



Advocating for and gathering stage managers to share information since 1982

The 2019-20 Board of the SMA

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3.13.20. The SMA Provides Resources In Challenging Times

The events of the past month have moved rapidly and now we find ourselves in a completely different world. The Board of Directors and the regional representatives of the SMA are looking for ways in which we can be of assistance, in particular to stage managers and those who teach them, as well as the wider field of collaborators in our field. We will be announcing several online initiatives soon.

WEBSITE UPDATES: The SMA website will undergo an update this weekend. This is regular maintenance AND will also address upgrades that have been long planned and will assist us in making even more services available to our colleagues and the greater stage management community.

You can expect to see:

- a ramp up of Zoom sessions to be offered free/open to the general public
- the SMA to offer out some of our inward services that support those teaching in the field
- the SMA to move some of our resources to the public facing pages in support of our community in these challenging times.

Please visit www.stagemanagers.org **starting March 16, 2020** to access these resources.

We encourage our membership and the community at large to contact their local legislators to keep the issues we face, in the forefront, as they personally assess how to deal with this new reality. It is critical that Federal relief should ensure that the needs of non-profit arts organizations, entertainment centers and the artists who work with them are addressed.

Stage and event managers are a crucial part of this industry and should be protected. Action should be taken to address this section and the loss of event dependent income.

*“Members can choose to speak out directly through an **online campaign to Congress**, or to weigh in directly with **local district staff**, we urge you to be as specific as you can about the current and projected impact on you or your organization. Congress needs to hear from as many constituents as possible that COVID-19 relief should be made accessible to nonprofit arts organizations and to artists.”*

We stand ready to assist. If you have a question or an idea or need some services as we move forward into the unknown, please contact us directly at www.stagemanagers.org or Elynmarie Kazle at chair@stagemanagers.org.