**Richmond / Ermet Aid Foundation’s**

**HELP IS ON THE WAY 30**

**Sun. July 14, 2024 – 7:30 pm**

**Marines’ Memorial Theatre in SF.**

**Rev. 7-5-24**

**BIOS- Performers and Tech Personnel**

**DEBBY BOONE**

Debby Boone is a multiple cross-over artist who has enjoyed Top 10 successes on the Pop, Country, Adult Contemporary, and Contemporary Christian charts. She became a household name thanks to her record-breaking debut single *You Light Up My Life* in 1977, charting #1 on Billboard for ten straight weeks and selling in excess of four million albums. That year she received the Grammy for Best New Artist and has since received seven Grammy nominations, winning two more. In 2008, the song was ranked #7 in Billboard's 50th Anniversary all-time top charting songs.

Most recently, “*Swing This” An Evening with Debby Boone,* a TV Special premiered on Oct. 4, 2022 on KVCR-TV, PBS, was recorded in June as the opening summer performance for the outdoor Redlands Bowl Summer Music Festival.  Debby’s last album release was her 13th studio recording, *Swing This*, music that is evocative of the golden age of Las Vegas. Her accompanying show, which premiered at NY’s Carlyle Hotel, continues to entertain audiences at performing arts centers, casinos, and symphony halls throughout the U.S.  Debby celebrates memories and stories from her formative years, when her father, Pat Boone, was headlining at the Sands and Sahara Hotels. She also shares stories of eventually getting to work with members of the Rat Pack like Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr.

*“Debby Boone is a joyous blend of delicacy, wit, swinging sophistication, smoky sexiness, and unbeatable artistry, often at the same time--all rolled into one swinging musical package… she offers variety, versatility, and class all wrapped up in a brightly colored burst of show business know-how... one of the few headliners today who is keeping great music alive.”* - REX REED

Debby has appeared a number of times on stage in NY, including *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (1982), Lincoln Center’s 30th Anniversary production of *The Sound of Music* (1989), as well as in the part of Rizzo in the revival of *Grease* (1996). She also toured nationally in *Meet Me in St. Louis* (1990) and performed the role of Anna in *The King and I* on a west coast regional tour (2001). She starred in a production of *Into the Woods* in May of 2016 in Colorado, and in July 2018 in *42nd Street* in Arizona.

Building on her previous critically acclaimed release for Concord Records, *Reflections of Rosemary,* Debby continues to grow her reputation as a singer of the Great American Songbook. The album is an intimate musical portrait of her late mother-in-law, the legendary singer Rosemary Clooney. Debby performed this musical tribute across the country culminating in a prestigious appearance with the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall in Boston.

Debby lives in LA with her husband, Gabriel Ferrer, who works as an Episcopal priest. They have four grown children, a son-in-law, a daughter-in-law, and four adorable grandchildren.

[**http://debbyboone.com**](http://debbyboone.com)

**JASON BROCK**

**Jason Brock** is a singer and actor who was a top 12 finalist on the X-Factor USA (Season 2). He’s also a four-time recipient of the Bay Area Reporter’s “Best Male Cabaret Singer” award. Jason has released several singles and music videos throughout his career. He’s been seen in many Japanese and American TV shows, films and commercials. Jason is currently performing live in San Francisco and beyond. <https://www.facebook.com/jasonbrockvocals/>

**DAVID BURNHAM**

**David Burnham** was last seen on Broadway in the mega-hit musical, "*Wicked*", playing Fiyero, a role that he originated in the developmental workshops of the show. He is an original Broadway cast member of the musical "*The Light In The Piazza*", performing both on the Tony Awards and the PBS telecast "Live From Lincoln Center." He is the recipient of the prestigious "Helen Hayes Award" for Best Actor as well as the Best Actor "Garland Award" for his portrayal of Fabrizio in the national tour of "*The Light In The Piazza."* David first gained critical acclaim when, after a two-year search, he was chosen to replace Donny Osmond as Joseph in the national tour of "*Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*" (Dramalogue Award). He toured nationally in another Andrew Lloyd Webber blockbuster playing Peter in "*Jesus Christ Superstar*" with Ted Neeley.  In NYC he was in the original cast of the Off-Broadway show "*The Best Is Yet to Come - The Music of Cy Coleman"*. In Las Vegas, he starred in "*Showstoppers*" at the Wynn Resort. On film he was the voice of the Prince in the Warner Bros. animated feature "*The King And I,"* and can be heard on the soundtracks to "*Ghepetto*," Disney's "*Home on The Range*" and Comedy Central's "*South Park*". David performs with symphonies all over the country and his solo concert has been seen in the USA, Canada, and Europe. He has recorded two solo albums, his self-titled CD and "*One Day*." [www.davidburnham.com](http://www.davidburnham.com/)

