



March 2025

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Kate West, Editor

President's Message

Celebrating Harbingers of Spring: A Season of Renewal and Achievement

As we welcome the first signs of spring, we're reminded of the beautiful cycle of growth, change, and celebration that defines us. In this newsletter, we honor four extraordinary women who embody The Rehearsal Club spirit of resilience, tenacity and creativity, from one generation to all those that follow.

On March 18, TRC Alum **Marie Iversen Howard** will mark her 98th birthday at home in Montreal - a remarkable milestone for a woman whose joyful spirit continues to inspire. At the other end of the spectrum, TRC Resident **Alyssa Payne** will debut her original one-woman show *Extra Crispy* at the Public Theatre next month on April 30th.

In the middle we are racing to buy tickets for March 20-22 for *NO U-TURNS A.D.*, the original musical created by Alum **Francine Mancini**.

These three milestone achievements are a testament to the enduring power of the amazing individuals who make our Rehearsal Club community thrive.

We are a living, breathing and vital organization for so many! Here's to a spring of exciting beginnings, fresh energy and unwavering dedication to the TRC values we all hold dear.



Gale Paton

BREAKING NEWS
NO U-TURNS A.D.
March 20, 21, 22

THE FAMILY REPERTORY COMPANY
RISING PHEONIX PRODUCTIONS
AND
FRANCINE MANCINI

PRESENT

DIRECTOR
JENNIFER GELFER

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
TOM SPANN

TECH
KITT BLESSING

STARRING
MICHELE MAIS
SARIAH
FRANCINE MANCINI

THE BAND
TERRY EPSY
LYNDA G
JOHN HOLLAND
MARIA TRIOLO



MARCH 20 AND 21
7:00
MARCH 22
2:00 AND 7:00
TICKETS \$30 IN
ADVANCE
\$40 AT THE DOOR

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
81 CHRISTOPHER
STREET
NY, NY

MORE INFO:
212-496-0251

WHAT DO 3 WOMEN OF A "CERTAIN AGE"
DO WHEN GOING THROUGH DIVORCE?

THEY FORM A ROCK BAND!!

<https://app.promotix.com/events/details/NO-U-TURNS-A-D--tickets>

Francine Mancini, TRC Alum, former President and Board member's musical, *NO U-Turns A.D.*, directed by TRC Alum Jennifer Gelfer and starring TRC Member Michele Mais, will be presented March 20-22 at St John's Lutheran Church at 81 Christopher Street in Greenwich Village.

NO U-TURNS A.D. is a coming of age story, in reverse! What do 3 women of a certain age do when they're going through a divorce? They form a rock band! Witness their experiences and laugh and cry along with them while they rock out.

Readers' Corner

The Rehearsal Club

For Teens by Kate Fodor



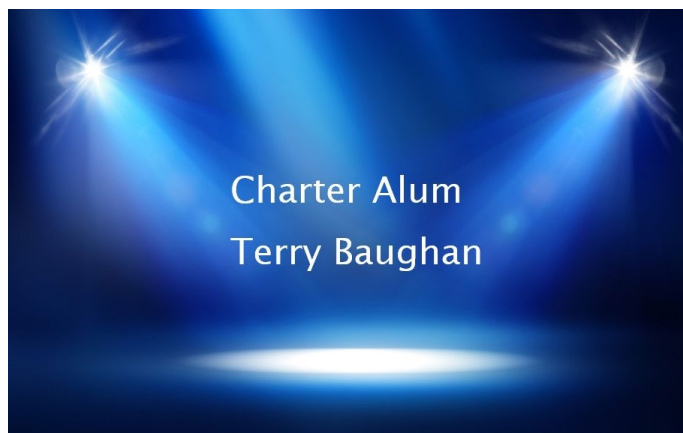
Kate Fodor has written a mystery which spans decades of the Rehearsal Club in a story of sisterhood, friendship and following your dreams under marquee lights.

Kate has worked on the Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winning series *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, and has written for Netflix's *Living with Yourself* and HBO's *Julia*.

Thank you Kate, for such a lovely book. Click the link below to see an interview with Kate about the book

[Kate Fodor Interview](#)

Spotlight On...



