



[www.rehearsalclubnyc.com](http://www.rehearsalclubnyc.com)

July 2025

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Dearest Members and Friends,

Wow! We Have Spectacular News! We have moved to a **handsomely renovated four-story brownstone** - a space that mirrors the style and spirit of our original midtown house. It's more than a building—it's a true home for our mission. We've achieved this miracle through the passion of volunteers, members and friends – and many who support us just because they are so impressed by The Rehearsal Club story.

Our vision is to secure the Rehearsal Club in perpetuity—with a capital campaign that will include estate planning and legacy gifts, to **insure that our doors will never again be closed**, so that the dreams of young talents can still become reality.

A new Board of Directors is now in place ready to start our new fiscal year with auspicious goals! With YOU, we will build a lasting legacy for an enormous sense of pride in the humanitarian work we are accomplishing.

Thank you for being part of the remarkable Rehearsal Club journey.

Onward!

*Gale*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A TRC CELEBRATION 11/19/25!**



An Enchanting Evening with  
Sandy Duncan in NYC

By Michele Mason



The wonderfully talented Sandy Duncan, star of Broadway, television and film - and TRC Alum - appeared on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Laurie Beechman Theatre at the West Bank Café. Appearing in a fascinating conversation and Q & A session with interviewer par excellence, Michael Portantieri, longtime member of the Drama Desk.

It was a full house at the newly renovated Laurie Beechman, filled with excitement and many of Sandy's theatre colleagues, friends and fans – and a number of our Rehearsal Club family. **Kathy Conry** and **Nancy Wight**, who lived at the Club same time as Sandy. Also, **Denise Pence**, **Michele Mason**, and **Mary Lou Barber**. Sandy spoke of the Club, and knew we were there cheering her on!

As Sandy sat stage left with Michael, on high back stools, the audience listened intently to many fascinating stories spanning Sandy's life and career. She was engaging, spontaneous, poignant, and funny. Sandy and Michael were perfect together, great rapport.

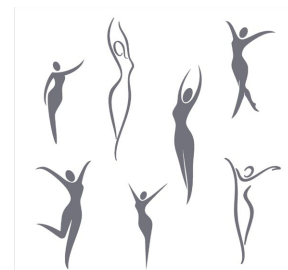
And there were incredible video clips shown center stage. Videos from Broadway's *Peter Pan*, and the scene where Peter teaches the Darling children how to fly – it was exhilarating! Sandy soared! It was also a beautiful moment to see Marcia Kramer, Alum and friend, as Wendy.

Videos complimented the stories. An incredible TV video was *10 Cents a Dance*, where we saw Sandy's remarkable skill as a dancer – dancing with her “future” husband Don Correia – who was also there at the Beechman, charming and funny in helping with the audience Q & A's.

It was a fun and fabulous evening with Sandy, Michael and a lively audience of theatre lovers. Thank you, Sandy! We're flying!



## ALUMS IN ACTION



**Sunny Keyser**, pictured at left, is still singing with the 92nd Street Chorus.



**Linda Cool** is enrolled full time at the Art Students League working in Mixed Media. She is still traveling to Italy, South Carolina and Pennsylvania. Also going to the theater and socializing with friends like Remy, with Linda at right.



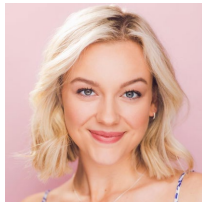
**Annie O'Donnell** just finished an independent horror film called *Relapse*, directed by Bret Easton Ellis. Annie plays the grandmother of the lead.



Recently discovered in a storage box: a previously lost piece of 60-year-old 16mm film of **Virginia Wing**'s performance on CBS's 1964-65 TV series, *On Broadway Tonight*. Watch it here by clicking the button below. Virginia is also involved in a documentary shining a light on Asian American stories.



**Virginia Wing, *On Broadway Tonight***






























**Kelsey Lepesko** has been diving into training with Actor Therapy, Broadway Dance Center, and private voice lessons, while auditioning as a proud client of Bloc Agency. She's thrilled to be hitting the stage at 54 Below this July 9<sup>th</sup> with Actor Therapy!

