

**Women in the Arts & Media Coalition**  
*presents the*

## **2020 VintAge Awards**



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

**3 pm East Coast  
12 noon West Coast**

**ON ZOOM**

**#VintageAward  
#Vintage2020  
#vintagewomen  
#womenartsmedia  
@womenartsmedia**

# Program

---

## *Pre-Show*

“Women of the World Unite” song by Sarah Moore  
slide show by Avis Boone

---

## *Welcome*

Avis Boone & Yvonne Curry, Co-Presidents of the Coalition  
Shellen Lubin & Mary Hodges, Co-Presidents of LPTW  
Elsa Rael, Coalition Co-Founder & Past President

---

“Women Unite, a SWAN Song”  
sung by Jennifer Hill, SWAN Day CT

---

Paul R. Tetreault, Director Ford’s Theater

---

Rebecca Strang, formerly of StageWest

---

Introducing the Fund for Women Artists  
Kate Geis, Director & Pamela Means, Music

---

NBC News SWAN Day 2009

---

Christine Young, WomenArts Board Member

---

“Comin’ Home” by Mary D. Watkins, Composer and Pianist

---

Deborah Magdalena, SWAN Day Miami & Spoken Soul Festival

---

leslie Shreve, Coalition Past President & Special Advisor, SWAN Day NY

---

Alice Tuan, Playwright

---

Sandra Oh, for SWAN Day 2008 directed by Jaqui Barcos

Isabel Allende, for SWAN Day 2009 directed by Martha Richards

Famke Janssen, for SWAN Day 2010 directed by Jaqui Barcos

---

Sophie Dowllar, SWAN Day Kenya - Recipient of 2019 Martha Richards  
Visionary Leadership Award from StateraArts

---

“Swan Girls” - Lydiah Dola, SWAN Day Kenya

---

Melinda Pfundstein, StateraArts

---

Martha Richards, Recipient of the 2020 Elsa Rael VintAge Award  
Presented by Dame Rosemary Squire

---

## *Closing*

“It’s Changing” song by Shellen Lubin  
sung by International SWAN Day leaders, arranged by Matthew Gandolfo  
slide show by Zija Lubin-West

---

## WOMEN IN THE ARTS AND MEDIA COALITION MISSION STATEMENT

The Women in the Arts and Media Coalition is committed to being a link between our member organizations--focusing on issues of concern to an aggregate membership of more than 100,000 professional women across many artistic disciplines and crafts. No issue is more compelling at this time, or any time, than this simple truth: Black Lives Matter. We stand in solidarity with Black artists, Black arts administrators, and the Black community as we grieve the murders of way too many innocent individuals.

The varied backgrounds and experiences within our creative community are our greatest source of strength, and we are determined to stand up against racism and work to change the inequality that is manifested both inside and outside our creative representation. All of our accumulated knowledge assures us that we are capable of imagining and achieving better.

Thus, with empathy and understanding, we reinforce our mission to stand with all the members of our community against injustice.

## CONVERSATIONS IN AMERICA: 2020 VISION - The Year We Saw Everything

Women in The Arts and Media is requesting submissions for our second edition of **Conversations in America**. This conversation will be on **"2020 Vision"—The Year We Saw Everything**. Some of the questions are: How can we as artists discuss what justice for all of us looks like? What do we want for our future? How can we increase compassion and understanding to give voice to those voices that fall on deaf ears? We will host a virtual evening to perform, display, discuss, and enlighten the many sides of these issues that impact us all. Looking for: Scenes, Short plays, Short films, Monologues, Music, Poetry, Dance, Paintings, Sculptures and Photography - nothing to exceed 3-5 minutes. Look for further Information online at [www.womenartsmediacoalition.org](http://www.womenartsmediacoalition.org), in our #StageOpps and #ScreenOpps newsletters, and on our social media.

*Congratulations, Martha, on an extraordinary career in the Arts. Your dedication from our days at BCBC has been outstanding. Happy to say I have known you since 1979.*

Yvonne Curry, Co-Pres. Women in the Arts & Media Coalition  
and husband, Westley Thomas/USMC

*Congratulations, Martha! Thank you for all the great work you do!*

Erica Silberman

*Congratulations Martha!*

Ann Ellsworth

*Martha Richards - Thank you for inspiring us.*

leslie Shreve

*In honor of the great and amazing Martha Richards*

Jennifer Ladd

*HerFlix congratulates Martha Richards for her vision and work on behalf of all women artists.*

Adriana Shaw, HerFlix

*Congratulations, Martha, and thank you for all your generous and joyous participation with the Coalition!*