By Charter Alum Denise Pence



We know The Rehearsal Club has become steeped in history since 1913, and since we've now grown exponentially beyond our wildest expectations, in honor of Women's History Month, we thought it important to shine a light on one of our women who helped make us who we are today.

Meet **Terry Baughan**, the very first Treasurer of our Steering Committee and brander of our fledgling organization. If you have our book *Cinderellas of West*

53rd Street and read her stories, *Prairie Justice* and *Hey! Me Too*, you'll get to know her wit, wisdom and sardonic take on humanity. She is one of a kind and we are all grateful to call her our "sista."

By the time we hit our Centennial in 2013, Terry's ability to organize not only our accounting books, but our Centennial Journal, was a gift from the Gods. Our four days of events (see the last chapter in the Cinderella Book) climaxed with dinner and entertainment at The Players (NY). The event unfolded like a perfectly designed Swiss watch.

As **Michele Mason** says in her weekly TRC Meditation, we are all interconnected. We champion Terry for all she did to help keep The Rehearsal Club legacy alive!

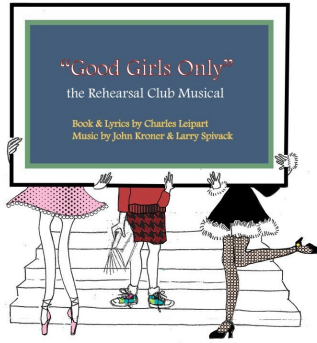
HAPPY PISCES BIRTHDAY, TERRY!



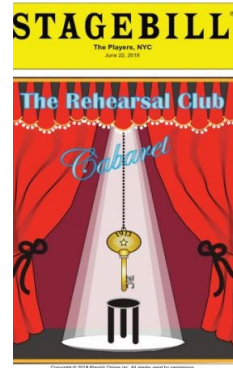
Original Newsletter Banner



Website logo with MOMA in the background



Good Girls Only was our first staged reading



Cabaret Program was our 105th Anniversary

Happy Birthday To Marie Iversen Howard

TRC Charter Alum **Marie Iversen Howard** will celebrate her 98th birthday on March 18. Marie sent us an email just last month from her home in Montreal, recalling her great times and friends at the Club. She says she's pleased to be one of TRC's "Golden Girls"

She also sent some wonderful photos from her time at TRC in the 1940's. How lucky we are to have such a long and faithful history with so many wonderful women!



Marie and Patsy Roberts
New York City
1949



Marie, Patsy Roberts and Elianor Pechulis,
New York City
1949



Marie, Gus Ravey, Joan Bishop, Alden Shute and Kitty Clark
NYC 1947



Vada Ward McFadden and her husband



Ann Wickham



Bibi Osterwald Clark



Joan Bishop



Katherine "Kitty" Clark Johnson

Residency News

Broadway Blockbuster's Cabaret

Congratulations to **Faith Olson**, who gave a stunning performance at Broadway Blockbuster's Cabaret along with the graduating class of *Circle In the Square Theater School*. Faith served as Master of Ceremonies with her puppet Addie and sang a well-received rendition of *Tomorrow* from the musical *Annie*.

Maybe This Time

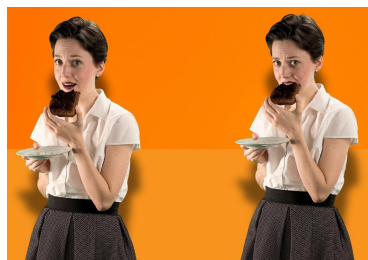
Blythe Lockwood was honored to perform a dream role of hers by singing *Maybe This Time* from the musical *Cabaret*. Sally Bowles is one of many dream characters Blythe hopes to perform in her bright future. She would like to thank @ItsmejulieB productions for this gracious opportunity. She is excited to continue performing and auditioning to secure her dream roles in the big city.

Brian O'Neil Workshop

The Residents had the wonderful opportunity to be a part of an insightful workshop hosted by the brilliant Brian O'Neil. Brian first worked with the residents on monologues, giving tips for future castings and auditions. He also presented a two-hour session based on his successful book *Acting As A Business*. The Residents gained in-depth knowledge of the show business world and how to be effectively persistent in the industry.