**54**  
BELOW

Jul 9  
9:30 PM

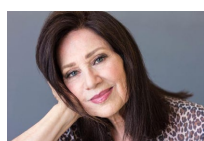
# LINDSAY MENDEZ & RYAN SCOTT OLIVER'S ACTOR THERAPY

Use code **ACTORS5** for **\$5 OFF** Main Dining Room and Bar Rail cover charge.  
There is a \$25 food/beverage minimum



**Beth Ann Kennedy** will once again be presenting *Bending Toward The Light* a Jazz Nativity, December 22 in NYC. Anyone interested in volunteering or being in the chorus is encouraged to get in touch with Beth, at her email: [bethann.bzn@gmail.com](mailto:bethann.bzn@gmail.com)



**Christopher Callen** has been busy filming a Christmas movie, *Music City Mistletoe*, in Nashville



**Diane Findlay** is conducting a Master Class with Natalie Wilson and Joe Baker at The Green Room. Follow the link provided below for more information:

[nataliewilson.com/cabaret-class](http://nataliewilson.com/cabaret-class)



**Residents In Action**





### *Extra Crispy*

We couldn't be more proud of our Resident **Alyssa Payne**, whose one-woman show, *Extra Crispy*, was a huge hit on April 30 at Joe's Pub at the Public Theatre. For those of you who've asked, or those who would just like to watch, click the link above for the livestream of the show, and **Congratulations, Alyssa!**



## Every Once In A While, TRC Shows Up On YouTube!

TRC's rebirth has been featured recently on The Libby Show and on CBS News New York, both featuring *Cinderellas of West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street* and interviews with **Denise Pence**. Click either (or both!) button below to watch.

The Libby Show

CBS News New York



# *The Rehearsal Club*

*Truth*



*Or  
Fiction*

At TRC in her early 20's, this Alum graduated from The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, and studied with the famous Stella Adler and the even more famous Lee Strasburg. Many bigtime opportunities came her way. Casting agent Marion Dougherty of Screen Gems TV offered her an episode in two different TV series, saying it was how a newcomer is

introduced. Dougherty was responsible for launching many stars' success, including Robert Redford, Glenn Close and Robert De Niro, to name just a few. Joe Reich of Universal Studio Films set up a plan for her to be introduced to audiences in a feature film. She refused these offers. Later, she was offered the national tour of *Irma La Douce*. Meeting with TRC roommates in the parlor, she decided to refuse that job as well.

Is this Truth or Fiction? True True True. The multi-talented Alum is **Maria Mallman**, our TRC Historian Extraordinaire! Her decisions were based on her self knowledge of what path was best for her. New York City was where she wanted to be, and she had the courage to follow her NYC dreams. Moving to the West Coast and touring the USA were not part of her plan. When she called the David Merrick office to turn down *Irma La Douce*, Maria told them, "This is New York City. I just got here, so why would I want to leave it?"



## Sister Organization Casting Now!



Denise Pence, currently serving on the Episcopal Actors' Guild's Council, joined its Short Play Committee for the express purpose of watching out for TRC's non-Equity Residency Women when casting commenced on this Short Play Festival's fundraising challenge.

After weeks of reading short plays, voting to filter the best of the best, only EAG

members will be privy to non-union casting auditions (if needed) via their EAG Facebook Group page. Many of TRC's members, who also joined EAG, will be tasked to help watch out for casting that just might be perfect for some of our non-union women! That's what we do, right? Mentor and help our women get seen!

Cast will receive comps; tickets will be \$25. For more information, visit [EAG's website](#).



# THE REHEARSAL CLUB RESIDENCY PROGRAM



## **Become a TRC Member!**

For those working or retired from the performing or fine arts, a \$50 annual fee to this historic organization supports young artists and sustains our nationally recognized legacy.

### **Benefits of TRC Membership:**

- Monthly & Members-only Newsletters
- Invitations to Members' occasions & public events
- Extraordinary networking amongst like-minded spirits
- Workshops and seminars

### **Through TRC Alliances:**

- Discount tickets to performances in NYC and other major cities.
- Special prices on hotels, airfares, rental cars.
- Special invitations to events

For arts lovers and believers in our mission, a \$100 annual fee as a TRC **SUSTAINER** provides most benefits of General Membership and supports our 110-year history of excellence.

For further information, please write to: [info@rehearsalclubnyc.com](mailto:info@rehearsalclubnyc.com)  
Go to: [www.rehearsalclubnyc.com](http://www.rehearsalclubnyc.com).

The Rehearsal Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit; all contributions are tax deductible.

**Donate to TRC**



Join **One Hope Wine** on their mission to give back to local and global organizations with 10% of every purchase donated directly to a cause of your choice. With over \$9 million donated to date, they continue to change the world one glass at a time.

Check out One Hope at the link below. You can designate TRC as the recipient of 10% of your purchase by clicking the link at the top of the home page.

**One Hope Wine**



***Goings On Is Bi-Monthly***

Text submissions should be Microsoft Word documents,  
150 words or fewer, and include photos, links and pertinent information.  
The deadline for the September issue is August 10, 2025.

Please note the address for newsletter submissions: [info@rehearsalclubnyc.com](mailto:info@rehearsalclubnyc.com)



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