Brenda Gardner

*Thank you on behalf of the Board of Directors of WAMC.*

*It is an honor to honor YOU!*

Beth-Ellen Keyes

*Congratulations to Martha, Elsa, and the Women in the Arts & Media Coalition!*

Joseph Bogaty & Shellen Lubin

*Congratulations from the Board of the Women in the Arts & Media Coalition:*

Avis Boone

Isa Goldberg

Eileen Lacy

*And additional congratulations from:*

Sharon Adams

Jennie Chien

Rossi Snipper

William Tetreault

*Thank You!*

## OUR COMPANY

Event Producer - Shellen Lubin  
Coalition Advisor - Avis Boone  
Production Coordinator & Production Stage Manager - Richelle Szypulski  
Zoom Stage Manager - Zija Lubin-West  
Zoom Stage Manager - Aubrey Zehui Wang

VintAge Task Force:  
Avis Boone  
Yvonne Curry  
Brenda Gardner  
Beth-Ellen Keyes  
Shellen Lubin  
leslie Shreve

Design & Graphics - Avis Boone  
Journal Design & Creation - Zija Lubin-West  
Award - 12 Hour Awards

Singers on "Women of the World Unite"  
include LaRue Howard, Sarah Moore, and Michelle Lindahl

Singers on "It's Changing" include  
Lydia Dola, Jennifer Hill, Masa Hilsicin, Martha Richards, and Shellen Lubin

*Thank you to all the extraordinary artists who allowed their work to be included in today's program.*



### **Full Member Organizations**

- \* Actors' Equity Association
- \* Associated Musicians of Greater NY Local 802 AFM
  - \* Dramatists Guild, Inc.
- \* League of Professional Theatre Women
  - \* NY Women in Communications
  - \* NY Women in Film & Television
  - \* SAG-AFTRA
- \* Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
  - \* Writers Guild of America, East

### **Affiliate Member Organizations**

- \* BOLD
- \* Drama Desk
- \* International Centre for Women Playwrights
  - \* The Lambs, Inc.
- \* L.A. Female Playwrights Initiative
  - \* National Theatre Conference
- \* Professional Women Singers Association
- \* 365 Women a Year: a Playwriting Project
  - \* TRU (Theatre Resources Unlimited)
    - \* Women's Media Center
    - \* WomenArts
    - \* Women in Music
  - \* Women Make Movies, Inc.

### **Academic Affiliate**

- \* School of Visual Arts ~ Film & Animation Department

### *Officers for 2020-2021*

Avis Boone, Co-President (SAG-AFTRA) ~ Yvonne Curry, Co-President (SDC)  
Shellen Lubin, 1st Vice President & Past President (LPTW)  
leslie Shreve, Past President & Special Advisor (SAG-AFTRA)  
Rima De Bien, VP Membership (NYWIFT)  
Isa Goldberg, VP Communications (DD)  
Beth-Ellen Keyes, VP Development (NYWICI)  
Teddy Kern, Recording Secretary (LPTW)  
Elsa Okon Rael, Corporate Secretary (LPTW)  
Brenda Gardner, Treasurer (AEA)  
Tia De Shazor, Member-At-Large (BOLD)

### *Past Presidents*

Lisa Barnes / Avis Boone / Yvonne Curry / Eustacia Cutler  
Shellen Lubin / Mary F. Monroe / Angela Osborne / Elsa Okon Rael  
leslie Shreve / Erica Silberman / Melanie Sutherland

### *Special Advisors*

Pat Flicker Addiss / Judith Bass, Esq. / Gretchen Cryer / Lenore DeKoven  
Sherry Eaker / Roberta Korus / Estelle Parsons  
Gale Patron / leslie Shreve / Madeleine Smithberg

### *Board Members*

Fortuna Calvo-Roth (NYWICI), Cheryl L. Davis (TRU), Rima De Bien (SAG-AFTRA),  
Joanne Dorian (SAG-AFTRA), Sarah Downs (PWSA),  
Barbara Ghammashi (WMM), Mary Lee Grisanti (SVA), Holli Harms (DG),  
Felisa Kazen (SAG-AFTRA), Eileen Lacy (Lambs), Destinee McGinniss (BOLD),  
Julia Morgan (NYWIFT), Sophia Romma (ICWP)