ALYSSA PAYNE DEBUTS

EXTRA CRISPY



Join TRC Resident **Alyssa Payne**, performer, composer, and creator of *Extra Crispy*, for an unforgettable (and sometimes awkward) evening as she dives into the chaotic, exhausting, and often hilarious journey of being a young adult and burned-out artist in 2025.

With all-original music, Alyssa explores the struggle of balancing big dreams with self-doubt, and the pressure to keep going when everything feels like it's falling apart.

This one-woman show is both a heartfelt and a humorous exploration of what it means to be "in progress" as a creator, and is a hope-filled reminder that even when life says "stop," the artist inside can still find the strength to keep writing, keep creating, and keep moving forward.

With wit, vulnerability and a touch of piano magic, Alyssa invites you into her story, where you might just find the courage to keep writing your own.

One Night Only, April 30, at 7 and 9 pm

Joe's Pub at the Public Theater NYC.

Tickets available now through the link below.

Extra Crispy



2025 THEME "Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations"

By Charter Alum Maria Mallman

In 1848, a Women's Rights Convention was held by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott in Seneca Falls, NY. The agreed upon outcome was a publication of sixteen demands of rights known as a Declaration of Sentiment. However, not until 1909 was a National Women's **DAY** declared in America.

The progression from DAY to WEEK to MONTH began when President Jimmy Carter, in 1980, proclaimed March 2-8 National Women's History WEEK, and in 1987, when Congress declared there should be a celebration every March for Women's History MONTH.

However, I would be remiss to have not mentioned an activist/women's rights advocate, Clara Zetkin, of Germany. In 1910, Clara organized a Conference of Working Women to be held in Copenhagen. On the agenda was her promotion that a Women's Rights DAY should be celebrated internationally. Those attendees - from many European countries - went home to do just that.

I mention the above goings-on in Europe because it was that which caught the attention of California educators in 1978 and inspired them to expand the celebration throughout the school district of Sonoma County. Various events were planned, including a parade through downtown Santa Rosa, CA.

Today, whether the celebration lasts a day, week or month, nationally or internationally, there is no question that we women of TRC Corporation (with it's merger of Rehearsal Club Alumnae) also identify as Women's Rights Advocates in celebration.

News From Our Alliances

**OFF THE
/ LANE**



What better way to host an evening of creativity and connection than VISION BOARDSSSS! Off The Lane is hosting a FREE **Artist Mix & Mingle** event where artists can gather, collaborate, and set their intentions for 2025. Whether you're mapping out your artistic goals or dreaming up new life experiences, we've got everything you need to craft your perfect vision board.

Off The Lane will provide all the materials—just bring your ideas and an open mind! This is the perfect opportunity to mingle with fellow artists, exchange ideas, and manifest your vision for the rest of the year ahead.

WHEN & WHERE
Thursday, March 13th @7pm
[Meaux Space](#) in NYC
305 7th Ave, 17th Floor

Alcoholic/non-alcoholic drinks will be available for purchase at the event! All proceeds will go towards supporting OTL artists.

Free RSVP by clicking the link below.

RSVP

We're Having A Party!
Save The Date
April 23, 7:00 pm





Our next wondrous PJ Party is scheduled on Thursday, March 6, from 6 pm to 7 pm EST. This is such a great opportunity for former residents of The Rehearsal Club to meet and explore that special time together. Old friends can reconnect, and there are many new discoveries about the Club past and present. Please know all are welcome. PJ Parties are held every month on the 2nd of the month. A very fun time!