**SAM HARRIS**

**Sam Harris** is a Tony-nominated Broadway star, multi-platinum recording artist, and longtime "Help is on the Way” participant. Sam has been lauded by critics as one of the most powerful and versatile forces on the stage. Rolling Stone Magazine put him on their list of “The 100 Greatest Singers of All Time.” He first came into the public eye on the TV talent show, STAR SEARCH, pulling 25 million viewers a week. Jimmy Fallon called his now legendary performance of Over the Rainbow “one of the greatest performances ever on TV ever!” This led to a multi-platinum record career as well as numerous appearances on TV and in concert at prestigious venues from Carnegie Hall to London’s West End and everywhere in the world. Sam starred on Broadway in GREASE (Drama Desk), THE LIFE (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critic’s Circle nominations), THE PRODUCERS, the Broadway National Tour of JOSEPH AND THE AMAZINGH TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT, as well as JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, CABARET, HAIR, PIPPIN, THE JAZZ SINGER, and THE FIRST WIVES CLUB, as well as the hit one-man shows HARD COPY, DIFFERENT HATS, SAM. And HAM: A MUSICAL MEMOIR, based on his best-selling book, “HAM: Slices of a Life,” playing to sold-out audiences in NY and LA to critical acclaim, and winning the prestigious Ovation Award for Best Musical and Best Actor. The show was filmed for TV and is on all major streaming sites. Behind the scenes, Sam co-wrote the TBS sit-com, DOWN TO EARTH, co- produced the TV special LOVE LETTER TO NEW YORK, supervised and directed segments of MICHAEL JACKSON’S 30 TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY at Madison Square Garden, and co-wrote LIZA’S AT THE PALACE for Liza Minnelli, winning the 2009 Tony Award. His first novel, “*The Substance of All Things”* received critical praise and is in development for a major motion picture.

**FAITH PRINCE**

For the past four decades, **Faith Prince** has dazzled audiences on both stage and screen in a variety of memorable comedic and dramatic roles. She quickly rose to Broadway fame after winning a Tony Award, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Award for her performance as Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* directed by Jerry Zaks, and has remained one of the most prolific leading ladies working in the American musical theater.

For her Broadway debut in *Jerome Robbins Broadway,* Ms. Prince was nominated for her first Tony Award and Drama Desk Award, and has since starred in over a dozen Broadway shows: *Nick & Nora* (Outer Critics Circle nomination)*, Guys and Dolls*, *What’s Wrong With This Picture, The King and I*, *Little Me, James Joyce’s The Dead, Bells Are Ringing* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics nominations), *Noises Off, Disney’s The Little Mermaid, A Catered Affair* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics nominations), *Annie*, and *Disaster.* Also in NY, she originated the role of Trina in William Finn and James Lapine’s *Falsettoland* and can be heard on the cast recording. Recently, she originated the role of Valentina in the world-premiere *BOOP!* The Betty Boop Musical in Chicago.

Equally present on screen, Ms. Prince made her TV debut guest starring opposite Pierce Brosnan on the hit series “*Remington Steele”* followed by playing Angela Virago in the 1985 film *The Last Dragon.* She has appeared in numerous films including: *Dave* with Kevin Kline, *My Father the Hero* with Gerard Depardieu, *Picture Perfect* with Jennifer Aniston, *Our Very Own, It Had to Be You, Material Girls,* and Disney’s *TinkerBell and the Great Fairy Rescue.*

Faith is perhaps more widely recognized for the many colorful characters she has created on TV including recently: Nellie Cantrell on the 2022 Fox series “Monarch” and Judith Robertson in *“Emily in Paris”,* as well as Kristy Swenson in *“Scream Queens”,* Elaine Bingum in “*Drop Dead Diva”,* Claudia in *“Spin City”,* Kelly Knippers in *“Huff”,* *“Modern Family”, “CSI", “Ugly Betty”, “Grey’s Anatomy”, “Monk”, “House”, “Now and Again*” and TV movies including most recently *“Dear Christmas”* for Lifetime.

