died March 19)
 Tarcisio Stramare, Writer (Died March 20)
 Ann Sullivan, Animator (Died April 13)
 John Taylor, Musician
 Frederick Thomas (a.k.a. Fred the Godson), Rapper (Died April 23)
 Stayve Thomas a.k.a. Slim Thug), Rapper
 Aaron Tveit, Actor
 Colton Underwood, Television Personality
 Indira Varma, Actress
 Andrew Watt, Musician/Singer
 Jennifer Wayne, Musician
 Harvey Weinstein, Producer
 Ali Wentworth, Comedian
 Hal Willner, Music Producer (Died April 7)
 Hamish Wilson, Actor (Died March 26)
 Rita Wilson, Actress/Singer/Producer
 William Wolf, Film & Theater Critic (Died March 28)
 Nashom Wooden, Actor/Drag Artist (Died March 23)
 Cristina Monet-Zilkha (a.k.a. Cristina), Singer (Died March 31)

REX THEATER COVID-19 STAFF-RELIEF



Across

1. Legendary TV writer/producer
9. "Sex Like a Pornstar" singer/songwriter Gold, to pals
10. Really, really big continent
11. Network that aired 13-Down
12. Music that lacks a center or key
14. Common ending to 1-Across' scripts
16. Work hard
17. State south of NH
18. In good shape
20. State west of ND
21. Battery size
22. Eerie 70's show created by 1-Across (with 8-Down)
24. See 13-Down
26. Listen
28. One of 1-Across' most TV plays, which became an acclaimed film



Down

1. A common theme in 1-Across' scripts
2. Earth, poetically
3. Still a common format: compact _____
4. The ex-wife of Mickey, Artie and Frank
5. Native of Vientiane
6. Negative words
7. "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" star Vardalos, to pals
8. See 22-Across
13. The most famous creation of 1-Across (with 24-Across)
14. Partner of fro
15. Modern hotel amenity
16. "Airplane" movie airline, briefly
17. Famous Chinese chairman
19. Biblical pronoun
21. Animal org.
22. Grant making letters
23. Road substance
25. 1990 novel written by Banana Yoshimoto
27. Dr's co-worker

Last Month's Solution

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