Meeting ID: 853 7313 5542

Passcode: 924386

[Join Our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

Vintage

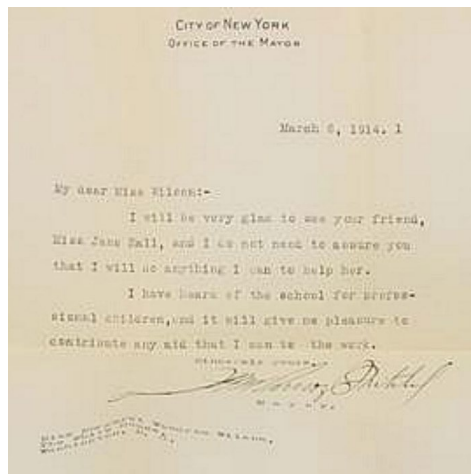
By TRC Historian Maria Mallman

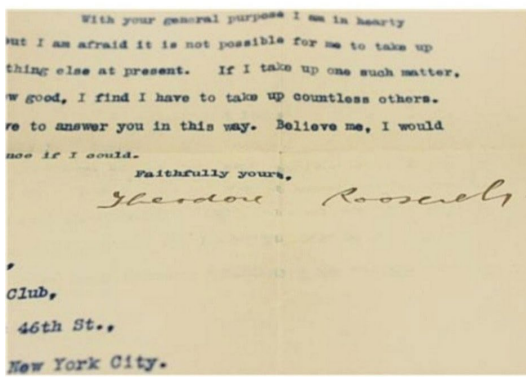
The original Episcopal Deaconess of The Rehearsal Club was Jane Harris Hall. After she passed on, all of her personal letters went to an Ohio auction house and sold in 2017 for the paltry sum of \$10-50 for each lot. My heart breaks that the auction house sent notice of the sale one week later. I certainly would have bought! Unfortunately, I was unable to obtain the names of the purchasers in order to negotiate a private sale. All I could do was to access photos of that prior offering as it went out to prospective buyers.

The point of forwarding these auction house photos is to support how active our dear Episcopal Deacon was in her efforts to keep The Rehearsal Club doors open.

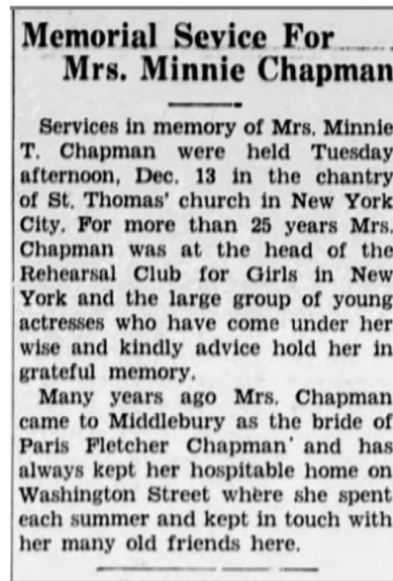


**AUTOGRAPHED LETTER FROM
JOHN PURROY MITCHEL, MAYOR
OF NEW YORK FROM 1914-1917
- From The Collection Of Letters
To Jane Hall**





Autographed letter from Theodore Roosevelt



Obituary of Minnie T. Chapman, former head of The Rehearsal Club



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](#)

Have you paid your dues for 2025?

Time flies and the calendar flips, and with all on our plates sometimes something that is such a part of us gets forgotten or overlooked! If you have paid your 2025 dues, we thank you! If you aren't sure, please check your records or drop us a line, and we will let you know. It means so very much to TRC to have a strong active roster! We are all in this together and grateful for each one's continued support!

Current Residents \$25.00
All Alums \$35.00
General Members (non-alums) \$50.00

Renew today: <https://secure.anedot.com/the-rehearsal-club/membershiprenewal>

Note: Previously recurring dues charges on Anedot will be increased automatically unless otherwise directed.

If you prefer, you can renew by check to:

The Rehearsal Club
c/o Mancini - Suite 934
2350 Broadway
New York, NY 10024

Send your questions to: Membershipdirector@rehearsalclubnyc.com

TRC MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to telling the story of The Rehearsal Club, preserving its legacy, inspiring and supporting future generations of young artists.

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

Go to: www.rehearsalclubnyc.com.

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

Goings On Is Now Bi-Monthly

Text submissions should be Microsoft Word documents,
150 words or fewer, and include photos, links and pertinent information.

The deadline for the May issue is April 10, 2025.

Please note the new address for newsletter
submissions: newslettersinfo@rehearsalclubnyc.com

The Rehearsal Club
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New York, NY 10024
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