

Overture

online

2nd Annual

AFM LOCAL **47** **JAZZ**
FESTIVAL

“This is triumphant music.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from his address to the 1964 Berlin Jazz Festival

*Three-day concert series during Jazz Appreciation Month
2024*

FREE ADMISSION!

Inside the Pit at the
96th Academy Awards

Spring Membership Drive:
Spread the Word!

Overture

online

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Linda A. Rapka

AFM LOCAL
47

Message From the Editor

Please be aware that until further notice, AFM Local 47 will not be publishing, due to cost-saving measures, a print Overture Magazine. We will continue to publish our monthly digital e-magazine, Overture Online, and will continue email blasts and our Local 47 Beat email newsletter.

In order to better serve you, Local 47 is looking at every possible way to cut costs and save on administrative expenses. One simple yet effective step all members can take to help us reduce expenses is to add your current email address to your Directory profile. This allows us to ensure that you receive timely updates from Local 47 in the most cost-effective way possible.

Please update your Directory profile with your current email and notification preferences by filling out the update form at afm47.org/directory or call 323.993.3159. Thank you!

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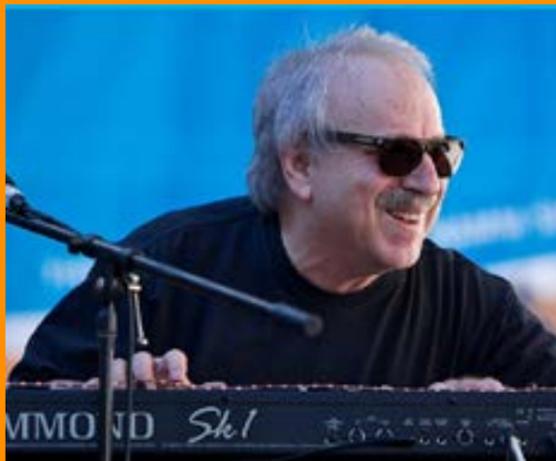
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President Stephanie O'Keefe



What can we learn from Duke Ellington?

Not only is April Jazz Appreciation Month – as designated by the Smithsonian in 2001 – but this year we are also celebrating the 125th anniversary of the birth of Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington.

A wise man, a consummate musician, and an extremely influential force in the world of music, Duke Ellington also possessed great insight into art and creativity.

I was fortunate to see Ellington and his orchestra live just a few years before his death, an experience I will never forget. And in reading about him recently, I was struck by his insights and what they could mean for us today.

We find ourselves at a time in which there is tremendous pressure to give away or sell short our products – technology has developed to the point that our profession is subject to the global economy and recordings can be made quickly and cheaply, almost anywhere.

There are legions of talented musicians and I often hear variations of, “If I don’t do it for that price, someone else will.”

How, then, do we prevent employers from devaluing not only our products, but the people who create them?

First, we must stand together. And to do so, we must remember that all of us, no matter where we perform or what kind of music we’re making, are motivated by the same artistic impulse. Best stated by Ellington, “Music, of course, is what I hear and what I live by. It’s not an occupation or a profession, it’s a compulsion.”

Ellington also strikes down the lines of demarcation that in the past have served not only to define genres, but to separate musicians:

“It is becoming increasingly difficult to decide where jazz starts or where it stops, where Tin Pan Alley begins and jazz ends, or even where the borderline lies between classical music and jazz. I feel there is no boundary line.”

It is vitally important for us to reach across genres, across generations, across any and all of our differences and realize that we are all musicians, pursuing, as Ellington so wisely stated, “...the tonal reflection of beauty.”

For when we stand together, we are powerful. And while the task before us – to ensure that not only music, but its creators, are valued – may sometimes seem long and arduous, Ellington, again, says it best:

“There are 2 rules in life:

“Number 1: Never quit.

“Number 2: Never forget rule number 1.”

- Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington

April 29, 1899 – May 24, 1974

Vice President Marc Sazer



What do the movies “Gray Man,” “Invasion,” “Purple Hearts” and “Rebel Moon” have in common? Together, they received \$43.5 million dollars in California film/TV tax credits – and they were all scored overseas. And that’s just films released in one year!

You might remember that leading up to 2017, Local 47 and RMA Los Angeles worked together on a campaign to bring good scoring jobs home, and keep our tax dollars from running overseas. Working with labor unions and legislators in Sacramento, we helped write adjusted language and regulations in the tax credit bill.

Unfortunately, those changes didn’t work. Companies continue to take our tax dollars to London, Budapest, Vienna and elsewhere, and any semblance of transparency in the process has diminished dramatically.

The major studios are now planning for even larger tax subsidies, both here in California, in other states and provinces, and from the U.S. Government. 2025 will undoubtedly see a major push by the companies for deeper handouts, especially in the post-strike era. Now’s the time for musicians to begin planning to campaign for our fair share.

Speaking of “Fair Share,” while we are still celebrating the tremendous new streaming residual victory in our film/TV contracts, our AFM Live TV/ Videotape Agreement comes up for renegotiation in October. We are already working with the AFM on forming committees, planning a broad democratic survey process, and reaching out to musicians who have worked under this contract... stay tuned for more!

April is Jazz Appreciation Month, and Local 47 is thrilled to be presenting our second annual Jazz Festival. While jazz has been central to the development of music both here in the U.S. and around the world, it has played a special role in film and television from the beginning. Yet for decades, scoring or performing jobs in network TV and motion picture scoring were primarily for white men only. Two of our own Local 47 leaders of the past served as pioneers for change. Marl Young (1917-2009), who served on our Executive Board for many years, was the bandleader on “The Lucy Show” beginning in 1967, the first Black bandleader for a network show. And Buddy Collette (1921-2010) was hired to perform in the band for Groucho Marx’s “You Bet Your Life” beginning in 1952. Buddy also went on to serve on our Local 47 Executive Board. Both Marl and Buddy played pivotal roles in the successful amalgamation of the old segregated Locals 47 and 767. Almost all other AFM Locals discarded segregation only by virtue of court order or AFM orders. In city after city, Black Locals and their resources were absorbed unfairly into the previously whites-only Locals, and we were no exception, but the voluntary breaking down of walls was still celebrated as a great step forward. Musicians of all types here in L.A. had banded together, organized, and succeeded in amalgamating voluntarily.

