



# Voter's Guide and Voting Instructions for the 2023 San Francisco - Northern California Local Election

July 26, 2023

Please note that the candidates have been requested to provide statements for this brochure in accordance with rules outlined in the SAG-AFTRA Constitution and the Nominations and Election Policy ("Guidelines"). Photos and statements for Convention Delegate positions are not permitted.

If a candidate for any office is unopposed, the candidate shall be declared elected without the necessity of a membership vote.

Please note that the following candidates ran unopposed and will be installed in office on September 8, 2023:

Vice President - Broadcast - Mike Pechner

# **IMPORTANT!**

# NATIONAL BOARD MEMBER - PERFORMER / 4 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE (1)



#### o1 / ROCKY CAPELLA

I've been a Bay Area SAG-AFTRA member 40 years, including serving on the Local Board and National Stunt Safety Committee, but most members know me as a Stunt Coordinator and Performer. I've been on hundreds of sets with you, making sure you're safe and always treated respectfully. I've heard, and share, your concerns about our future. That's why I'm running for National Board. We need experienced working professionals on our Board to advocate for more jobs for Northern California Performers, seek better medical benefits, and protect our pensions. I'll have your back and would love your support. Thank you. www.rockycapella.com



#### **02 / ROBERT CHESTNUT**

As a candidate for SAG-AFTRA national board, I am committed to fighting for the rights of all actors and ensuring they get the fair treatment and compensation they deserve. I will push hard for meaningful residual payments that reflect the true economic value of our members' work and contributions. I will also work to help ensure the use of artificial intelligence is appropriately regulated, and help to curtail the burden of self-taped auditions and ensure fair access to work opportunities while protecting performers against exploitation. I would appreciate the opportunity to help define the future of our union.



#### 03 / ROBERT CURÉ

Over a decade of Local Board, Convention delegate experience serving you. That experience blessed me with building relationships that nurture opportunities bringing Jobs to our local members. In other cities I have met with Locals strengthening support for our Norcal members. As I've said before, you are my family, My promise to you as your National Board Member is always do and give more than expected. I look forward to serving as your National Board Member Robert Curé



#### **04 / KATHRYN HOWELL**

I'd be honored to return to the National Board on your behalf. I have the experience, the relationships, the institutional knowledge, the commitment. The National Board guides our Union's direction - safeguarding all members, all categories, all regions. Importantly, it also informs our work on the Local Level: Conferring with other mid-size Locals - Sharing ideas, experiences, innovative outreach; Working to increase our profile, drawing production to our area; Promoting the professionalism and artistry of local talent. It is vital to have a seasoned, informed Performer Category National Board Representative from San Francisco-Northern California - who Knows, Lives, Works in our Local.



05 / NEIL O'NEILL

No Statement

# **PRESIDENT** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE (1)



## o6 / JANET DYER

Some people say that Oakland is the new Hollywood. I think all of northern CA is perfect for film production and that we have talented actors and broadcasters. The SF Film commission has monthly meetings at SF city hall. Attend those meetings with me. San Francisco is a union town and we need more SAG AFTRA productions and more SAG AFTRA jobs. Let's share our needs. Film is lucrative for our communities and for us. We need change. Join me in positivity and solidarity. We can do this together. I look forward to our mutual success. Janet Dyer



#### o7 / KATHRYN HOWELL

As President I've been privileged to serve & support San Francisco-Northern California SAG-AFTRA members - Broadcasters, Recording Artists, Principal Performers, Background, Stunts, Voice Actors, Singers, Dancers: all talented, experienced professionals. I've lived, worked here since studying with ACT in the '70s, served my unions (SAG-AFTRA, AEA) three decades and will continue to champion our membership. With my long-standing relationships, including Local/ National Broadcast and Performer Leaders, Region-wide Film Offices, Local/ National Staff, I advocate for all Nor-Cal members - Fresno to Yreka, Tahoe to Monterey - working to move forward with enhanced professional resources, increased opportunities, improved contracts, greater access to employment.