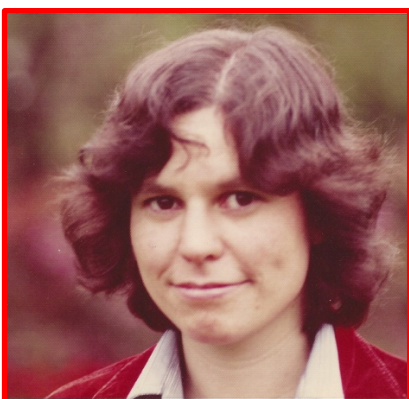
## OVERVIEW OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2020:

- #StageOpps & #ScreenOpps monthly to thousands
- Website – Ongoing Funding Resources for women and organizations in the arts & media
- COVID-19 Resources for people in the arts & media
- Virtual SWAN Day (co-hosted with NYWIFT, SAG-AFTRA, & SVA)
  - Grant from WomenArts to work with the League of Professional Theatre Women on organizational outreach
  - 2020 VintAge Award to Martha Richards of WomenArts
    - Extended Reach on facebook, Twitter, & Pinterest
    - Newsletters with great invitations to entire mailing list (free events, discounts for shows, talkbacks, and more)

## OVERVIEW OF PLANS FOR 2021:

- Why You Need a Stage Manager on Zoom (a Cross-Organization Panel with LPTW, AEA, SDC, and Year of the Stage Manager)
- Conversations in America: 2020 Vision, The Year We Saw Everything
  - Submissions for 2022 Collaboration Award
  - Percolating Gender Parity in Music and/or Media Summits
    - More Cross-Organization Meet & Greet
  - More Co-Sponsoring & Co-Hosting events with Member Orgs
- More Member Orgs joining with us, both Full Members & Affiliates
  - Extending our social media reach through additional outlets





## Martha Richards

Founder and President of WomenArts, and she served as its Executive Director from January 1995 until her retirement in June 2020. During her 25 years with WomenArts, Richards has been a tireless fundraiser and advocate for women in the arts, and she has created a variety of programs designed to increase the visibility and opportunities for women artists in all genres. Prior to WomenArts, Richards served as Executive Director of Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College and as Managing Director of StageWest, a regional theatre in Springfield, Massachusetts. She has written and lectured extensively on arts and cultural policy issues.

Richards has been frequently recognized for her commitment to women and to the arts. In April 2006 she was one of three U.S. nominees (with Quincy Jones and Wynton Marsalis) for the prestigious international *Montblanc De La Culture Award* for outstanding service to the arts. In April 2009 she was inducted into the BayPath College 21st Century Women Business Leaders Hall of Fame for her work in philanthropy. She has been honored as one of three “founding mothers” of the Women’s Fund of Western Massachusetts. In 2018 [StateraArts](#) created an annual award in her honor, the [Martha Richards Visionary Leadership Award](#).

Richards has a B.A. in Economics from the University of California Berkeley and a J.D. from the University of California Hastings College of Law. She was one of the founding directors of California Lawyers for the Arts.

## STATEMENT FROM MARTHA RICHARDS

I am deeply honored that the Coalition of the Arts and Media has selected me for the Elsa Rael VintAge Award for a number of reasons.

First, I have known Elsa Rael since 2005, when I met her on a London theatre tour organized by the League of Professional Theater Women. I admire her encyclopedic knowledge of theatre, her organizational energy, and her effervescent spirit. I feel blessed to know her.

Second, I share Elsa’s interest in promoting women in the arts as they age. I started WomenArts when I was 44, definitely middle-aged and mid-career. It was a risky move because I knew that if it didn’t work out, it would be hard for me to re-enter the mainstream theatre world because of my age. But on the other hand, when I was starting WomenArts, I had the advantage of a law degree and 20 years of experience as an arts manager with both small and large organizations. In California, I had worked in the box office at Berkeley Repertory Theatre as an undergraduate, and I spent three years as the business manager of a 99-seat theatre called the San Francisco Actors Ensemble. I had also been involved in creating California Lawyers for the Arts and serving as a volunteer lawyer for indigent artists in the San Francisco Bay Area.

## STATEMENT FROM MARTHA RICHARDS – CON'T

---

When I was 28 I moved to Baltimore for a one-year fellowship at Center Stage, and then on to New York for nine years at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College, where we did over 300 performances a year in 4 venues. In 1989 I was hired as Managing Director at StageWest, a regional theatre in Springfield, MA, and I spent five years there.

While I was working in those organizations, I noticed that women were not getting paid or promoted as much as their male counterparts and that they were under-represented on stage. For instance, during my five years at StageWest, we only did one play by a woman playwright (Lillian Hellman's "Watch on the Rhine") – in spite of my efforts to advocate for women playwrights with our male artistic director.