This is a wonderful reminder that we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. Generations of Local 47 musicians have gathered together, made common cause, and created change. Being part of our union means pitching in, participating, and helping build our shared future together.

Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand



“Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.”

- Dolores Huerta, labor leader and civil rights activist

This famous quote hangs on the wall in my office and is a daily source of inspiration.

It's no secret that both private and public sector union membership has been on the decline in this country since the 1970s. Federal and state government efforts to undermine the ability of unions to organize and collectively bargain on behalf of their members have harmed our society. We have not seen such income inequality in this country since the “Gilded Age” of over a hundred years ago. Wealth has accumulated in the hands of too few while the rest of us are left to wonder how we will be able to afford food, shelter and education beyond public schools. Collectively we have amassed over \$1 trillion in credit card debt. Our Federal government is staggering under \$34 trillion in gross national debt while billionaires pay little to no income taxes.

Would any of us argue with the concept that all people should have equal rights, opportunity and treatment? Today, our unions stand for fair treatment, fair pay and protections under the law for all working people and union approval ratings are the highest that we've seen since the 1960s.

In a recent poll conducted by the AFL-CIO, an overwhelming majority of registered voters supported union labor and strikes. In a demographic breakdown, the under age 30 group has an 88% approval of labor unions and a 90% support for strikes. Organized labor's future is bright!

What does this mean for us? We're musicians. We're artists. All true. We're not making cars, steel, delivering mail, teaching or cleaning hotel rooms but we work. Our work provides us with the ability to afford food, shelter, education and maybe an occasional vacation or enrichment activities for our children, just like other workers.

In the past year musicians stood with striking WGA and SAG-AFTRA members, picketed with hotel workers and supported others through our membership in the L.A. County Federation of Labor. We have countless opportunities to stand up for social and economic justice by participating in our union.

Congratulations on your membership in AFM Local 47. Membership numbers = power. But that is just the beginning. While the participation of thousands of other musicians over the past decades has brought us where we are today, only your activism will carry us into and shape our future. What change do you envision for our Local? How can our Local help support you today in ways that will sustain you into the future? We need to have these conversations and more in a meaningful way. Slogans such as “stronger together” and “union power” won't ensure the future of our union but your participation and involvement will. Not the other person reading this, but YOU!

Our administration is making real efforts to both support labor and expand conversations within our community. Our Local stands for way more than just contract enforcement.

Local 47 members participated in a recent LA County Federation of Labor “door knocking” action to gather signatures to qualify an initiative on poverty, homelessness and affordable housing for the ballot in November.

Our rehearsal rooms are now available for rental by non-members at rates higher than those for members, with the goal of expanding our reach to all musicians. If you haven't seen them yet please give me a call and we'll arrange a tour of our facilities.

With our [Second Annual Jazz Festival](#) we will open our doors to the public in a series of three free concerts featuring members of our community. Bring your family and invite your friends for afternoons of live music! Thanks to the [Music Performance Trust Fund](#), musicians are paid fairly and people get to experience great performances. What could be better?

Next month we will host our first [“Member Mingle,”](#) which we hope will become a regular event. It's on April 19 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in our rehearsal room area. Stop by for conversation, coffee (bagels too) and make some new friends. We look forward to seeing you there.

Later this Spring we are planning a “Member Mingle” out in the desert. Shout-out to Charles Peery who brought an issue of disconnectedness to me and the result of our brainstorming was to create an event for our members in the desert. We're in early planning stages so if you want to join the team please email me at gail.kruvand@afm47.org.

Please note that our next General Membership Meeting/Annual Musicians' Club Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m. in our Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place. You will hear about what's going on with our Local and be a part of the conversation.

Our Executive Board members have heard me on my soapbox regarding participation and involvement. While we may or may not have broad political disagreements, let's work together to identify and advance our common goals. We have the power to affect change by showing up for conversations, membership meetings and other opportunities for activism as a part of the labor movement. If you believe, as I do, that “90% of life is showing up,” then answer the call to participate, whenever and wherever it arises. You can and will make a difference; “... every minute a chance to change the world.”

DO WE HAVE ROYALTIES FOR YOU?



More than \$650 Million Distributed to Musicians & Vocalists

Royalties Distributed to Both Union & Non-Union Session Musicians & Vocalists For
Their Performance on Songs Played on Satellite Radio, Non-Interactive Streaming Services,
Webcasts, Other Digital Formats and Certain Music Performed on Film & Television

Find Out If We Have Royalties For You

www.afmsagaatrafund.org

AFM & SAG-AFTRA
Intellectual Property Rights Distribution Fund

p. 818.255.7980 | f. 818.255.7985

www.afmsagaatrafund.org



The AFM & SAG-AFTRA IPRD Fund is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization - est. 1998

2nd Annual

AFM LOCAL

47

JAZZ FESTIVAL

"This is triumphant music."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from his address to the 1964 Berlin Jazz Festival

Three-day concert series during Jazz Appreciation Month
April 14 April 21 April 28

FREE ADMISSION!



"This music is about freedom, about movement, about creativity, about joy, about pain, and about ultimately setting one's spirit free. Jazz musicians are an essential part of our culture, and we in Los Angeles are incredibly blessed to include in our community many world-class practitioners of this great art form."

- AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe



Snapshots from the inaugural AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival, April 2023

This free concert series, generously co-sponsored by the Music Performance Trust Fund, will take place over three Sundays on April 14, 21 and 28 in our Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place.

Sunday, April 14

- 1:00 PM Igor Kogan Jazz Quintet
- 2:00 PM The Lou Forestieri Trio featuring Corliss Dale
- 3:00 PM Pete Myers Orchestra
- 4:00 PM West Coast Jazz Hour Big Band

Sunday, April 21

- 1:00 PM Perino's NoHo 7
- 2:00 PM Aaron Janik Group
- 3:00 PM Ladd McIntosh Jazz Orchestra
- 4:00 PM Brass Attitude Big Band

Sunday, April 28

- 1:00 PM Mark Towns Latin Jazz Band
- 2:00 PM Adam Hersh Jazz Sextet
- 3:00 PM Dennis Mitcheltree Quintet
- 4:00 PM Brian Swartz and the Swartzestra

We look forward to seeing you there!

AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



Jon Hammond

Organist/Accordionist

"When I first joined in 1976, it wasn't a choice, it was mandatory on a lot of gigs. Lou Colombo marched me in before two guys that looked like mafia guys — they said to my 23-year-old self, 'So you wanna join the union?! Play a C scale.' On the upright piano there, I zipped it off — they said, 'You're in!'"

"Now I belong to three Locals — 802, 47 and 6 — and am a vested member receiving a monthly pension. Still very active at 71, I tell all the young musicians I meet and who have played in my bands to join up. First of all, your parents will be proud you made the commitment to meet and play with other serious professional musicians.

"To musicians who've dropped out and say, 'Oh I was in and the union never gave me any gigs,' I tell them, the union is not there to give you gigs — you get out what you put in. A lot of things have changed now and still changing; give it a chance and become involved. I'm living proof that a cat who ran away from home with his accordion at age 15 can eventually get to be a vested member, at my age a modest pension can be a big help.

"I have personally recruited new members and also got some musicians to re-join. We need membership — strength in numbers — and there's a lot of good things going on now 'post-pando.'"

"I know I'm supposed to give a brief answer to this question — anyone who wants to contact me, I have a lot more to say and I want to hear from other musicians; I'm easy to contact! One more thing: Whenever I see a musician carrying an instrument case, I ask them, 'Where's the Gig?'"

*- Jon Hammond, Organist/Accordionist
Member since 1976*



*Photo by Elmar Lemes / SieLS-images
Jon Hammond and the late Bob Cunningham (bass)
at AFM Local 802, New York City, August 2012.*

- twitter.com/HammondCast
 - facebook.com/hammondcast
 - instagram.com/jonhammondband
- Email: jonhammond@jonhammondband.com

"The Fingers are The Singers!"™



AFM LOCAL 47 #WhyUnion?



AFM Local 47's #WhyUnion? campaign features members from every part of our profession, answering in their own words, this question: "Why Union?"

Read member testimonials, and share your own answer, at WhyUnion.org.

General Membership Meeting



NOTE NEW DATE

**Tuesday
April 23
7:30pm**

Open to
members in
good standing

View the agenda
& RSVP at
afm47.org/gmm

Open to all AFM Local 47 members in good standing

On the Agenda (subject to change):

- Presentation of 50-Year Pins
- Officer Reports
- Old and New Business

**MUSICIANS' CLUB OF LOS ANGELES
ANNUAL MEETING**

Immediately following General Membership Meeting
*All members of AFM Local 47 are also members of
the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles*

Fifty (50) members constitutes a quorum to conduct business at Local 47 General Membership Meetings. Nine (9) members constitutes a quorum for regular and special meetings of the Musicians' Club.

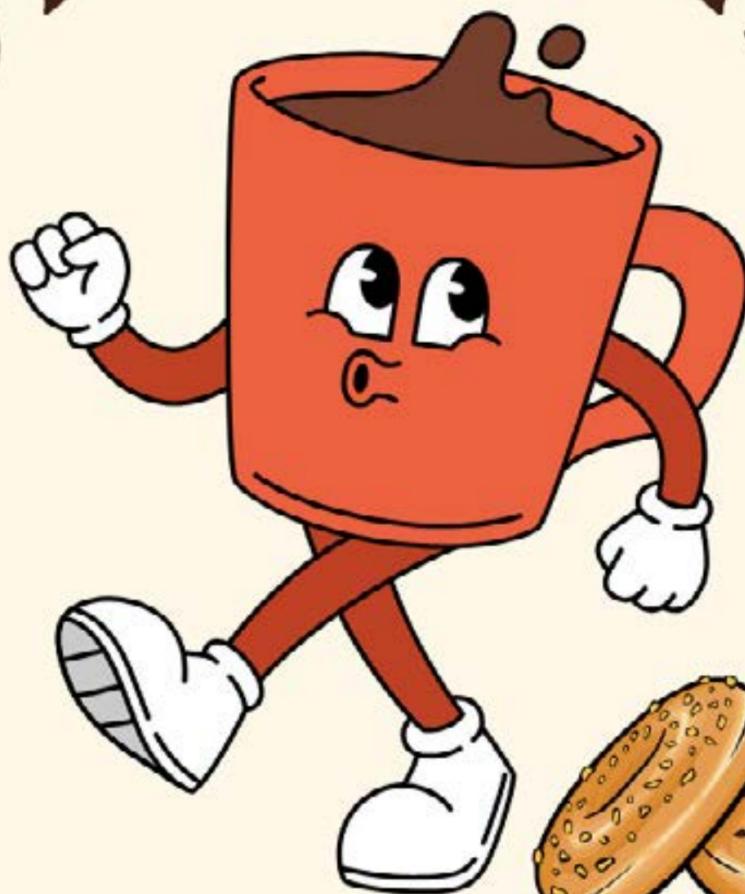
To review meeting policies, Robert's Rules, bylaws and past meeting minutes, please visit afm47.org/gmm.

AFM LOCAL

47

COFFEE TIME

FRIDAY
19
APRIL



11
A.M.

MEMBER MINGLE

JOIN US FOR COMPLIMENTARY COFFEE, BAGELS
& CONVERSATION IN OUR CAPTAIN GREG WELCH
GATHERING PLACE!

AFM LOCAL 47 3220 WINONA AVE. BURBANK CA 91504

Calling All Local 47 Members!

Join us at our first-ever Coffee Time Member Mingle on Friday, April 19 to enjoy complimentary coffee, bagels and conversation!

We will gather at 11 a.m. in our downstairs Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place.

We look forward to seeing you!



AFM Local 47 Jazz Festival

April 14, 21 & 28, 1-6 p.m.
Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place
afm47.org/jazzfestival

Coffee Time Member Mingle

Friday, April 19, 11 a.m.
Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place
Join us for complimentary coffee, bagels
& conversation — open to all members!