#### **08 / MIKE MARTINEZ**

While working as a stuntman in the bay area for over 40 years, I've served for two terms on the Board. I gave up my seat because my schedule began to get in the way of my being able to serve, while making myself available to assist SAG representatives to be sure performers were getting the proper contracts. Now that I've begun to work my way towards retirement, I've decided to begin representing the Bay Area again, in hopes of promoting productions towards using more local talent, and helping the Union become stronger by increasing our voice in Los Angeles

# **VICE PRESIDENT - PERFORMER** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE (1)



## og / MICCI TOLIVER

Hello, my fellow Union Members. Since Covid hit us a lot has gone down. We are now dealing with the Writer's Strike and the serious issues that face us as the SAG-AFTRA negotiations begin with the AMPTP. And to mention, the issues concerning Self-Taping. Having served on the SAG-AFTRA NorCal Local Board for twelve years, attended three National Conventions as a Convention Delegate, and attended several COL meetings, has given me the experience to run for Vice-President, and continue to stay involved, to help protect us all. I am also an AEA member since 1975 and have served on our local AEA Board.



#### 10 / ROBERT CHESTNUT

I'm committed to helping represent all actors and ensuring we get the fair treatment and compensation we deserve. I believe that our members deserve full transparency, especially when it comes to contract negotiations and I am also committed to addressing the concerns such as protecting our members from erosion of income and benefit plan contributions, reduced residuals, and fast-evolving threats of generative AI. I bring passion, skill and over 20 years of entertainment experience to the board and would be honored to earn your vote.



#### 11 / ANTHONY CISTARO

As Local VP, I commit to serving ALL member categories – including background, broadcast, principal, stunts, voiceover. If we stick together and continue to build on our Local agreements that capture work under union contracts, we will prevail. Take this opportunity to vote in a Board that reflects our entire Local - new, exciting candidates that will contribute to the health of our union (it's also why I helped form our NextGen Committee to welcome and grow our younger members' careers) – alongside established candidates with the experience, unionism, and relationships necessary to effectively represent our Local's interests nationally.



#### 12 / ROBERT CURÉ

My priorities are MORE LOCAL JOBS for all categories, Safe environments for all. I've performed as Union Background, Principal Actor, Stunt Performer, Musician, Dancer for 26+ years. Over a decade of Local Board, Convention delegate experience serving you. That experience blessed me with building relationships that nurture opportunities bringing Jobs to our NorCal members. Being your voice and having your back, we are successful in protecting our jobs. You are my family, My promise to you as your Vice President is always do and give more than expected. I look forward to serving as your Vice President Robert Curé



13 / NEIL O'NEILL

No Statement

# **LOCAL BOARD MEMBER – PERFORMER** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN TEN (10) – CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## 14 / JEANETTE PAVINI

What a privilege it's been representing our chapter as a board member. Working with the VOCCO committee and strategizing with new ways to bring more work to Northern California is something I would like to continue doing. I've worked under all major SAG-AFTRA contracts including commercial, film, TV, corporate and broadcast. We need a strong union and fair contracts, but nothing is as important as bringing and keeping work here. Times have changed and as a board member I will continue to think outside the box, working on behalf of performers. Thank you for your consideration.



#### 15 / SOLANA PAZ

I have been a member and strong supporter of the San Francisco-Northern California acting community for many years, performing in numerous films, commercials, producing a few films myself and, most importantly, bringing actors and people behind the camera together. I am a doer. I have the same strong interest in serving SAG-AFTRA members by listening to the community and voicing points of view in a proactive, executable manner. Some of my goals are: Bring more projects to our Local (already working on this), continue to solidify a powerful network, and advocate for our rights as performers.



#### 16 / PHILLIP RAMIREZ

I'm again running for S.F. Board member, & would like to have your vote. I chaired the Conservatory for the past 12 years, & have now ,'passed the baton'. I will continue to work for the welfare of our members @ S.F. SAG-AFTRA Board . Best Regards, Phil



#### 17 / ARTURO RANGEL

Hello Everyone, I'm Arturo Rangel, I am a Stunt Actor in the Bay Area. I began my career here and I would love to run for local Board member to serve as support for all my fellow SAG Members. I hope to provide an ear to be heard, a shoulder to lean on, and a Voice for our community. With your vote we can fine tune our ship that is NorCal, and let it set sail providing a flourishing work environment for all.