I had also noticed that there were many talented women artists working outside the mainstream organizations with little or no management support. My initial goal with WomenArts was to provide free or very low-cost fundraising and management services to those women to see if we could boost their careers.

During the first ten years of WomenArts, we were mainly focused on grant-writing for various women's arts organizations and individual artists in theatre, film, and video. We focused on talented mid-career women who were outside the mainstream – women who were being marginalized because of their race, class, sexual preference, gender identity, disability, age or other issues. By definition these are women who struggle at the edges of the fundraising world – they don't get large grants because they don't have track records of large, successful projects, and they can't develop their track records because they can't get the grants. Our goal was to try to help them break that cycle, and we often helped women get their first grants or their largest grants.

Since so many women needed help with fundraising, we looked for ways to serve more artists and developed the free monthly funding newsletters that are now run by the Coalition as #StageOpps and #ScreenOpps. We gradually shifted away from working one-on-one to providing information and other services online. We posted lots of fundraising information on our website, and in 2003 we started the WomenArts Network, an online directory of women artists, which was useful for women who wanted a free web presence in the days before Facebook.

Like Elsa Rael and the other co-founders of the Women in the Arts and Media Coalition, WomenArts recognizes that overcoming sexism in the arts will require a concerted group effort, and for the past 12 years, we have been focusing on fostering communication and collaboration among women artists and women-led arts organizations. In 2008, Jan Lisa Huttner and I co-founded Support Women Artists Now Day/SWAN Day – a program that encourages women artists around the world to work together to create events and celebrate each other every year in March and April.

The program has been a huge success with over 2,000 SWAN events in 37 countries since 2008. The amazing diversity of SWAN Day events gives us a glimpse of what the world might be like if women were able to fully realize their creative visions, and we know that SWAN Day has a powerful ripple effect. So many women artists around the world have met through their work on SWAN events and then gone on to collaborate on other projects and to create support networks for each other. This is the kind of energy that we need to keep building in order to achieve full gender parity in the arts.

Together we can create a world where women artists get the respect they deserve at last!



**SOPHIE DOWLLAR** is a feminist human rights defender, who uses art and theatre for social transformation. She is the director of the 5Cs human rights Theatre company based in Nairobi. She is also a militant with the international feminist grassroots movement - the world March of women where she is currently on the board as a representative of Africa (Anglophone Africa) and a proud member of the SWAN Kenya initiative that was very much inspired and supported by Martha Richards.



**DEBORAH MAGDALENA** - Whether she's hosting a spoken word event, producing a music festival, or playing the role of a *santera* or vixen, Deborah Magdalena makes every emotion super real. This performance artist has acquired impressive TV & Film credits for the past twenty-five years including Sesame Street (CTW), Apollo Comedy Hour (Tribune Entertainment), Safe Harbor (Warner Brothers), Striptease (Castle Rock), Holyman (Caravan), and For Love or Country (HBO). As a published spoken word artist Deborah has released three CDs, a chapbook, and the spoken word musical FUNKdalena. The album FUNKdalena was nominated by the Poetry National Awards 2013 for best album of the year and the musical was awarded The Jenny Duany Light Bulb Fund Award from The Miami Light Project 2012. As an artist-activist she's the founder of

Spoken Soul Festival, a thirteen-year-old, festival whose mission is to spotlight South Florida's women artists. Deborah was awarded the prestigious TAFARI Award 2013 for her work with women artists alongside the Mayor of Miami Beach Matti Herrera Bower and Founder of the First Modeling Agency in Miami Michele Pommier. In 2014 she was nominated for the Troy Poet Lewis Community Outreach Award by the National Poetry Awards. As an educator Deborah for the past ten years has led in-school presentations in numerous high schools for the National YoungArts Foundation, is the co-founder of Piano Slam, and led various workshops for local art organizations like Arts For learning, Miami Light Project, Institute of Contemporary Art, P.A.T.H., Urgent Inc and The Arsht Center. Most recently and for the eighth year in a row, she was invited by the Arsht Center and Ailey Arts & Education Foundation to serve as the Creative Communication instructor for the award-winning Ailey Camp Miami.



**MELINDA PFUNDSTEIN** is the Executive Director and co-founder of StateraArts, and a director, actor, educator, administrator, arts consultant, advocate for women in the arts, and a mother of three children. She holds an MA in Arts Administration from Southern Utah University, where she also completed her undergraduate work in theatre and dance performance. She recently completed her tenure at SUU as Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts.