Theatre Musicians Association SoCal General Membership Meeting & Election of Officers

Friday, April 19, 1 p.m.
Local 47 Board Room
All TMA members and interested
musicians are invited
tmasocal.org

General Membership Meeting & Musicians' Club Annual Meeting

NOTE NEW DATE:
Tuesday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.
Captain Greg Welch Gathering Place
afm47.org/gmm

Ongoing Events:

Executive Board Meetings

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. (online via Zoom)
Members welcome as observers
For info email st_sec@afm47.org

New Member Orientation

Third Fridays, 10-11 a.m.
Local 47 Executive Board Room
Required of all new members
afm47.org/orientation

*View our full calender of events
@ afm47.org/calendar*

At the Local



AFM LOCAL

47

American Federation of Musicians
Local 47

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

**New and returning members pay ZERO
initiation fees through **June 30, 2024**
— a savings of \$140!**

It pays to be #UnionStrong

AFM member benefits include:

- Wage protection
- Health insurance & pension
- Low-cost rehearsal rooms
- Instrument insurance
- Free classes & seminars
- Emergency travel assistance
- Musicians referral service
- Expert help from union staff

Local & international contracts cover:

- Low-budget/student films
- Studio recordings
- Video games
- Live concerts
- Theatrical stage shows
- Motion pictures & television
- Commercials/jingles
- Demos

afm47.org/join

AFM LOCAL

47

Welcome New Members!

- Sam Barsh - Piano
- Avi Joseph Bialo - Trumpet
- Roch Bordenave - Trombone
- Kevin Bradley - Trombone
- Phil Tyrannos Cortes, King of Black Metal - Acoustic Guitar
- Somesh Das - Piano
- Ashanti Dykes - Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Thomas Leon Gillmore - Composer
- Eulaulah (Lalah) Hathaway - Vocalist
- Sarra Elizabeth Hey-Folick - Clarinet
- Eliza James - Violin
- Lauren Athena Kosty - Percussion
- Isaac James Lemus aka Ace Goya - Composer
- Natalie Pang - Piano
- Steven L. Parque - Alto/Tenor Saxophone
- Slash - Acoustic/Electric Guitar
- Jessica Vicente - Horn
- Amanda Zidow - Cello

Do Not Work For

Giorgio Lalov

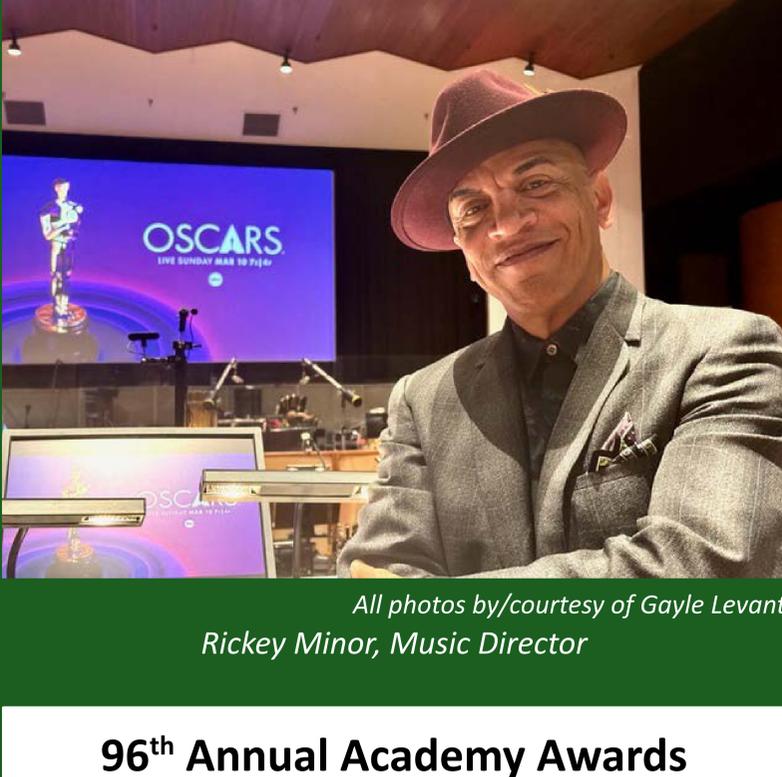
has been added to the [AFM Local 47 Do Not Work For list](#) and to the [AFM International Unfair List](#).



Go Paperless!

Sign up to receive work dues statements
online @ afm47.org/paperless

On the Town



All photos by/courtesy of Gayle Levant Rickey Minor, Music Director

96th Annual Academy Awards Orchestra

Pre-record session: Warner Bros. Eastwood Scoring Stage, Burbank, CA
Oscars Awards Ceremony: Dolby Theatre, Hollywood CA — March 10, 2024

View the AFM Local 47 musicians roster [here](#).



Librarians Nick Casares and Josh Britt with Lead Copyist Booker White



Lead Orchestrator Chris Walden with Raj Kapoor, producer of the Oscars



Harpist Gayle Levant with Music Contractor Kimberlee Wertz



Lara Wilson, Assistant to Rickey Minor, with Sabrina Walden



Assistant Engineer Tom Hardisty with Recording Engineer Tommy Vicari





Photos by Linda A. Rapka

Among the many AFM members in attendance at the Many Crafts, One Fight rally on March 3 included AFM International President Tino Gagliardi, AFM Local 47 President Stephanie O'Keefe, Vice President Marc Sazer and Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand, and AFM Local 325 President Loretta Kirkell and Board Member Carl Dershem.

Many Crafts, One Fight

by Linda A. Rapka

AFM musicians joined thousands in solidarity at the “Many Crafts, One Fight” negotiations kickoff rally March 3 hosted by IATSE and Hollywood Basic Crafts unions as they headed into negotiations with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP).

Hot off the heels of our recent bargaining win with these same employers, AFM International President Tino Gagliardi proudly joined many esteemed labor leaders in delivering inspiring words to the massive crowd at Woodley Park in Encino, CA.

>> VIDEO LINK: Watch our short video from the event at bit.ly/manycrafts2024

“This is what solidarity looks like. This industry has come together in ways that I have not seen in my entire career,” Gagliardi said. “Musicians are with you. Because that's the kind of solidarity I got from all of you, and that's what you're going to get right back.”