#### **18 / INGEBORG ALICE RUANO**

Hello I would like to have an opportunity to work towards the realization of more auditions in the San Francisco Bay Area while contributing toward decisions which benefit performers in the San Francisco-NorCal local as well. Thank you for any consideration. Wishing you all a wonderful day. Ingeborg Alice Ruano



#### 19 / RAJIV SHAH

I am a Bay Area native and a proud SAG-AFTRA Member for over 20 years. As an actor & filmmaker, my focus is to bridge actors with the filmmaking community to foster more work in Northern California. I have extensive experience on both sides of the camera. This is especially important as performers are creating more of their own work and finding new roads to reach audiences. I represent the diversity of our membership, have been involved with APAM, and I have represented SAG-AFTRA at film festivals & events. I look forward to serving you and all our members.

# **LOCAL BOARD MEMBER – PERFORMER** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN TEN (10) – **CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE** 



## 20 / MICCI TOLIVER

Hello, my fellow Bay Area Members. Having served for Twelve years and with much careful thought, I am running for reelection as SF-NorCal Local Board Member. There's still much work to be done, and I still want to stay involved. We are very supportive of the Writers Strike, and now we have overwhelmingly voted for a (potential) SAG-AFTRA Strike Authorization. We have to be very united to protect the interest of our members. I will work with all due diligence on your behalf. I am also a long-time member of AEA and have served on our local SF-NorCal AEA Board.



#### 21 / EDWARD VASGERSIAN

A SAG/AFTRA member since 1970, I have participated on our local and national levels of leadership and take pride in representing our membership at Theatrical, Governance, Commercial, and Industrial negotiations. I currently serve as a national representative to our Young Performers Committee and The SAG-AFTRA Military Personnel & Families Support Committee. I believe balancing members' needs is essential in achieving protection for all.



#### 22 / MIA BERNARDINO

Mia Bernardino is a SAG-AFTRA member, singer, screenwriter, first-generation Filipino American woman, first-generation college graduate, and East Bay Area native. Mia joined SAG in 2004 and AFTRA shortly thereafter. She appeared on the CW's "Gilmore Girls," Nickelodeon's "Victorious," and more. Mia also opened for Brian McKnight and sang the National Anthem for the Golden State Warriors and SF Giants. She is co-chair of the SF-NorCal NextGen Committee. As a former child actor, Mia is passionate about helping today's child actors navigate the industry, and as an actor of color, she is passionate about increasing opportunities for diverse actors and storylines.



#### 23 / DON BLACK

I am asking for your vote to continue as your Local Board Member (performer) and Convention Delegate for *San Francisco-Northern California SAG-AFTRA*. As a member of *National Background Committee*, I co-authored a Convention Resolution for "Background Performer Bill of Rights" (approved without objections); provided key recommendations for our Local to *National Background Committee* for negotiations with AMPTP; and initiated the memorial "Charlie Holliday" meeting area, during our local events at *San Francisco-Northern California Office*. I have a passion to serve all members and complete pending issues unresolved. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you again.



#### 24 / ROBERT CHESTNUT

I'm currently a standing Board Member who has been advocating for our members' rights. During my tenure, I proposed pay raises to our RCC yearly contracts and an increase of SAG-AFTRA Background Performers from 10 members to 25 members. After a hard fight, the proposal passed with a majority vote. I'm committed to furthering my fight for more jobs and protections for all our SF-NorCal Local members. You can count on me to ensure your voice is heard and acknowledged. Vote Robert Chestnut for Board Member and Delegate.



#### 25 / ANTHONY CISTARO

Thank you for your support these past two terms - work remains. We're just resetting after the restrictions and now our negotiations. We have a tremendous executive staff that soldiered through cuts to negotiate broadcast contracts and enforce performer concerns. Education and solidarity are our twin priorities. Understanding our contracts and knowing how to create and unionize local work will strengthen our position. Our last three Local events focused on "Understanding Background Contracts," "Creating Our Own Work Opportunities (Under Union Contracts)" and "Flipping Non-union Work." I'll fight to keep our union card a source of pride, protection and possibilities!

# **LOCAL BOARD MEMBER – PERFORMER** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN TEN (10) – CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## **26 / WYN COSTELLO**

I'm Wyn Costello, an actor since 1984, Nor-Cal SAG-AFTRA member since 2017. Since joining SAG, the majority of work I've done has been background work, through which I've been so grateful to work with many of you. I've felt part of our family of actors here in the Bay Area. With the intention to support background actors and defend all of our contracted rights, my ideals as a Local board member will be to expand SAG member perks and attract solid casting opportunities for all Nor-Cal members. Thank you for your consideration.