Audiences can now stream her many live appearances, including performances from *The Tony Awards, “My Favorite Broadway”* at Carnegie Hall, and *An Evening at The Pops: A Tribute to Jerry Herman”* (PBS). In addition to the original cast recordings, she has two solo albums
*“A Leap of Faith”* (DRG, 2000) and *“Total Faith”* (Broadway Records, 2013).

Faith can frequently be seen in concert and her symphony appearances include Boston Pops, Utah Symphony, Orlando Philharmonic, Cincinnati Pops, and Philly Pops, and Sydney Opera House and the Adelaide Music Festival with Anthony Warlow.

Born in Georgia and raised in Virginia, Faith received a BFA in musical theater from U of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music before moving to NY and making her professional debut in *Scrambled Feet.* a revue at The Village Gate Theater. She then succeeded Ellen Greene as Audrey in the original NY and LA productions of *Little Shop of Horrors.* In 2009, Ms. Prince was honored by her alma mater with an Honorary Doctorate of Performing Arts.

<https://faith-prince.com>

**BRUCE VILANCH**

**Bruce Vilanch**, one of the most sought-after jokesmiths in the entertainment industry, has become a recognizable face in his own right, thanks to the feature-length documentary "*Get Bruce!"* (1999) and his one-time stint as a regular on "Hollywood Squares" (1998), for which he also served as head writer.

He made his feature debut as a dress manufacturer in "*Mahogany'* (1975), starring Diana Ross, and also contributed material to her live act. Mr. Vilanch put his Muppet-like persona to excellent use as Santa's number one helper in the syndicated TV-movie "*It Nearly Wasn't Christmas"* (1989). On the heels of *"Get Bruce!",* Vilanch performed his comedy stylings Off-Broadway in "*Bruce Vilanch: Almost Famous"* (2000). After a first act reminiscing on his odd path to almost famousness, he opened up the floor to questions in Act II, displaying his amazing ability for off-the-cuff one-liners. As he told US WEEKLY (June 12, 2000), there is a downside to celebrity: "*Now, I get knocked if someone tries something that doesn't work. Before it was the fault of these anonymous people, 'the writers.'"*
Vilanch began contributing to Academy Awards telecasts in 1989, collaborating with the likes of Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg and David Letterman, and graduated to head writer in 2000. He has roasted celebrities like Elizabeth Taylor and President Clinton. The Whoopi connection led to his providing the notorious material Ted Danson performed in blackface at a certain 1993 Friars Club roast of his then-girlfriend Goldberg, but his resume also includes "*You Made Me Watch You",* the Emmy-winning valedictory Midler crooned as a send-off to Johnny Carson.

He scripted most of the Academy Awards telecasts over the last decade, two of which won Emmys, including the one featuring Billy Crystal’s Hannibal Lecter entrance. Mr. Vilanch has also written for The Tony's, The Grammy's, The Emmy's, and just about every other award show to brighten your television screen. He also participates and volunteers at almost every charity function, especially those dealing with GLBT issues.

Mr. Vilanch capped off his 14th writing gig for the Oscars in 2003, wrote Bette Midler's 2003 Fall Tour and debuted in the popular Broadway hit, "*Hairspray*". For the part of Edna Turnblad, Mr. Vilanch shaved off his famous 30 year-old beard. No telling what's lurking in there...but one thing it has never been able to hide...TALENT!!!

**Bruce Vilanch** is being honored tonight for doing a lot of shows just like this one for an organization just like this one...oh, wait, it is for this particular organization, REAF.  as a charter member of Benefits 'R' Us, he sometimes gets confused. When he's not doing benefits, he has been a Hollywood Square, a Baltimore housewife in the musical *HAIRSPRAY*, the Emmy-winning writer of 25 Oscar telecasts, and the Emmy-losing writer of some other award shows.  Altogether he is the EGOT of that particular brand of TV.  he's always happy to come to San Francisco because there is always a chance he will meet a tech billionaire half his age and be swept away to a vineyard.

**LISA VROMAN**

From Broadway to classics, on stage and in concert, **Lisa Vroman** has established herself as one of America's most versatile voices. She starred on Broadway, LA and SF as Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera* and garnered theater critics’ awards for her portrayal. Her Broadway debut was in *Aspects of Love* and she was the first to play both Fantine and Cosette in *Les Misérables*.