A seven-piece Dixieland band, led by AFM Local 47 member Chris Tedesco and co-sponsored by AFM and RMA, kicked off the event in style.

Additional speakers included representatives from the IATSE, Teamsters, WGA, SAG-AFTRA, DGA, LiUNA, the California Labor Federation, and the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor.

For the first time in 36 years, IATSE and the Hollywood Basic Crafts — a coalition of guilds representing more than 75,000 crew members including drivers, electrical workers, costume designers, cement masons, plumbers, lighting technicians, camera operators, makeup artists, video editors and more — are jointly bargaining with AMPTP for pension and health benefits. The three will negotiate other contract terms separately.

“Every union in the entertainment industry is standing here together, and that has never happened before,” said IATSE President Matthew Loeb. “We stand here together to demand fairness, to demand a living wage ... for everybody who works in this business.”

Key concerns for the new agreement include wage increases, enhanced contract enforcement, improved on-set working conditions, wage increases that will keep up with inflation, and AI protections.

On March 25, following a day of in-person negotiations, IATSE Local 695 and AMPTP reached a tentative agreement on the Locals’ craft-specific issues. Locals 600, 800, and 729 also reached tentative agreements during the first week of IATSE local negotiations. At the time of this writing, four of 13 west coast studio locals have tentatively addressed their craft-specific issues in talks with the AMPTP. However, the process is not complete until the conclusion of Basic Agreement general negotiations, which cover issues that affect all IATSE members who work under the Basic Agreement. These Local agreements are part of the overall package to come in the general negotiations, which are not expected to begin until May at the earliest.



A Message from the Pension Fund (AFM-EPF)

What is Happening With the Application for Special Financial Assistance?

As we reported in the December 2023 issue of Pension Fund Notes (PFN), there has been a slowdown in the PBGC's review process for all applications, including ours, due to a new application requirement that was added by the PBGC. We continue to follow the process we outlined in the December PFN (see the December 2023 Pension Fund Notes for more information). As we explained then, we would need to submit an updated application because of this new PBGC requirement. As expected, we withdrew our application so that we could resubmit it in the coming weeks.



The PBGC's new requirement had nothing to do with the content or quality of our application and is the result of issues with other funds' applications that have been previously filed. The PBGC took longer than anticipated to update its internal procedures to address these issues. The resubmission is happening later than we anticipated as a result and, therefore, we expect that the approval will happen in the summer of 2024.

The new PBGC procedures are now in place, and we are working with PBGC to finalize some details of our revised application prior to resubmission. We will be refileing our revised application as soon as possible.

The Fund remains eligible for financial assistance under ARPA – it's only a matter of how much and when it will be received. The revisions to our application will not have a material effect on the amount of financial assistance that the Fund receives. Once in hand, the financial assistance is expected to provide additional security that all benefits will be paid for decades to come.

The wait is frustrating for everyone involved. However, it is important to keep in mind that when the Special Financial Assistance is paid to the Fund, interest from December 31, 2022 to the payment date will be added to the total.

The Fund has not issued a Pension Fund Notes since December 2023 because the situation has not substantively changed since this last notice. We continue to provide updates through Pension Fund Notes when there is new, substantive information to share.

Questions? Contact the pension fund [here](#).



Abolish Poverty & Homelessness Initiative: Volunteers Needed

L.A. labor is leading the charge in collecting hundreds of thousands of signatures to get a crucial initiative on the November ballot.

On Saturday, March 16, AFM Local 47 Secretary/Treasurer Gail Kruvand, Organizer Rahul Neuman and Vice President Marc Sazer spent the morning knocking on doors with dozens of volunteers and the LA County Fed in support of the [Affordable Housing, Homelessness Solutions and Prevention Now Measure](#).

The initiative is a new approach written by experts, not politicians. Key points:

- We need solutions that match the scale of the problem, which is why this measure triples the budget for affordable housing and knocks down barriers to build much-needed homes across L.A. County.
- This measure will increase street safety by expanding access to mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and other critical services that address the root causes of homelessness.
- L.A. County is at risk of losing hundreds of millions in local funding for homeless services. This measure will not only replace these critical funds, it will make sure they are spent more effectively on programs that actually work and get people the help they need.

We're now in the home stretch, and more volunteers are needed to ensure this important ballot initiative makes it to the November election! Sign up at

bit.ly/lahousing2024



Anxiety Toolbox

Wednesdays, April 3 - 17

11 a.m. - Noon

Do you struggle with anxiety-related concerns? Join us for Anxiety Toolbox to discover new strategies to reduce stress and anxiety.

Anxiety Toolbox is an hour long, three-session workshop designed for those in the performing arts and entertainment community experiencing stress and anxiety. This workshop aims to help you understand anxiety symptoms and learn tools to cope with everyday stress and anxiety.

Attendance at all three sessions is required. This workshop is available to anyone living in the United States, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

[Please register or log in](#) to the Entertainment Community Fund Portal to access our workshops, programs and services. The portal is designed to cater to your individual needs and interests, offering access to a wide range of resources and support — all with the guidance and understanding of what it takes to build a life and career in the arts.



**Entertainment
Community Fund**
Formerly The Actors Fund

Please note that this is not a psychotherapy group and does not provide mental health treatment. If you are in need of mental health support, please reach out to the Entertainment Community Fund: entertainmentcommunity.org/MentalHealth



