



Pegboard



ANIMATION GUILD AND AFFILIATED ELECTRONIC AND GRAPHIC ARTS

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LIVE & WORK WELL PROGRAM

Your Member Assistance Program Benefits

When we ask our members what they're most concerned about, things like stress management, mental health benefits and maintaining wellness in the workplace always top the list. Unfortunately, most don't realize that great benefits are available to them through their membership in the Animation Guild. Through the Motion Picture Industry Pension and Health Plans (MPI), OptumHealth offers Guild members the Live & Work Well Program, a member assistance program (MAP) that includes support for overcoming challenges at home or at work, navigating life's changes, reaching your goals and living your best life.

Support through the member assistance program is available at no cost to you. It's confidential and you can get the support you need by phone, online or face-to-face. The program's purpose is to help you manage changes in life – in good times or challenging ones.

Through your MAP, you can get help for just about any issue:

- Alcohol and drug misuse, including co-dependency
- Anxiety, sadness, depression, grief and loss
- Family and parenting issues, relationship problems
- Financial and/or legal consultation
- Life changes and personal crises
- Mediation services
- Stress related to work or personal issues

MAP specialists are available by phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They listen, help to identify challenges affecting your well-being, and can offer guidance on managing those challenges. They can also help you explore other benefits available to you through the Live & Work Well

Your Member Assistance Program Benefits

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IATSE LOCAL 839

Your Member Assistance Program Benefits

(continued from page 1)

Program, especially the tools and resources available on their website. MAP specialists can help immediately with family, relationship and workplace issues, or with grief and loss.

Counseling with a network clinician is available to you and every family member covered by your MPI benefits plan. You can get five face-to-face counseling sessions for each problem per year at no cost to you, and if additional counseling is needed the co-pays are very low.

We all know the animation industry can be stressful, but the assistance you get doesn't necessarily have to be related to work. Let's say you're dealing with grief after losing a parent. A MAP specialist can help you find a grief counselor to meet with. If your teenager is having a hard time at school a few months later, your MAP benefits can help again in the form of parenting advice or face-to-face counseling sessions for your child. And if you're facing a lay-off later that year you can call again to get help finding a solution to the stress of changing jobs or seeking new work in a competitive industry.

Someone is available to talk any time, day or night, at no charge to you. When you call, a MAP specialist who is a qualified mental health professional will answer your call, listen and ask questions so that together you can discuss options for finding support. Your specialist may send you information by email, help you find information and resources on the Live & Work Well website, or help you find a clinician for face-to-face counseling. And you can call back any time.

MAP benefits go beyond mental health and well-being. Specialists can help connect you to the right qualified person to help you with legal services, mediation services and financial services, with limited phone consultations available at no cost and further consultation offered at a discounted rate.

There are just too many benefits available through the Live & Work Well program to explain in one short article, so please come to the General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, May 30th to find out more about the MAP from OptumHealth's Sarah Neale.

You can contact the Member Assistance Program any time by calling (888) 661-9141, or visit liveandworkwell.com and enter the site anonymously with access code MPIPHP.

FROM THE PRESIDENT
LAURA HOHMAN

STAY SANE



In today's world, we have things bombarding us at every turn trying to take up our time. There is social media, the pressure to keep up with our friends, peers, and those we look up to. The need to not miss out when we can always see what everyone else is doing with their own lives.

There is the current political climate. No matter what side you may fall on, so much is happening daily and the public reactions are all over the map. Stressing about the future of a divided country is not something that I would have thought about so relentlessly before this last year or so, and now I am surprised how much it affects me on a daily basis.

Then there is work, the Guild, and freelance. Planning for the futures of our careers as we prepare and look forward towards the negotiations of 2018. Waiting to see if those tests we took lead to jobs, and if those jobs will last more than one season.

There is so much and more to think about.

