



# THE CHICAGO ACTIVATOR



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*The KMRC and AFTRA/SAG Conservatory Present*

## Barbara Rosenblat Talks Audio Books

**TONIGHT - Monday, March 8**

**6:30 p.m. Meet and Greet**

**7 - 9 p.m. Event**

**More information at [kmrccchicago.com](http://kmrccchicago.com)**

**A few spots remain! Call the AFTRA/SAG office to register, (312) 573-8081.**

*Presented by the Kaufherr Members Resource Center and Chicago's AFTRA/SAG Conservatory, this workshop is free and a benefit of your AFTRA, SAG or AEA membership.*

### **AFL-CIO Executive Council Unanimously Supports Anti-Piracy Measures**

Meeting in Orlando on March 2, the AFL-CIO Executive Council unanimously adopted a statement on the subject of the theft of intellectual property. Submitted to the council by the Department of Professional Employees on behalf of the entertainment unions and guilds affiliated with the AFL-CIO, the statement offers a detailed analysis of the harm done to U.S. workers by piracy. The statement said, in part, "Motion pictures, television, sound recordings and other entertainment are a vibrant part of the U.S. economy. They yield one of its few remaining trade surpluses. The online theft of copyrighted works and the sale of illegal CDs and DVDs threaten the vitality of U.S. entertainment and thus its working people."

"While we support increased broadband access for all Americans, it's important to remember that downloading illegal content is the same as walking into a record or book store and stealing a CD or DVD," said AFTRA National President Roberta Reardon, who is also a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council. "Recording artists, for example, earn more than 90 percent of their income through the physical and digital download sales of their albums, and stealing their work - as well as that of actors, singers, dancers and other professional talent - seriously threatens their ability to earn a living and support their families. Moreover, the online theft of copyrighted - and uniquely American - material severely depresses the domestic job market by making it difficult for our members to find new work and continue producing the creative works that enrich our culture and our economy."

SAG National President Ken Howard said, "I'm grateful to AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka and

members of the executive council for their resounding approval of the resolution against digital theft. Today's action provides important support to the tens of thousands of men and women in the entertainment industry whose jobs are threatened by illegal duplication and download of movies and television shows."

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka issued the following statement: "The AFL-CIO fully supports entertainment workers, and stands behind them in the fight against the theft of the products they work on and create."

The entire text of the AFL-CIO statement is available at [SAG.org](http://SAG.org) and [AFTRA.com](http://AFTRA.com).

### ***Networking Night at the KMRC***

#### **How to Network**

#### **Special Guest: Kathy Corday**

AFTRA/SAG member and author of *THE NETWORKING FIELD GUIDE: Essential Social Skills for Business*, Corday will share her tips and advice for successful networking.

Available at [thenetworkingfieldguide.com](http://thenetworkingfieldguide.com), her new book is full of techniques to help you better connect to the people you need to know to succeed. Everyone agrees that networking is a valuable skill. Let Kathy help you learn how to do it right!

#### **6 - 8 p.m. Thursday, March 25**

Kaufherr Members Resource Center  
One East Erie Suite 660

*Networking Nights are a benefit of your union membership and are offered free to all AFTRA, SAG and AEA members in good standing.*

### **AFTRA National Board Approves Joint Bargaining with SAG on Primetime Television Ratifies New National Public Television Agreement**

Meeting by videoconference plenary in Los Angeles and New York on February 27, AFTRA's National Board unanimously voted to engage in joint bargaining under Phase One terms with Screen Actors Guild for the AFTRA Primetime Television Contract (Exhibit A of the Network Television Code) and the SAG Television and Theatrical Agreement and under the existing AFL-CIO-facilitated No Raiding/Non-Disparagement Agreement between the two unions.

The National Board also unanimously ratified a successor agreement to the 2002 Extension to the National AFTRA Public Television Agreement. The new three-year contract, effective March 1, 2010, to Feb. 28, 2013, includes increases in minimum compensation and employer contributions to the AFTRA Health and Retirement Funds, as well as jurisdiction over programs made for or reused in new media.

### **Free Online Business of Acting Seminars**

Screen Actors Guild Foundation and Screen Actors Guild continue to present weekly "business of acting" LifeRaft Live Stream events to Guild members across the nation at no charge, via live video stream on the Internet.

LifeRaft provides career-enhancing knowledge to actors by way of panel discussions with seasoned industry professionals. The innovative Live Stream program lets you participate online every Tuesday, 8-10 p.m. Central, through April 27, 2010.

To participate in these programs online, simply visit the SAG Foundation LifeRaft Live Stream show page [here](#). All LifeRaft Live Stream events are available for later viewing here as well.

You'll be able to submit your questions to panelists and moderators during the events by e-mail to [LifeRaft@sagfoundation.org](mailto:LifeRaft@sagfoundation.org) or you may tweet your questions at #LRLS. Guild members are encouraged to register with the [SAG Foundation](#) in order to receive e-mail updates.

### **Union Plus Offers Union Safe Programs**

As an AFTRA or Screen Actors Guild member, you always can rely on Union Plus to provide great benefits, rain or shine. In challenging economic times, these discounts and programs can be even more valuable. Check out the [Union Safe](#) program for an overview of the benefits offered.

**Credit counseling:** Members and their families can get free credit counseling services, budgeting advice and no-fee debt management and bankruptcy counseling benefits. Call (877) 833-1745.

**Prescription discount:** Members can get a free online prescription discount card to save on out-of-pocket prescription costs [here](#).

**Foreclosure prevention:** If you're worried you might lose your home, call the Union Plus Save My Home Hotline at (866) 490-5361 any time, day or night, to avoid foreclosure.

**Unemployment Lifeline:** In our business, being out of work is nothing new. But everywhere you go, hardworking families are struggling to get by, and too often, they don't know where to turn for help. That's where the [Unemployment Lifeline](#) comes in.

Unemployment Lifeline is sponsored by Working America and the AFL-CIO. It is a one-stop guide that links workers to the resources in the areas they live, connecting them with everything from unemployment offices to veterans' services to childcare. It also offers the opportunity to talk to others and share support and lessons learned. On this site you can find local resources, discussion boards, cost saving tips and advice.

The [site](#) is new and more resources are constantly being added. Make sure you pass this information on to your friends and family members who could use some help.

### **Movie Tickets**

The Chicago AFTRA/SAG office continues to offer discount tickets for use at AMC theaters.

Tickets must be purchased in person, \$6 each, two ticket minimum, cash only. Some restrictions apply-including not valid for first 10 days of run-but tickets no longer expire! They are good until you use them.

Please call the office for specifics and to confirm availability at (312) 573-8081. Log on to [amcentertainment.com](http://amcentertainment.com) for participating theater locations and schedules.

### **The Activator Online**

Past issues of *The Activator* are now available on the Chicago page of the Screen Actors Guild website. Don't know how to find the Chicago page? Go to SAG.org, and under Divisions and Branches, select "Chicago." In the column on the left, select "Newsletters" for past issues of *The Activator* and *Playback* (Chicago's print publication) or [click here](#).

They are also available at [AFTRA.com](http://AFTRA.com).

In response to the members' request to stay informed, *The Activator* may include notice of rallies, pickets and other actions by unions and the labor movement that have not been sanctioned by the National or Chicago Board of Directors of AFTRA or SAG. This information is provided as a convenience.

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