Melinda has participated in parity convenings around the country, including the Berkshire Leadership Summit and TCG's Gender Parity Think Tank. She engages with artistic and executive leaders around their organizational culture and inclusion practices and has presented on mentorship at TCG's National Conference. Most recently, she directed *Merchant of Venice* and *The Book of Will* at the Utah Shakespeare Festival where she has been a company member for 20 seasons, and *Every Brilliant Thing* at Lake Dillon Theatre Company. Next, Melinda will direct *Hamlet* at Cincinnati Shakespeare Company in March of 2020, and *Into the Breeches* at Utah Shakes, summer of 2020.

Other select regional credits include Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, The Skylight, and First Stage Children's Theatre.

A Gallup Certified Strengths Coach and certified Pilates instructor, Melinda formerly owned and operated Breathe Pilates and Wellness in downtown Milwaukee. She is a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and Actor's Equity Association.





## **DAME ROSEMARY SQUIRE**

### **Joint CEO and Executive Chair - Trafalgar Entertainment**

Dame Rosemary Squire is one of the most prominent women in British theatre of the modern era. The business that she co-founded in 1992 - Ambassador Theatre Group - went on to become the world's number one live-theatre company.

She is currently co-founder, Joint CEO and Executive Chair of Trafalgar Entertainment, a premium international live entertainment business and home to the newly announced Trafalgar Theatre (set to open Spring 2021), Trafalgar Theatre Productions, Trafalgar Releasing, Stagecoach Performing Arts, London Theatre Direct, Luke Shires Marketing, Jonathan Church Theatre Productions, Chiswick Cinema and More2Screen.

In 2014, she made history as the first woman to be named EY UK Entrepreneur of the Year. She was a National Member of the Arts Council England Board for 10 years, was Chair of two major appeals for Great Ormond Street Hospital and is currently Joint Chair of The Hall for Cornwall.

Respected advocates for cultural industries in the UK and internationally, Rosemary and her husband/business partner, Sir Howard Panter, topped The Stage 100 for seven consecutive record-breaking years. In 2007 Rosemary was awarded an OBE for Services to Theatre and in 2018 received a Damehood for Services to Theatre and Philanthropy. In 2019, Woking Borough Council bestowed Honorary Freedom of the Borough upon Rosemary and Howard, both long-serving members of the community.



**PAUL R. TETREAULT** - Since joining Ford's Theatre in 2004, Paul Tetreault has focused on enhancing the quality of the institution's artistic programming while expanding its mission to include a stronger focus on education. Critics and the theatre-going public have recognized the theatre for such productions as the pre-Broadway run of *Come From Away*, the world premieres of *The Heavens Are Hung in Black*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln*, *Meet John Doe* and *The Guard*, the American premiere of *Jefferson's Garden*, and the musicals *Ragtime*, *The Wiz* and *Into the Woods*. In 2008, Tetreault led the institution through a \$54 million capital campaign, the most extensive renovation to the Theatre and Museum since the building reopened to the public in 1968, and the creation of a new Center for Education and Leadership adjacent to the Petersen House (opened February 2012), which seeks to further explore Lincoln's legacy in America today. The newly renovated theatre reopened in February 2009, while the newly renovated museum reopened in July 2009. The Center for Education and Leadership opened in February 2012. In April of 2015, Tetreault led a historic season of programming to commemorate the 150 years since President Lincoln's assassination with *Ford's*

*150: Remembering the Lincoln Assassination*.

Tetreault served as Managing Director of the Alley Theatre for 10 years, where he produced more than 100 productions and worked with talented artists such as Edward Albee, Tony Kushner, Trevor Nunn, Nicky Silver, Frank Wildhorn and August Wilson, among others. He has held senior management positions with Crossroads Theatre Company, New Jersey; Berkeley Repertory Theatre, California; and Circle Repertory Company, New York City. He also served as director of finance at Madison Square Garden and as a vice president with C.W. Shaver and Company, Inc., a New York management and fundraising consulting firm. He has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and has taught and guest lectured at Brooklyn College, Columbia University, New York University, the University of Houston and Rice University. He is a graduate of Emerson College and received his MFA from the City University of New York-Brooklyn College. Tetreault serves on the Board of the Downtown DC Business Improvement District (BID).