With all that, from your President, I tell you to make time to break free. We all need to balance out our lives to stay sane. I can hear someone saying, "But Laura, I have so much crap already going on, how can I carve out time to not be productive?!" My answer to that is, you have to find the time. There are no excuses. Mental health and well being is just as important as going to the doctor for checkups. Put the time in your calendar and make sure you do it.

Do something else that makes you happy. Plan a trip to somewhere you've always wanted to go, even if it's for a weekend. Try a new class in blacksmithing, or card magic. Branch out and round out your life. Get outdoors and see things not on a screen.

I have only been in this industry for 6 years, but in that time I have seen enthusiastic artists move from passion to burnout. Remember, a career is for the long haul. Hopefully, we can all retire when we are done with full benefits, but to get there, it's a marathon not a sprint. Take care of yourself. Give a damn about your own well-being. There is always time.

FREE and open to active, inactive 839 members and AAI Students*



ANIMATION GUILD COMPUTER LAB



Adobe® Creative Cloud™



The Computer Lab can help assist you in developing the skills you need for your personal and career goals:

Animation and graphic design software: Adobe Photoshop, Flash, Illustrator;
Toon Boom Harmony and Storyboard Pro

Cintiq basics

Printing, scanning, and preparing art for print

File backup, management and understanding of file formats

Assistance with internet and email issues, blogs

Video editing: Adobe Premiere and After Effects

Demo reels

Final Draft, Microsoft Word

Maya 3D, Sketchup

Mondays 3-8 pm Tuesdays 3-6 pm Wednesdays 3-8 pm

Thursdays 3-6 pm Saturdays 1-5 pm

Email lab@animationguild.org for questions and reservations.

*Animation Guild members will get first priority.

Contact the Animation Guild office for details.

(You will receive a reply from roskotron@hotmail.com)

or call:

818-985-7267

BOOKMARK THE TAG BLOG

<http://animationguildblog.blogspot.com>

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT UNION PLUS?

Explore More Benefits For Union Members

As a member of the Animation Guild, you may have received information about or from Union Plus. Just in case you threw it away without reading it, here's some helpful information about a program with benefits available to union members like YOU.

Union Plus is a non-profit and they're the ONLY consumer benefits organization created and endorsed by our affiliate, the AFL-CIO.

At Union Plus, the mission is to improve the quality of life for union members and their families, provide valuable benefits and services that strengthen the ties of union members to their unions and contribute funding to the labor movement.

They – and we – believe that our country's middle class was built by union-strong members like you, so they diligently research every benefit and tailor them to support you and other union members – they're working hard, to make life a little easier for you.

How it Works—Solidarity, Savings and Support

Stand in Solidarity

Did you know that there are more than 12 million union members in the United States? Because of our strength in numbers, Union Plus is able to negotiate exclusive discounts and financial assistance programs just for union members and their families.

Savings and Unique Programs – Pay it Forward

They pass along the exclusive benefits they've negotiated on behalf of union members directly to you. These benefits and programs are FREE to union members and their families. There's no membership – if you're a current or retired union member or a family member – you're in.

Supporting Union Workers and Union-Made Products

Union Plus is union and they stand by union. They're committed to supporting U.S.-based and union workers, right down to using union printers and union-made products in our offices and their staff are members of OPEIU, Local 2.

They've negotiated with some of the biggest names and brands to get you the discounts you deserve and the benefits working union members need – such as hardship help, strike grants and disability benefits. They've got your back!

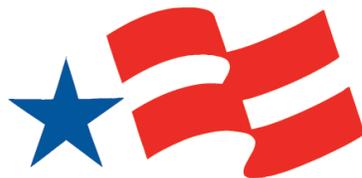
If You're Union – You're Eligible

As current and retired union members, you are automatically eligible for your union's Union Plus Benefits – often times, your parents, spouse and children are also eligible. No Union Plus membership, No Fees, No Waiting Period, No Hassle.

