



# Voter's Guide and Voting Instructions for the 2019 Chicago Local Election

July 15, 2019

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 August 28, 2019:

**Chicago Local President** - Charles Andrew Gardner;

Chicago Local Board Member (Wisconsin) - Allen D. Edge;

Chicago Local Board Member (Broadcast Category) - Catherine Brown, Craig Dellimore and Richard Steele;

Chicago Local Board Member (Actor/Performer Category) - John Carter Brown, Thea Camara, Tony Castillo, Greg Cervantez, Duke Czlonka, Ashley J Dearborn, George Elliot, Ilyssa Fradin, Kara S. Leigh, Kevin Lingle, Taylor Mallory, Tommy Martin,

Courtney Rioux, Steve Scholz, Michael Joseph Thomas Ward and Alma Washington



Before marking your ballot, please read the "Voting Instructions" on back of this guide. Following these instructions assures that your vote will be cast properly.

# NATIONAL BOARD MEMBER / 4 and 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN TWO (2)



### 01 / RICHARD SHAVZIN

MORE WORK. PROTECTING OUR PENSIONS. BETTER CONTRACTS. These are my top priorities for the actors and broadcasters of the Chicago Local. The Commercials contract was a major victory, but we must continue to recapture commercial and industrial work for union actors. I helped pass the Regional Codes that'll bring more work to every corner of the Local, and help more members earn a living, and qualify for healthcare and a pension. And the GAPP Committee has been instrumental in Congress finally updating the Qualified Performing Artist tax break. I fight for our members—please help me keep doing that.



## **02 / JOHN CARTER BROWN**

I am honored to serve you. I have negotiated every Commercials contract since 1997, going from antenna to digital. I helped write the White Paper creating Illinois' production tax incentive. In my years as a Pension and Health Trustee we increased pension payments, increased funds from \$2.5 to over \$4 Billion despite the economic crisis of 2008, and I championed Age and Service helping hundreds of members over forty, and their families, qualify for quality health care. As Trustee on the Industry Advancement Cooperative Fund I funded the KRC to employ our first full time employee. Asking for your vote.



### o<sub>3</sub> / ASHLEY J DEARBORN

As a local board member and 3rd Vice President, I have been honored to build on the spirit of our legacy unions. I desire to serve the members of our local on a national level in three distinct areas. ADVOCACY for equitable pay and working conditions for all on sets and in broadcast units in our local and to the national union. INFORMATION to members about contracts, resources and benefits. MOTIVATION to members to get involved and strengthen our union. As a national leader in a new decade together we can AIM to raise a stronger union. In Solidarity!



#### **04 / ILYSSA FRADIN**

I proudly serve as your current **SAG-AFTRA** National Board representative and National Officer. As a working performer, I know first hand the challenges we face. I'll continue to fight to organize and enforce union jobs, expand safer working conditions, safeguard our finances, and secure benefits. As a Vice Chair of the recent commercials negotiations, I helped create a progressive contract, creating more union opportunities. I serve on the President's Sexual Harassment subcommittee, where we've created policies that protect members. As a fierce advocate of all Chicago Local members, I ensure YOUR voice is heard. I appreciate your support.



#### **05 / NATALIE M. MEYER**

I have been a member of our union since 2001 as a stunt performer to the local Chicago Branch. I am proud of the talent we have in stunt performers, actors, voice over actors, background actors, singers and dancers, and our fabulous crews that we all work with. I want to be more involved on a national level to make sure that leadership knows the struggles and concerns members of all categories within this union have. I want to see the union move in a direction where spending is smart, pensions are strong, and **members come first!** 

# **VICE PRESIDENT** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN THREE (3)



#### o6 / COURTNEY RIOUX

In my two years serving as a board member, I've learned that it's important to be involved and to get other members involved. I've done this successfully by starting a Next Gen committee to get the younger generation of members involved, bringing in great content for our conservatories like workshops with Marlyne Barrett and Tony Howell, going to W&W's to bring ideas for new contracts, organizing more work with #adsgounion, co-leading Membership 101, and more. Join me! As a working actor, union volunteer, coach and teacher, I promise to help make this union stronger (with your help).