Labor Community Services
LOS ANGELES

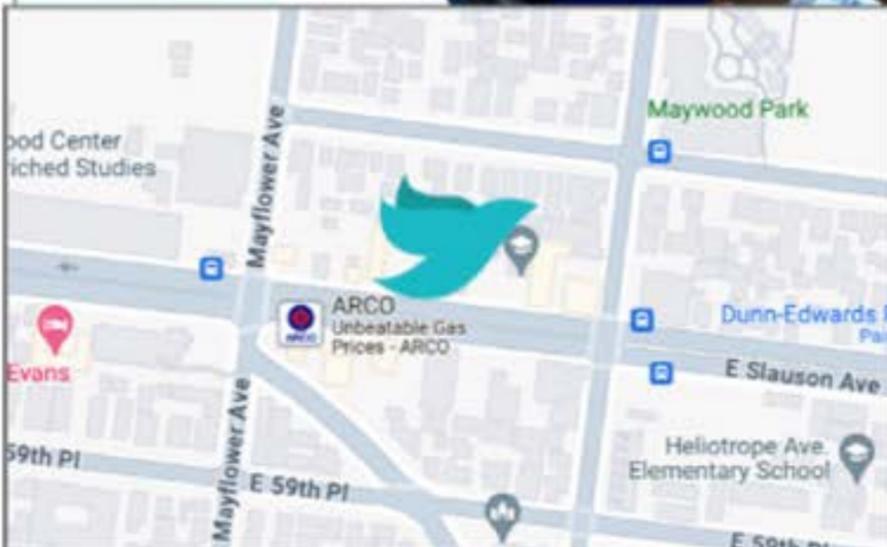


COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUCION DE ALIMENTOS

4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CUARTO MARTES DEL MES | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



USW Hall
4735 Slauson Avenue
Maywood, CA 90270

**Open To All Workers and Members Of
The Community**

Final Notes



In Memoriam

Benjamin (Ben) Lanzarone

Life Member. Piano

10/28/1938 – 2/16/2024

Member since: 8/29/1978

Ralph (Diz) Mullins

Life Member. Trumpet

5/10/1929 – 1/17/2024

Member since: 7/27/1954

Send your Final Notes remembrances using our online submission form at: afm47.org/overture

or you may send to:

overture@afm47.org

Local 47 Overture Online

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504



Donald Baldini

Life Member. String Bass

12/5/1940 – 3/4/2024

Member since:

Donald James Baldini, 83, of Westminster, Vt., died at home in the bed he made himself, just as he wished.

He was tenacious in his love for life, music, food and friends while he navigated the ups and downs of cancer for the past eight years. He will be remembered by all as a charismatic storyteller, world-class bass player and engaging teacher.

Don was born Dec. 5, 1940, in Racine, Wisc., to Italian immigrants Giovanni Baldini and Maria Fornari (aka John and Maria Baldwin). He was proud of his Italian heritage and considered his childhood in Racine idyllic.

He began his violin studies in elementary school and eventually won a scholarship to study at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. While there he took string methods classes in cello and bass, and discovered that in the bass he had “found his home.” His first job was with the Indianapolis Symphony, but it was his jazz playing that filled the rest of his career. Don left Indianapolis for Las Vegas to join the Harry James band, and later the house band at Caesar’s Palace. He established himself as a first call player who was sought after by singers and musical acts both in Las Vegas and on tour.

After a dozen or so years, Don left Las Vegas to become a studio musician in Los Angeles. While in Los Angeles he was the bass player for the Schubert Theater, recorded television and movie scores, and played in “The Tonight Show” band. He made several tours of Japan with the Toshiko Akiyoshi band and spent four years traveling the world as Frank Sinatra’s bass player.

Don left Los Angeles in 1989 to “retire” to Vermont and make furniture. His skill with hand tools developed during his time in Los Angeles, when he would come home in the early morning hours after shows and work quietly in his shop so as to not disturb his neighbors. His specialties were pencil post beds and Windsor chairs, and he was grateful to his friend and mentor, Michael Dunbar, who coached him through his first chair over the phone while he was still in L.A.

In reality, he made little furniture as the news of his musical talents quickly led him to gigs with the Vermont Symphony, Opera North, the Peterborough Players, the Keene Chamber Orchestra and other local groups. He also embarked on a new career as a teacher at Keene State College and Dartmouth College. In addition to teaching bass lessons he taught music theory and jazz history, and was the longtime director of the Keene State College Orchestra and Jazz Band. He retired from both colleges in December 2016. When not playing music, Don loved to be out fishing on his boat or playing golf.

Don married Rebecca Junnila on Jan. 21, 2017. Together they were a magnetic duo who enjoyed old friends and new. They were known for hosting great parties and sharing their love of Italy, where they spent 21 weeks over five magical trips. On rare occasions they played on the same concerts together, Don on bass or conducting and Rebecca on harp; and they treasured the opportunity to share music, except for the need to take two cars!

Don is survived by Rebecca, and stepchildren, Lauren, Pierce and Aria Emineth. He is also survived by his sister, June Rosland; his nieces, Linda Rosland and Gina Carriveau; and his grand-nieces and nephews, all of Wisconsin.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Don Baldini Music Scholarship Fund at Keene State College through the office of Advancement, 229 Main St., Keene NH 03431.



Benjamin (Ben) Lanzarone

Life Member. Piano

10/28/1938 – 2/16/2024

Member since: 8/29/1978

Ben Lanzarone, a native of Brooklyn, New York, celebrated composer/arranger/musical director/pianist, has passed away at the age of 85 at his home in Los Angeles.

A winner of ASCAP's "Most Performed Composer Award," Ben enjoyed a career encompassing a broad range of musical experience. As a graduate of New York City's famed High School of Music and Art and a double Masters Degree graduate from the Manhattan School of Music, he began as a classical pianist, traveling the country as soloist with the Longines Symphonette and making his solo debut at Carnegie Recital Hall.

Ben easily moved into the world of popular music when he started his association with Bob Crewe and Charles Fox. Their collaboration resulted in Ben's album "In Classic Form" which showcased his talent as both a classical and jazz pianist. Ben went on to arrange many more Bob Crewe productions, including recordings for Bobby Darin, Vikki Carr, and the Bob Crewe Generation. He soon became a busy arranger for a diverse list of recording artists including Peter Nero, Vicki Sue Robinson, the disco group the Brothers, as well as the soundtrack of the motion picture, "Grease." He also arranged and composed many jingles while maintaining his career as a studio pianist, appearing on well over a thousand commercials, records and soundtracks. This recording activity led to his election to the NARAS Board of Governors.