How to Get Your Union Plus Benefits

Getting started couldn't be easier. Simply create a profile on their site, and start using your benefits and discounts today!

www.unionplus.org • www.unionplus.org/register



UNION PLUS

FROM THE BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE JASON MACLEOD



How “New Media” Will Affect You

What is “new media”? As it relates to entertainment, the term “new media” refers to live action and animated productions created for delivery over the internet.

- **Netflix** is “new media”
- **Amazon** is “new media”
- **Hulu** is “new media”
- **Boomerang** (TimeWarner) is “new media”
- **Crackle** (Sony) is “new media”
- **DisneyLife** (Disney, UK trial) is “new media”

Variety has [an article](#) on the new ecosystem that does a decent (but now dated) job of explaining how the six major studios all have an iron in the fire when it comes to “new media”.

Bottom line, the internet is a big deal, and even if you are working on the feature side you need to pay attention to it.

All five of the contracts the Animation Guild administers have a new media sideletter - Sideletter N in the Local 839 Master Agreement - that changes the terms and conditions of employment for members working on projects that are made for the internet, mobile devices, or any other platform.

The current terms in Sideletter N allow studios producing new media projects to offer less than the standard wage minimums. Using a system of budgetary tiers, new media productions with lower budgets may choose to pay lower rates, may choose to not pay dismissal pay, and may choose to pay reduced contributions to the MPI Health and Pension Plans (Active and Retiree health only, no Pension contribution), among other things. The language used in the sideletter is “greater flexibility in terms and conditions of employment” – but the flexibility is significantly biased toward the employer. All of this said, Sideletter N does clearly assert that new media productions are covered work. New media is the direction things are headed – if the terms don’t seem to relate to you right now, it is only a matter of time!

Are you working under the terms of the new media sideletter? Craft meetings will be scheduled later in May and June – please plan to attend for your craft, so you can share your experience firsthand with other artists. Or plan to come to the May 30th General Membership Meeting and speak up about what you are seeing.

Can't make it to the membership meeting? There is an active group on Facebook – open only to members. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IATSE839/> and request to join – the office will check your membership status and confirm.

On-demand video over the internet is clearly economically viable. Take the time to educate yourself, so you are prepared to comment and contribute when it is time to re-negotiate the terms of our agreements. Your voice will be needed – the union begins with you!

Yours in solidarity,

Jason

PS: These articles from *The Economist*, *Variety* and *Deadline* are an indication of where new media and streaming video on-demand (SVOD) as a business model are headed:

<http://www.economist.com/news/business/21702177-television-last-having-its-digital-revolution-moment-cutting-cord>

<http://variety.com/2015/digital/news/ott-map-video-ecosystem-1201480930/>

<http://deadline.com/2017/03/boomerang-streaming-service-looney-tunes-hanna-barbera-mgm-turner-warner-bros-1202038456/>



SEE US ON FACEBOOK ...
[FACEBOOK.COM/ANIMATIONGUILD](https://www.facebook.com/animationguild)

TWITTER ... [@ANIMGUILD](https://twitter.com/ANIMGUILD)



AND THE TAG BLOG ...

CHILDCARE

at the General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, May 30th

6:30 - 9:30 pm

The Animation Guild

We are trying out a few vendors and options for childcare during General Membership Meetings. For this month's meeting we will be using the services of The Babysitting Company.

If you are interested in using this service, please email laura.hohman@tag839.org to be put on the list. We will email you information and forms as soon as they are available.

Coming Soon . . . CRAFT MEETINGS!

We will soon be announcing our 2017 Craft Meeting schedule. Guild members with job categories in common can get together at these meetings and talk about the issues they face at work and goals for the next round of contract negotiations.

Please watch for upcoming emails and save the dates.

In Memoriam

Merle Welton passed away at home on April 11, 2017. She worked as an Ink & Paint artist, animation checker, scene planner and live action matte artist at Disney, UPA, Hanna-Barbera, Filmation and Paramount. Merle also spent five years as an illustrator at the Art & Animation Division of the Lookout Mountain Air Force Station working on films -- some of them top secret -- for the United States Air Force.