### **27 / ROBERT CURÉ**

My priorities are MORE LOCAL JOBS for all categories, Safe environments for all. I've performed as Union Background, Principal Actor, Stunt Performer, Musician, Dancer for 26+ years. Over a decade of Local Board, Convention delegate experience serving you. That experience blessed me with building relationships that nurture opportunities bringing Jobs to our NorCal members. Being your voice and having your back, we are successful in protecting our jobs. You are my family, My promise to you is always do and give more than expected. I look forward to serving as your Local Board Robert Curé



#### 28 / LEESHA DAVIS

I have worked in the industry for over 20 years working my way up from Background. In 2017 I was honored to join Sag-Aftra. In 2021 I served as a convention delegate talking to many of you and hearing how you felt silenced and working conditions ignored. I believe as a Local Board member I can help bring your voices further. I am an Actress, Stunt performer, and Stunt Driver. No matter your category be it Stunt, Background, Dancer, or Voice Over I will listen and do my best to represent you for all of Northern California.



#### 29 / FREDDIE DIAZ

Dear local members I am seeking your support to be elected in one of the Local Board Member positions. I am a local performer here in the S.F. Bay Area. We need changes and we are not seeing any of that under the existing leadership. It's time to bring more work and opportunities to the large pool of talented performers that we have here in the Northern Region. I have the passion to help us make a change and it starts with new leadership.



## 30 / JANET DYER

I am bipartisan. My goal is to help you and to get all of us more jobs. I will fight for you and will vote to increase job opportunities for all of us. We all need to vote for our rights. We need to band together. There's safety in numbers, so please vote. It is so important. My commitment is to you. Please vote for me so that I may help you with more opportunities. Solidarity is powerful.



#### 31 / JON-MARK HURLEY

Fresh, informed, and energetic leadership needed: As a rapidly changing entertainment industry impacts employment for professional actors. All now poses complications to contracts as does a reactive, slow leadership nationally and locally negotiating with disregard for our needs. Exploring ideas, conversations broadening solutions rather than restricting them, and increasing activities calling inactive members back to pursuing their dreams are THE WAY FORWARD. Let's increase communication, create effective meet ups across SF/NorCal, bring SAG representation to SF/NORCAL Film Festivals, reach out to Film Schools and work with local governments to increase tax incentives bringing production opportunities. Local Board/Delegate.

# **LOCAL BOARD MEMBER – PERFORMER** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN TEN (10) - CONTINUED



32 / GEORGE ISON

SAG-AFTRA member in good standing since 1999. Served on the Communication/Conservatory board from 2015-2018. 2x Election committee member.



# 33 / JOSEPH MCGINLEY

I am honored to be a current board member finishing out my first term. It has been eye opening and challenging, especially during these times. We have made great strides over the recent two years in fighting for our members. I respectfully ask that you vote for me, as board member and delegate, so we can continue our work together in NorCal local toward fair wages, respectful treatment, and opportunity for all within SAG-AFTRA. Thank you. For more information about me, please see my Linkedin page <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/josephmcginley/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/josephmcginley/</a> or visit my iMdb page (Joseph McGinley)



**34 / MAHAL MONTOYA** No Statement.



## 35 / ANDREW NEIS

I'm a proud member of our SF local; I love our industry and working with the rest of you on shows in the Bay. I want to address problems that need fixing, including: Not enough Locals are hired. Roles only filmed up here are often still cast from LA. That's nonsense. My priorities are to help fix this problem. Actors, Stunts, Drivers, Background, doesn't matter, we are all local professional performers who are very good at our jobs. I want to promote a minimum local hire prerequisite which will save production money and create more jobs here in Northern California.



No Photo

# **CONVENTION DELEGATE / 2 YEAR TERM**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ELEVEN (11)

37. JEANETTE PAVINI

38. PHILLIP RAMIREZ

39. ARTURO RANGEL

**40. INGEBORG ALICE RUANO** 

41. MICCI TOLIVER

42. EDWARD VASGERSIAN

43. DON BLACK

**44. BOB BUTLER** 

**45. ROBERT CHESTNUT** 

**46. ANTHONY CISTARO** 

47. ROBERT CURÉ

**48. LEESHA DAVIS** 

49. FREDDIE DIAZ

50. JANET DYER

51. KATHRYN HOWELL

52. JON-MARK HURLEY

53. GEORGE ISON

54. RIKA LUNA

55. JOSEPH MCGINLEY

56. MAHAL MONTOYA

57. NEIL O'NEILL