**ALICE TUAN** is a nationally acclaimed, internationally produced playwright, teacher and performer. Her play *Last of the Suns* (Berkeley Rep, Ma-Yi Theater) had a bilingual Chinese-English version commissioned and performed by the Chinese International School in Hong Kong, where she was Artist-in-Residence March 2019. Almasi Collaborative Arts also staged a reading of this play with an African cast in Zimbabwe July 2019. Tuan is best known for *Ajax (por nobody)* (Flea Theater, Salvage Vanguard, Melbourne Fringe). It was staged at Toronto's SummerWorks Festival and written about in *'The Shelf Life of Shock'* (The Drama Review). *Ajax (por nobody)*, along with four of her other plays, are archived in the Billy Rose Collection at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center. *Cocks Crow* (Americans trying to do business in Shanghai) was developed at the Ojai Playwrights Conference August 2018 and had a reading through East West Players' CounterCulture series in 2019. Other works have been produced at Humana, Foundry, East West/Taper Too, Edinburgh Fringe, LATC and UMass, Amherst. Before she was a playwright, Tuan taught English as a Second Language (ESL) in Guangzhou and Los Angeles.



**CHRISTINE YOUNG** is an Associate Professor in the Performing Arts & Social Justice Program at the University of San Francisco, where she teaches courses on theatrical history and craft, gender and sexuality, and arts education, as well as directing and devising mainstage productions. As a feminist theater practitioner, Christine uses creative casting to put as many female performers onstage as possible, serves as a mentor for young women theater artists, and promotes a world where women's stories are understood as essential human stories. Christine holds an MFA in Theater Directing from University of Iowa and a BA in Religion from Princeton University.

## Past and Current Co-Presidents



From Left to Right: Avis Boone, Shellen Lubin, Leslie Shreve, Elsa Okon Rael, Yvonne Curry, Lisa Barnes, Melanie Sutherland





WOMEN'S FUND

# Celebrating Martha!

Your achievements have touched many  
lives in Western Massachusetts.

Thank you for helping to launch our  
Fund for the benefit of women and girls.

**- Dianne Fuller Doherty  
and The Women's Fund of  
Western Massachusetts**



## WomenArts SWAN Day Videos

<https://www.womenarts.org/videos/>

### SWAN Day 2008 Kenya (2 minutes)

Sophie Dowllar has organized SWAN Day events every year in Nairobi since 2008. We were thrilled that they used our free downloadable SWAN Day logos to make t-shirts and posters. This video clip is the musical introduction to a longer piece documenting SWAN Day 2008 Kenya.

Watch the video here: <https://www.womenarts.org/swan-day/swan-day-videos/swan-day-video-kenya-2008/>.

You can also read an interview with Sophie Dowllar from March 2010 here:

<https://www.womenarts.org/2010/03/18/sophie-dowllar-interview-2010/>

(Note: There are videos for each year of SWAN Day Kenya on YouTube.)

---

### SWAN Day 2008 – Sandra Oh Interview (2 minutes)

Sandra Oh, star of the hit television show, *Grey's Anatomy*, and the movie, *Sideways*, talks about why she is inspired by the musician Bjork. This video introduced our Folkmanis swan puppet who has participated in many other SWAN Day videos and events.

Watch the video here: <https://www.womenarts.org/videos/swan-day-video-sandra-oh/>

---

### SWAN Day 2009 at Lincoln Center (30 seconds)

NBC News 4 New York covered the SWAN Day panel discussion featuring Broadway designers and directors that we did in collaboration with the League of Professional Theatre Women.

Watch the video here: <https://www.womenarts.org/videos/swan-day-nbc-video/>

---

### Isabel Allende – San Francisco Women's Film Festival 2009 (8 minutes)

Isabel Allende did a special SWAN Day video as part of the San Francisco Women's Film Festival 2009. She talks about her education and the women who have inspired her and helped her succeed. She encourages all women artists to "be connected" with each other.

Watch the video here: <https://www.womenarts.org/videos/isabel-allende-swan-day/>

---

### SWAN Day 2010 Washington, DC (7 minutes)

Catherine Aselford organized 29 events in 5 venues for the SWAN Day 2010 festival in Washington, DC. The video shows that she used our free downloadable logos, flyers, and other publicity materials. This was her third SWAN Day event.

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US1omQ0Mcno>

---

### SWAN Day Connecticut – 10th Anniversary (8 minutes)

Jennifer Hill has organized a festival of women-led rock bands for each SWAN Day. This video from March 2017 is a celebration of the 10th anniversary of SWAN Day CT. It includes clips of SWAN Day CT artists and footage of Jennifer Hill discussing the mission and history of the event.

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1e8szQ6d2yI>

(Note: There are videos for each year of SWAN Day CT on YouTube.)

---

### SWAN Day 2010 – Famke Janssen Interview (5 minutes)

Famke Janssen, best known as a star of the X-Men movies, did this special video interview with us to talk share her thoughts about the challenges of being a woman artist, the inspiring work of Louise Bourgeois, and the importance of SWAN Day.