Theresa “Terri” Martin passed away on May 11, 2017. She began as an assistant at Filmation in 1987 on “Pinocchio and the Emperor of the Night,” and also worked as an animator on Beauty and the Beast and Aladdin at Walt Disney Feature Animation, and on The Prince of Egypt at Dreamworks.

CREATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE!

Member Profiles are open to all members regardless of your current membership status. You can add examples of your artwork, list the job categories that pertain to your skills and add links to your email addresses, social media profiles, websites, blogs and demo reels. Finally, you can indicate if you’re available for work or freelance, or if not, indicate a day that you will be. These profiles are searchable by potential employers and therefore could help you find work!

Go to <http://animationguild.org/member-application/>, fill out the form and submit it for review. Once your membership has been confirmed, you will be able to log back in and add all of your pertinent information and even opt-in to be included in the highlighted profiles on the homepage of our site!

MPTF IS HERE FOR YOU



MPTF

MOTION PICTURE & TELEVISION FUND

As someone who works in the entertainment industry, you know how unpredictable life can be. Working on a movie or show doesn't always mean security for people in the industry and their families, which is why it's so important that **MPTF is always there.**

One of the best-kept secrets in the business, MPTF has been around for 96 years taking care of our entertainment family. By working in the business, we belong to MPTF already – an organization whose motto, **“We take care of our own,”** is as true today as when it was founded.

Here are three of the many ways MPTF can help you and your family:

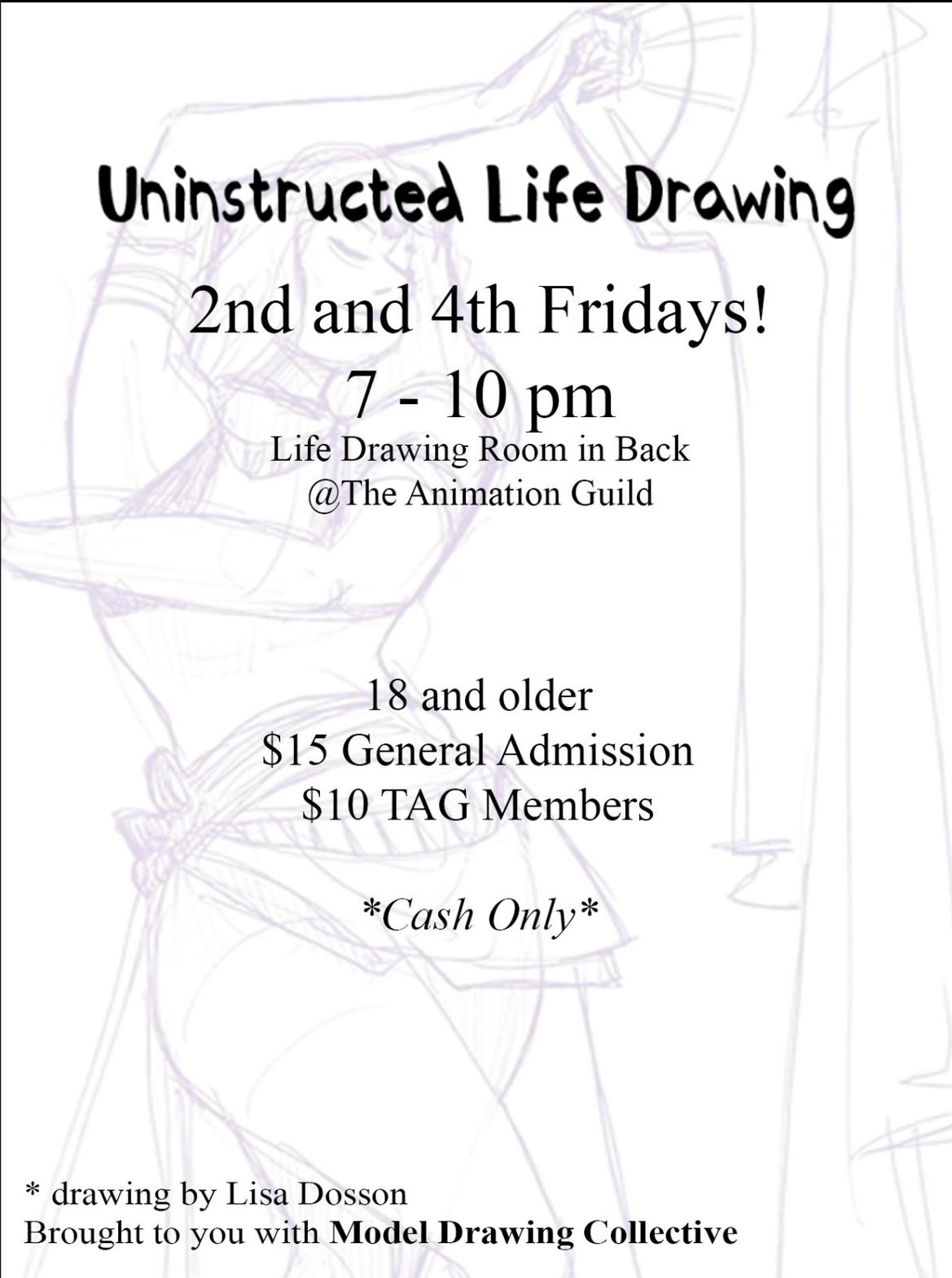
Financial Assistance: Maybe money can't buy you love or happiness, but it can be the only lifeline when you're injured, taking care of a spouse, or trying to pay the bills. MPTF's financial assistance program offers a safety net complete with social workers who can jump in and help at a moment's notice. You can get in touch today by calling **(323) 634-3888.**