It was for his work composing television scores that won Ben the prestigious ASCAP award. He wrote music for countless episodes of television, including "The Tracy Ullman Show," "The Jay Leno Comedy Hour" and "Mr. Belvedere." His long association with Aaron Spelling and Doug Cramer resulted in many scores for "Dynasty" (including the legendary catfight episode with Alexis and Crystal Carrington), "The Love Boat," "Vegas," "Matt Houston," "The Colbys," and "Hotel." For Miller/Milkis/Boyett he wrote the music for numerous episodes of "Happy Days" (including the episode where Fonzie jumped the shark), "Laverne and Shirley" and "Mork and Mindy."

As musical director/pianist, Ben toured with a wide variety of artists including Frank Sinatra, Art Garfunkel, Mary Travers, Anthony Newley, Petula Clark, Lainie Kazan and Mason Williams. On Broadway, he was musical director of the original production of "Grease," and arranger for the Broadway productions of "Via Galactica" and "Truckload." He was also the musical director/arranger for the Off-Broadway show "How to Steal an Election" and the Los Angeles Shakespeare Festival's "Midsummer Night's Dream."

Married for 46 years to actress and singer Ilene Graff, they enjoyed a personal and professional relationship that spanned stage, screen, live concerts, and recordings, including a Grammy nomination for their album "Baby's Broadway Lullabies." Along with their daughter, Broadway vet Nikka Graff Lanzarone, they created and performed popular cabaret concerts in both New York City and Los Angeles.

As educators, Ben and Ilene taught the popular workshop "Making the Song Your Own," inspiring singers to find the joy in music and performance.

In addition to his numerous professional accomplishments, Ben was proud to have lent his time and talents to many charitable organizations, including the Variety Club, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, and the Entertainment Community Fund.

Ben is survived by his wife, Ilene Graff, daughter Nikka Graff Lanzarone (Daniel Smith), brothers Frank and Peter Lanzarone, brothers-in-law Richard and Todd Graff (Jhon Lafaurie), niece and nephews, and many devoted friends. He leaves an enormous musical and personal legacy, and will be deeply missed.

The family has requested that memorial donations be made to the Entertainment Community Fund (formerly the Actors Fund) at entertainmentcommunity.org.



Dan Savell

Member. Percussion

2/11/1975 – 11/17/2023

Member since: 7/31/2019

It is with deep sadness that we share the heart-breaking news that Daniel Adam Savell has died. He passed away November 17, 2023, succumbing to injuries suffered in a sports accident. Dan was born February 11, 1975, in Newton, Massachusetts and was co-founder and co-owner of L.A. Percussion and Backline Rentals in Santa Clarita, California.

Dan is survived by his beloved wife, Abby Savell, and their three children, Jadon, Evan, and Rachel. Mourning with them are his parents Naomi and Lawrence Savell of Rancho Palos Verdes, and brothers Jonathan (Tyanna) and Michael. He is likewise missed by brothers-in-law Graham Orr and Jeremy Orr (Nina), mother-in-law Margo Jaffe Orr, father-in-law T.J. Orr (Debbi), aunts Barbara Jaffe (Larry Ross) and JoAnn Jaffe (Michael Gertler), and by many other relatives and friends.



Dan and Abby Savell

Daniel started violin lessons at 4 and never stopped learning new instruments and music. He attended Palos Verdes Peninsula High School and then studied at Fullerton College before transferring to the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) where he earned his BFA in multi-focus percussion and studied with John Bergamo, among others. Dan led and played in numerous steel bands, frequently with his muse and fellow percussionist, Abby. He was known for his great, buttery feel and improvisational skills on steel pans – some of which he and Abby acquired in Trinidad on their honeymoon. Dan was a visionary impresario who delighted in collaborating to make musical dreams come true.

Dan and Abby developed LAPR into a premier rental house of professional percussion instruments, electronic instruments, and production support, and into a creative hub for sound exploration. They worked with composers and musicians on projects that brought new sounds to many stages. LAPR has supported events, performers, and acts such as Danny Elfman, Barbra Streisand, “Encanto” at the Hollywood Bowl, the Eagles, Zedd, “Wild Up,” “Avatar 2,” the President’s Own Marine Band, Ojai Music Festival, 20th Century Fox, Disney, Hulu, Netflix, Sao Paulo Symphony, Israel Philharmonic, UCLA Royce Hall, Colburn School, USC, LA Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Pacific Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Santa Barbara Symphony, as well as many film, TV, and game composers. As Dan and Abby said in a 2022 media interview: “We are ambassadors in percussion... We always have our eyes open, love finding new artistic pathways, enjoy sharing connections with other musicians and artists while maintaining approachability and a sense of humor.”

Dan was generous and gentle, and he helped to make LAPR a good workplace for employees and family members. He had skills and high standards that he applied to building, maintaining, tuning, setting up, and playing percussion instruments. He freely shared knowledge gleaned from working with other artists and from carefully observing all that transpired around him.

Enjoying art in many forms, Dan was an avid devotee of film as well as music. For Dan the people and the process were paramount; he adored working collectively to co-create live performances that seemed barely imaginable or attainable.

Dan had intense respect for the natural world and was forever curious. His practical skills came in part from training as an Eagle Scout. Being a devoted husband to Abby and a caring father to Jadon, Evan, and Rachel, he especially enjoyed adventures when they all went hiking locally and when they explored new sites visiting family members in various parts of California, as well as Arizona, Colorado, the East Coast, and Canada.

Dan was loving and cared deeply for his family and friends. He was much-loved, in turn, and widely known as a mensch. He will be missed in many circles.

The family thanks the medical staff of UCLA’s neuro ICU and the many people who have offered support and condolences. Funeral services were held November 22 at Groman Eden Eternal Light Chapel and included musical offerings by Abby and friends John Ballinger, Ray McNamara, Scott Breadman, Sean Daniel, and David Beery. Internment was at Eden Memorial Park, Hills of Moses, in Mission Hills.

share YOUR story
with
the Overture

OPEN MIC!



Got a story to tell?

AFM Local 47 welcomes submissions from
our members!

Please share about your latest union recording,
performance or event by sending us your story
and photos using our online submission form at
afm47.org/overture.

Letters to the Editor:

overture@afm47.org

3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

Please keep within a maximum of 400 words.
For our submission guidelines, please [click here](#).