Watch the video here: <https://www.womenarts.org/swan-day-video-famke-janssen/>

---

## WomenArts SWAN Day Videos Con't.

<https://www.womenarts.org/videos/>

### SWAN Day 2010 New York

WomenArts, the League of Professional Theatre Women, and New Shoe Theatre Group collaborated on a special SWAN Day play reading and panel discussion at Cherry Lane Theatre about the need for more government arts funding.

Executive Director Martha Richards moderated a lively panel discussion with leading feminist arts activists – Elizabeth A. Sackler, founder of the Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum; Carol Jenkins, founding president of the Women's Media Center; and Arlene Goldbard, a strong advocate for “a new WPA.” You can read Martha Richards' comments about “Recognizing Artists as Workers” here:

<https://www.womenarts.org/2010/02/11/recognizing-artists-as-workers/>

Watch or read Arlene Goldbard's presentation [https://www.womenarts.org/harmony-project/goldbard\\_3\\_22\\_10/](https://www.womenarts.org/harmony-project/goldbard_3_22_10/)

Or you can download the script of the play that was read at this event here:

<https://www.womenarts.org/harmony-project/mixed-relief-intro/>

You can also see additional information about the WPA that we compiled as part of our SWAN Day 2010 Celebration of Women Artists of the WPA here: <https://www.womenarts.org/harmony-project/wpa-overview/>

---

### Get Ready for SWAN Day 2020 (2 minutes)

This is a short video that WomenArts Executive Director Martha Richards created for SWAN Day 2020. It features the speaking debut of T. Swan, the SWAN Day mascot that Richards has carried to many conferences and SWAN gatherings over the years. T. Swan was first seen in 2008 in the Sandra Oh video above and can be seen in the Isabelle Allende and SWAN Day NY 2010 videos. Watch the video here: <https://vimeo.com/391906827>

---

### THE PRELUDE TO SWAN DAY – The WomenArts Network (7 minutes)

This video was created in 2006, two years before SWAN Day was launched, in order to introduce people to the mission and services of WomenArts, which was then known as The Fund for Women Artists. It includes clips of women artists that WomenArts was serving at the time, and pictures of women who had created profile pages on our online directory, the WomenArts Network. Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=owvnpFDej0>

WomenArts (originally known as The Fund for Women Artists) was founded in 1995, thirteen years before SWAN Day was launched. WomenArts began in Northampton, MA by offering low-cost grant writing and other management services to four local women-led theatre companies – Andrea Hairston's Chrysalis Theatre (<http://andrea Hairston.com/chrysalis-theatre/>), Priscilla Kane Hellweg's Enchanted Circle Theater (<http://www.enchantedcircletheater.com/>), Sheryl Stoodley's (<http://www.seriousplay.org/>) and Sleeveless Theatre (<http://scua.library.umass.edu/umarmot/sleeveless-theater-company/>), which was a collective of Lisa Channer, Maureen Futtner, K.D. Halpin, and Kate Nugent.

As WomenArts grew, it offered grant-writing services to more artists. Since the demand for its services was growing, WomenArts established its website at [www.WomenArts.org](http://www.WomenArts.org) in 1999 and started investigating ways to provide online services. WomenArts launched its free funding newsletters for theatre and film video artists (now #StageOpps and #ScreenOpps) in 2000. In 2003 WomenArts received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to create an online directory of women artists called the WomenArts Network. By 2007 the WomenArts mailing list had grown to over 7,500 names because of the free funding newsletters and the WomenArts Network. Over 1,600 women artists from all over the world had created profiles on the WomenArts Network. SWAN Day was a success in its first year because WomenArts had built so much goodwill with artists around the world through this earlier work.



## **Percolating Gender Parity in Theatre**

From the Gender Parity in Theatre Conference in Canada spearheaded by Martha Richards and supported primarily by WomenArts and also theCoalition, we held a follow-up conference in New York City. Shellen Lubin curated a week for HowlRound on Gender Parity in Theatre and invited some of the Canada participants to write for the series. Those articles are linked here in order from just after Thanksgiving 2015.

