

The Actors Fund Offices

“The Actors Fund has been an invaluable resource in terms of identifying potential Teaching Artists for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center’s (NJPAC) Arts Education Programs. The staff has gone to great lengths to understand the special requirements of our programs and as a result, has consistently provided us with not only first rate artists, but artists who are sensitive to the unique cultural needs of the Newark community.”

JEFFREY GRIGLAK, Director of Arts Training,
Arts Education Department, New Jersey
Performing Arts Center

“Actors Fund is a great resource for finding passionate teaching artists. They’ve help us staff our program. Thank You!”

DIANE LANE, Executive Director
GetLit – Words Ignite www.getlit.org

“STARRRS is a fresh new resource into our schools.....all in a fun and innovative way!”

RENEE HARPER, Director, SubCentral,
NYC Department of Education,
Division of Human Resources

“The STARRRS program has helped us build capacity for theater education at PS 47. As an Art form and as an instrument for academic instruction, drama is now getting a bigger role in our instructional culture.”

JOHN HUGHES, Principal, Hunts Point School,
PS 47, District 8, NYC Department of Education

www.actorsfund.org

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**The Actors Fund,
for everyone
in entertainment.**

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(AWP)
Teaching
Artists

Are you looking for excellent teaching artists? Have you had difficulty recruiting the right talent? What about meeting teaching artists with unique specialties like puppetry or acrobatics?

**FOR NO COST
THE ACTORS FUND
CAN HELP**

The Actors Fund is a national human services organization that helps all professionals in performing arts and entertainment. The Fund is a safety net, providing programs and services for those who are in need, crisis or transition. **The Actors Fund Work Program (AWP)** supports those seeking meaningful work that complements their industry career and those who are seeking new careers that recognize and utilize their creative skills.

The Fund joins the larger arts community in advocating the importance of arts to society as a whole, and its necessity in the development of cognitive and social skills for all ages. For over a decade, AWP has introduced hundreds of artists to the world of arts in education while also assisting arts in education organizations, after school programs, community organizations and senior centers in both New York and Los Angeles to hire qualified, trained and committed teaching artists at **no cost to the arts organizations or to the teaching artists.**

AWP Teaching Artists have a broad range of skills and experience, including:

- *Musical Theater Performers* from Broadway, tours and the region who have created workshops related to productions;
- *Classical Dancers* who know how to create movement for students with diverse abilities and backgrounds;
- *Circus Performers* who have developed residencies designed to improve students' self-esteem through mime and movement;
- *Shakespearean Actors* who have the ability to make the Bard's words relevant to today's urban high school students;
- *Musicians*, including Percussionists who have introduced music to families through literacy programs;
- *Writers and Videographers* who have worked with seniors to document their story.



Most AWP teaching artists have participated in training programs through The Actors Fund and/or through arts organizations. Those who are referred to residency programs are well versed in The New York City DOE Blueprint or the California Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards.

STARRRS in New York *(Substitute Teachers for the Arts @ the 3R's)*



Many AWP teaching artists have their NYC OPD (substitute teacher's license) and work as a "regular sub" two to three days a week. All STARRRS artists/teachers have participated in a 50--hour training

program. Program staff meets with principals and other school-based personnel to ensure that referrals meet the needs of the school.

How AWP works with Arts Organizations & Teaching Artists

Most organizations recruit teaching artists in various ways, including referrals from other teaching artists, postings on Internet job boards, unsolicited applications, and meetings at local and regional arts and education forums. When AWP works with an arts organization, all referrals are pre-screened and assessed in two ways.

First, AWP ensures that all referrals meet the needs of the arts provider. Specifically, AWP reviews "the gig" in terms of:

- Demographics of participants including age, socioeconomics background, experience with arts programs;
- Specific needs of population;
- Size of group;
- Specific discipline and provider's desired outcome;
- Length of class period/number of class sessions;
- Appropriate class preparation and follow-up;
- Need for teaching artist to be available outside of classroom time;
- Location of program.

Second, AWP ensures that the teaching artists, new and experienced, are committed to the demands of arts in education work, and have:

- The desire to work with a specific population (*urban youth, seniors, pre-schoolers*);
- Past teaching experience with a specific population;
- Record keeping ability/skills;
- Ability to be flexible;
- Classroom management skills;
- Commitment to being on-time and present for all class sessions;
- Readiness to turn down auditions and work that may conflict with class schedules.

The Actors Fund Can Help Your Organization in Other Ways

The Actors Fund's other services may be of interest to your organization and/or staff. Your staff may be eligible for our:

- Social service programs including emergency financial assistance;
- Housing services;
- Health services including support in obtaining health insurance; and free clinic-based services in New York and Los Angeles.

Visit our website, www.actorsfund.org to learn more about our services. Staff is also available to make presentations in both New York and Los Angeles.

LEARN MORE ABOUT (AWP) TEACHING ARTISTS, CONTACT:

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