

# BACKSTAGE

The Monthly Newsletter of STAGEBRIDGE Senior Theatre



APRIL 2009



Welcome to our first edition of *Backstage*, our monthly e-newsletter. Each month we'll take you behind the scenes to see what goes on at Stagebridge and what is the latest national and international news of arts with older adults. We'll have monthly columns by our Executive Director and staff that take you *Backstage* as we travel throughout the community and go behind the scenes for upcoming productions. We'll also give you the broader view of what is happening across the country and recent news and research into the power of creative engagement as we grow older. In the next few months we'll be adding new columns and look forward to your suggestions and comments.

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## Stagebridge Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Who would have thought in 1978 that a drama class of five elderly women and drama teacher/director Stuart Kandell would grow into the nation's premiere theatre company for older adults 30 years later? Well, it has, and we're celebrating . . .

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## Stagebridge Wins 2009 American Society on Aging Metlife Foundation MindAlert Award

The American Society on Aging, in collaboration with the MetLife Foundation, awarded Stagebridge winner of the 2009 MindAlert Award in the lifelong learning category . . .

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## Stagebridge Brings TimeSlips™ to California

As Storytelling Director at Stagebridge, one of the most rewarding parts of my job is coaxing amazing stories from seniors who might think they don't have a story to share. I never imagined that this would include seniors with Alzheimer's . . .

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## NEA Grant for New Production Awarded

The National Endowment for the Arts and East Bay Fund for Artists have awarded Stagebridge a \$25,000 and \$5,000 grant respectively. Stagebridge is one of only 13 recipients for the very first "Creativity and Aging" grants . . .

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## The "Wizard of Words" Brings His Magic to Storybridge Program

As a child growing up in New York, Martin Holtz was a hyperactive student who struggled with being left out when kids were chosen for school plays. As his nature and fate would have it, this led him to a life as an actor, teacher and director . . .

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## From the Director's Chair

Clara was a diminutive white haired woman in her late 70's when she came into my "acting class" at the College Avenue Senior Center in 1978. Clara lived down the street in the house she had grown up in . . .

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## Spare Change?

It doesn't take much to contribute to Stagebridge. Empty your pockets by [Clicking HERE to Donate Now](#). So, give a little!