### **Exploration on How Change Happens and Where We Go From Here**

<https://howlround.com/gender-parity-theatre>

by Shellen Lubin

### **StageSource's Gender Parity Task Force**

<https://howlround.com/stagesources-gender-parity-task-force>

by Julie Hennrikus

### **Why Are There So Few Women Leading Theatres and What Can Be Done About It?**

<https://howlround.com/why-are-there-so-few-women-leading-theatres-and-what-can-be-done-about-it>

by Sumru Erkut and Ineke Ceder

### **Achieving Gender Parity: The 100 Women Plan**

<https://howlround.com/achieving-gender-parity>

by Martha Richards

### **Achieving Gender Parity Through Legislation**

<https://howlround.com/my-one-thing>

by Yvette Heyliger

### **Achieving Gender Parity: Play by Play & Role by Role**

<https://howlround.com/achieving-gender-parity-0>

by Christine Young

### **Affecting Gender Parity as a Freelance Artist**

<https://howlround.com/wheres-my-influence-affecting-gender-parity-freelance-artist>

by Valerie Weak

### **Moving Toward Gender Equity in the Canadian Theatre**

<https://howlround.com/moving-toward-gender-equity-canadian-theatre>

by Sophia Romma

LEAGUE OF PROFESSIONAL  
**THEATRE  
WOMEN**

**Multi-award-winning actress, composer singer, writer and long-time League member Micki Grant interviewed by fellow League member award-winning performer, writer and producer Richarda Abrams**



**MICKI GRANT**  
Sneak Peek Photography



**RICHARDA ABRAMS**  
Emily Lambert Photography

**Monday, November 16, 2020 @ 6PM**

**Online on Zoom**

**RSVP Here: [bit.ly/3eZGTSS](https://bit.ly/3eZGTSS)**

**Link provided closer to event date**

**Free admission**

This program is made possible, in part, with funds from the NYS Council on the Arts, a state agency, with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. The Oral History Project also enjoys continued support from the Edith Meiser Foundation.



This program is produced by Ludovica Villar-Hauser.  
Check out [Oral History in the press](https://bit.ly/3nIAjZQ)

[bit.ly/3nIAjZQ](https://bit.ly/3nIAjZQ)

*Join us as we celebrate the*  
**LPTW Rachel Crothers Leadership Award Honoree**

*Multi award-winning actress, author and activist*

**TONYA PINKINS**



**DECEMBER 7, 2020**

**7:00PM on Zoom**

*Please join us as we honor Tonya Pinkins for her extraordinary achievement in the American theatre, while simultaneously serving her fellow man with her #BlackPerspectivesMatter brand of activism.*

**SUGGESTED DONATION PRICING**

*(Tax deductible in consideration of COVID-19)*

**LPTW Members \$25**

**Non-Member Artists \$35**

**Non-Member Single Ticket \$60** *(includes Friend of the League membership)*

**VIP ticket \$75** *(includes name in program and Friend of the League membership)*

**\$140 VIP tickets** *(includes both names in program and two Friend of the League memberships)*

<https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pe.c/10591794>

**Sponsorships Are Available!**

*(which include the aforementioned plus a virtual journal ad)*

**For Information Contact:**

**LPTW RCLA Co-Chairs, Yvette Heyliger and Margot Astrachan**

**[RCLA@theatrewomen.org](mailto:RCLA@theatrewomen.org)**

## FROM OUR VP of DEVELOPMENT

I could not be more proud to serve on the Board of the **Women in the Arts & Media Coalition** as the VP of Development. Our critical work as advocates for greater diversity, inclusion, access, and opportunity for professional women+ in the arts and media—and our remarkable partnerships with many of the guilds, unions and professional organizations representing the talent in our community—make us unique. But let me tell you a little secret: we are a scrappy bunch. The Coalition does a great deal with very little. We have no big budget, no paid staff, no permanent office space, and lots of volunteers giving lots of hours. Our general operating expenses are covered by the dues from our full and associate members, revenue and sponsorships from events like this one, donations from individuals, and a few grants.

We all know the disruption and economic shock that COVID-19 has visited on us. Yet even in these unbelievably strained circumstances the Coalition has our constituents top of mind. We have put all organizational dues on hiatus for 2020 and we are now exploring ways to open up affordable memberships to women across the creative spectrum who may still be in school or may not yet be represented by our professional unions. ***Watch for a roll-out of this new initiative in 2021!***

Later this month, we will launch a **Giving Tuesday** campaign and are sharing half of the proceeds with the **Actors Fund**, as they have done so much to foster the well being of all performing arts and entertainment professionals in this turbulent time. Watch for this announcement on our website, in your emails, and on all of our social media channels.

We thank you for the tickets you purchased and the donations you have made. If possible, consider making an additional gift, no matter how small. Our website address is below. It's very much appreciated.

Stay healthy, stay safe and hold in your thoughts the future time when we will all be together again, big as life.

*Beth-Ellen Keyes*  
*VP of Development*

<http://www.womenartsmediacoalition.org/>