#### **07 / RICHARD SHAVZIN**

The incentive is safe—we can concentrate on better wages and working conditions for actors and broadcasters. We have the Regional Code to bring back lost union commercials. Broadcast organizing has scored major victories, but we need to bring union jobs back to where the Local's been ravaged by anti-union Right-To-Work laws. I'm proud to be our rep to the IL AFL-CIO, keeping SAG-AFTRA a visible and vocal part of the Illinois labor movement. And I'm very proud to have organized both the Gubernatorial and Mayoral Candidates Arts Forums, which the Local co-sponsored. Please help me keep fighting



#### **08 / REBECCA ANN CARVER**

As a union member I am running for election with two specific goals. The first and most important is to make sure our union is operating with fiscal responsibility and transparency. Second, I would like to see more benefits arranged and at no cost to the union or our members. Whether it is greater access to agents, casting directors, or just local discounts around our city and suburbs. I believe in our union and I care deeply about my fellow members. I would love the opportunity to elevate SAG-AFTRA and our experiences here in Chicago.



## o9 / ASHLEY J DEARBORN

I worked to build a stronger local through committees internally and collaborating with various labor and industry organizations externally. The highlight of my term has been to facilitate a meeting with national staff and members to stress the desire for coverage of TV/TH coverage as well as decent working conditions. We met with background casting directors also. I am a delegate to the Chicago Federation of Labor and the only member in a non covered area of National Background Actors Committee As VP, I will continue to advocate for members as we navigate through our constantly evolving and changing industry.



#### 10 / CRAIG DELLIMORE

Now, the Political Editor for WBBM Newsradio, I have been a Broadcaster at the station and a proud member of SAG-AFTRA (Previously AFTRA) for 35 years. I am a longtime member of the Chicago Local Board and was Local Board President for 8 years. I want to keep serving our membership and expanding the involvement--and cooperation--of Broadcasters, Actors, Performers and the broad spectrum of talents and skills that our powerful union represents.



#### 11 / DENISE JAECKEL

I've had your back for 20+ years, serving on Local and National Boards and Committees. Duel-card holder and a Local President pre-merger. Have been the Indiana Representative since merger and am amazed at the evolution of our union. Want to step back into an Executive Committee position and welcome new voices from Indiana. Organizing is the key to growth.

# **SECRETARY** / 2 YEAR TERM

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE (1)



#### 12 / MARTIN HALACY

I have been a local Board Member for the past nine years and have served as Secretary of our local for the past six years. I was a Delegate to the SAG-AFTRA National Convention in 2015 and would like to serve in that capacity again this year. I hope my experience will be of value in continuing the work I have been doing to advance the causes of our Union.



#### 13 / MICHAEL ISSAC

I've been a local board member for 4 years. I attended my first SAG•AFTRA Convention in 2017 as a delegate. I addressed all of the convention delegates regarding the importance of creating our own source of income with the technology and new media available to us; and not just depending on producers and advertisers. My goal is to pair the Chicago members who are producing content under our agreements with those members who solely want to act. In doing so, our local will lead the way in providing income opportunities "in house." Call me at 312-371-8532 to discuss further.

## **CONVENTION DELEGATE - 2 YEAR TERM**

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SIXTEEN (16)

14. JAMES PETREAN 15. TROY PRYOR

**16. COURTNEY RIOUX** 

17. RICHARD SHAVZIN

18. RICHARD STEELE

19. MICHAEL JOSEPH THOMAS WARD

**20. ALMA WASHINGTON** 

**21. CATHERINE BROWN** 

22. THEA CAMARA

23. TONY CASTILLO

24. ASHLEY J DEARBORN

25. ALLEN D. EDGE

26. ILYSSA FRADIN

27. MARTIN HALACY

28. MICHAEL ISSAC

29. DENISE JAECKEL

30. KARA S. LEIGH

31. KEVIN LINGLE

32. TOMMY MARTIN

33. NATALIE M. MEYER