



The Actors' Fund of Canada
The lifeline for Canada's entertainment industry

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Dear Friends:

I wanted to take a moment to introduce the Actors' Fund of Canada to those of you who don't know about it and give you some background on the curtain speeches and collections from audience members that the theatre is generously allowing us to do at your show.

The Actors' Fund is the lifeline for Canada's entertainment industry. It provides encouragement and short-term financial aid to help entertainment industry workers maintain their health, housing and ability to work after an illness, injury or sudden unemployment. And it's not just for actors: the Fund helps performers, creators, technicians and other members of creative and production teams working in theatre, film & television, music and dance.

A career in the entertainment industry seems like a dream come true for many people. The all too frequent reality is that entertainment professionals face a precarious livelihood after years spent perfecting and practicing their crafts. The Fund believes that the risks that Canadian artists take as they create some of the finest live and recorded productions in the world should be recognized, valued and supported by all Canadians.

Since it was founded more than 50 years ago, financial aid from Fund has helped over 10,000 talented people to turn their lives around. In fact, the Fund has delivered over \$600,000 in rent or mortgage payments, grocery money, utility payments, health care expenses and other basic living expenses to entertainment industry workers and their families over the past 12 months and over \$3.7 million in the last 10 years.

The Actors' Fund receives no government funding and is wholly sustained by support from individuals and entertainment industry organizations. That's why your participation in the curtain speech campaign is so important – the Fund is an expression of the good will of artists (and those who appreciate their work), who look after each other so that our whole community can be stronger.

Best wishes for a great run! And thanks in advance for your participation in the curtain speeches.

Break a leg!

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