Elder Connection: A spouse falls and breaks a hip. A parent gets diagnosed with dementia. Crises like these are critical and require immediate answers – and that's where Elder Connection comes in to help senior industry members with free services allowing them to live safely and independently in their own homes. You can reach Elder Connection directly at **(323) 634-3866.**

Emotional and Family Support: Our social workers understand the challenges of a crazy industry with unpredictable employment and work schedules, so they can help navigate the ups and downs of stress, job loss, caregiving, health issues, and so much more. Get in touch with them by calling **(323) 634-3888.**

At the forefront of pioneering social services, MPTF is the #1 place to go if you're in need in the entertainment industry. Find out more today!

Go to www.mptf.com, call us toll-free at **(855) 760-MPTF**, or email info@mptf.com.



Uninstructed Life Drawing

2nd and 4th Fridays!

7 - 10 pm

Life Drawing Room in Back
@The Animation Guild

18 and older

\$15 General Admission

\$10 TAG Members

Cash Only

* drawing by Lisa Dosson

Brought to you with **Model Drawing Collective**

DISNEY PRESIDENTS

46 Pastel Paintings by Angelo di Nallo
In honor of our 46th female president



Opening Reception June 2nd 2017 6-9pm

Show runs June 2nd - 30th

Gallery 839, Animation Guild
1105 Hollywood Way, Burbank CA

Info: www.angelodinallo.com

Proceeds will go to support our animation community
Women In Animation and our Local 839

Live Performance by DJ:



Angelo di Nallo is a 10 year veteran of the animation industry. He was co-creator, with Jason Plapp, or Nickelodeon's "Bradwurst" and is currently working as an animator on Season 3 of Mr Pickles at HOT-HOUSE. Outside of animation his other loves are figure drawing, stand-up comedy and chess. You can find him performing at Flappers Comedy Club in Burbank or figure drawing at Titmouse animation Studios or playing chess online at Chess.com, where his username is WizardAngelo. He is also a member of ArtTemple.org.

OUR NEXT:

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, May 30th

6:30 Pizza

7:00 Call To Order

AGENDA:

Swearing-In of New Members

Sarah Neale of OptumHealth

will present an overview of the

Live & Work Well Program

(our Member Assistance Program benefits)



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