Membership Dues

Membership Dues Fees

Regular Member

Annual Dues: \$210

Semi-Annual Dues: \$110

Life Member

Annual Dues: \$110

Inactive Life Member

Annual Dues: \$90

Make checks or money orders payable to:

AFM Local 47,
3220 Winona Ave.

Burbank CA 91504

You may also make payments with VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AmEx by phone at 323.993.3116 or at afm47.org/dues

Dues Schedule

Annual and Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular, Life and Inactive Life Members are due **Jan. 1** of each year. Payment must be received by **March 31** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by June 30 to avoid expulsion.**

Likewise, Semi-Annual Membership Dues for Regular Members are due **July 1** and must be received by **Sept. 30** (three-month grace period) to avoid suspension. If not paid by this date, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed. **Payment must be paid by Dec. 31 to avoid expulsion.**

Please note: Inactive Life Members do not have all of the same rights as privileges as Regular and Life Members, such as the right to vote in Local elections. Please review the AFM Local 47 Bylaws for complete information.

Notice From the Executive Board: Work Dues Delinquency and Suspension

1) Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be suspended; and

2) Non-Local 47 members whose work dues delinquency exceeds \$500 shall be referred to the IEB as provided in the AFM Bylaws.

In order to reinstate membership, a \$75 reinstatement fee will be assessed.

Resignation Policy

In order to resign in good standing, you must submit your written request to Local 47 before your membership is suspended. Though dues are due Jan. 1 and July 1, current grace periods extend to March 31 and Sept. 30, respectively; suspensions are posted April 1 and Oct. 1.

In addition to membership dues, all other financial obligations, Local and International, must be paid prior to resignation. Your letter of resignation will be presented at the following Executive Board meeting and a written response will be mailed to you. If you wait, you will be required to pay another half year's dues and/or clearance fee.

HELP A MUSICIAN IN NEED

Be an anonymous donor to the Local 47 Musicians Relief Fund. Send contributions to the Secretary's office or call (323) 993-3159 for more information.

Multiple-Card AFM Member Rebate

Did you know? If you hold membership in three or more Locals throughout a full calendar year, you are entitled to a rebate from the AFM.

Under the rebate program, membership in a base of two Locals must be established in order for a member to qualify for a rebate. The International Secretary/Treasurer's office has determined that a musician's membership in his or her "Home Local" and the subsequent Local of longest tenure shall be designated as the two base Locals. The Secretary/Treasurer's office will then rebate the appropriate per capita dues for membership in the third Local and any other Local(s) beyond three to which a member belonged for the entire previous calendar year.

To petition for a Multiple-Card Member Rebate, members should fill out the form and return it to the Secretary/Treasurer's office together with copies of all their paid-up membership cards, receipts of canceled checks for annual dues from all Locals, or a letter from each Local stating that the petitioner was a member in good standing of the Locals for the full year prior. Rebates will be issued after Jan. 1.

Members may download the rebate form from the international AFM website [here](http://afm.org) (afm.org login required; locate the rebate form under "Miscellaneous" in the Document Library).

Notice to All Persons Entering or Utilizing the Property of the Musicians' Club* of Los Angeles:

The premises of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles are reserved for the exclusive use by the officers, employees, and Full, Youth, Life or Inactive Life Members in good standing of AFM Local 47 and the American Federation of Musicians. All other persons must receive written permission from the office of Local 47's president to enter or utilize these premises. Local 47 reserves the right to remove and to cite for trespass any party found on these premises who does not fulfill the above conditions of occupancy. (Note: This notice is not applicable to those making deliveries to AFM Local 47, or customers of and those making deliveries to tenants of the Local 47 headquarters.)

** The Musicians' Club of Los Angeles, Inc., is a California Non-Profit Corporation incorporated in 1926. It owns all land and improvements where AFM Local 47 conducts its business. The Corporation rents space to other tenants, mainly industry related. All members of AFM Local 47 are also members of the Musicians' Club of Los Angeles.*

Do Not Work For...

The list published at afm47.org/donotworkfor.html contains the names of employers with whom Local 47 currently has disputes.



If you have any questions about this list please contact the President's Office: 323.993.3181

Notice of Strike Sanctions

On June 24, 2015, strike sanctions were approved by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor against:

Cinema Scoring
CMG Music Recording
Peter Rotter Music Services

If and when any of the aforementioned parties calls a non-union engagement, other labor unions have agreed to stand in solidarity with Local 47 and not cross our line.

If you are being pressured to participate in non-union work or take financial-core status and quit the union, know that it is illegal for employers or employers' representatives to coerce, pressure or otherwise influence any employee to take fi-core status under the National Labor Relations Act. Should this happen to you, call 323.993.3181.

Your Union will take action — with legal counsel if necessary — on your behalf to ensure your rights as a union worker are protected.

Auditions



Auditions

Section Violin

Monday, May 13, 2024

Sacramento, CA

Section Bass

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Sacramento, CA

Application and resume deadline for all auditions:

Friday, April 26, 2024 @ 5:00 pm PST

For more information, or to apply online,

visit www.SacPhilOpera.org/auditions

The SP&O is a per service orchestra with 38 services per season

Section: \$165.00 per service 2024-2025 Season

Resumes will be screened, and candidates sent repertoire and other details after review and acceptance of their application

Auditions

Modesto Symphony Orchestra

Announces auditions for the following positions:

Principal Cello
Assistant Principal Cello
Section Cello

Auditions will be held at:
Opera San Jose
2149 Paragon Dr.
San Jose, CA 95131

Audition Date: May 13, 2024
Application Deadline: April 30, 2024

Additional information and repertoire can be found at:

<https://www.modestosymphony.org/employment-and-auditions>

Send a one-page resume and refundable audition deposit of \$20 to:

Matthew Siek, Director of Operations
Modesto Symphony Orchestra
911 13th Street
Modesto, CA 95354
msiek@modestosymphony.org

checks should be made payable to: Modesto Symphony Orchestra Association

2024-2025 base service pay: \$158
Principal: \$197.50
Assistant Principal: \$173.80

Paid Pension
Travel Compensation up to \$45 per day
Homestays/housing available

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