She has starred in major productions as Marian Paroo in *The Music Man*, Lili Vanessi in *Kiss Me Kate*, Birdie in *Regina*, Josephine in *HMS Pinafore*, Anna 1 in *The Seven Deadly Sins*, Rosalinde in *Die Fledermaus*, Laurey in *Oklahoma*, Anna Leonowens in *The King and I*, Mary Turner in *Of Thee I Sing* and Rosabella in *The Most Happy Fella*. Lisa appeared on PBS as Johanna in the Emmy Award winning production of *Sweeney Todd*and was featured in the London Royal Gala, *Hey! Mr. Producer*. She has played, sang and danced opposite Dick Van Dyke as Mary Poppins at the Hollywood Bowl Disney’s 75th, and played the role of Maria Callas in Terence McNally’s award-winning play, *Master Class.*

Lisa is a frequent guest with symphonies including SF, Nashville, Philadelphia, Dallas, Utah, St. Louis, Houston, Pacific, Atlanta, Hong Kong, Cleveland, National, Florida, Cleveland, BBC Concert Orchestra, Boston Pops, Philly Pops, and the NY Pops.  She is a graduate of the Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam (BM, Hon. Dr. of Music, Minerva Award), Carnegie-Mellon University (MFA), and is a George London Competition winner. Lisa has become an active mentor and sought-after clinician with many colleges and universities across the country and around the world. She has acted as a judge in both the Lotte Lenya Competition for the Kurt Weill Foundation and UCLA’s Walter Jurmann Competition, and regularly performs Weill’s music with symphonies throughout the country. Recent performances have included symphony concerts celebrating the music of George Gershwin, and her 2024 Bistro Award-winning cabaret, *“Ingénue…Ingé-not-so-new****!”***, in NY. www.lisavroman.com

**JENNIFER LEIGH WARREN**

**Jennifer Leigh Warren** has been lauded for her theatrical work, from her show-stopping performance as Alice’s daughter in the original Broadway cast of *Big River* (singing a song written for her by Roger Miller), to originating the role of Crystal in the Alan Menken/Howard Ashman Off-Broadway hit *Little Shop of Horrors*, to her performance in the original Broadway cast of *Marie Christine* at Lincoln Center and as the Muse in Drama Desk Award-nominated *Lonesome Traveler*. In the TV musical event *RENT: LIVE*, she showcased her versatility as Mrs. Jefferson,
Mrs. Cohen, Support Sue, and the infamous bag lady. With the LA Philharmonic Orchestra in the Disney Concert Hall, she performed as the narrator/vocalist in the “Rock my Soul” festival and performed her “*Diamonds Are Forever: The Songs of Shirley Bassey”* concert directed by Richard Jay Alexander in the Renberg Theater in LA. She starred as “TheBlues Singer” in all four national tours of *A Night with Janis Joplin* (USA, Canada) streaming on Broadway HD.com. For REPRISE! she was Lalume in *Kismet*, Cleo in *The Most Happy Fella* and stopped the show as Shelia in *Hair*
(with a vocal arrangement made for her by Peter Matz). *On The Tonight Show, Conan and Jimmy Kimmel,* she performed with Broken Bells, The Kills, Trombone Shorty, Lisa Loeb and OK GO. In Japan, she re-created her *Big River* role (in Japanese) and in Denmark sang with Al Jarreau (televised LIVE throughout Europe). Film: Garry Marshall’s *Valentine’s Day*, *The Other Sister* and *Dear God, Allison Anders* &; Martin Scorsese’s *Grace of My Heart,* Sean Penn’s *The Crossing Guard,* Larry David’s *Sour Grapes.* Awards: LA Ovation Award-winner and numerous nominations, NAACP Theater Award nominations, Backstage Award winner, Broadway World Award winner. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College and served for two terms on the Board of Overseers for the Hopkins Art Center there and is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA and AEA unions. [www.JenniferLeighWarren.com](http://www.JenniferLeighWarren.com) @jenniferLeighWarrensings

**PAULA WEST**

**Paula West** is an American jazz and cabaret singer known for her rich, powerful contralto voice and for her highly nuanced interpretations of an extraordinarily eclectic selection of songs that range from the Great American songbook to reinterpretations of songs by artists such as Bob Dylan, David Bowie, Lou Reed and Johnny Cash.

Ms. West has performed predominantly in clubs in SF and NY with additional performances in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and select European cities. For ten years she held a one-month residency at the Empire Plush Room at the York Hotel in SF. She has had recurring engagements at the Oak Room of the Algonquin Hotel, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Mezzrow in NY as well as SF Jazz, Feinstein’s at The Nikko, and Yoshi’s in SF. Her nights at the Algonquin Hotel’s famed Oak Room earned her three straight NY Magazine Nightlife Awards as “*Outstanding Female Jazz Vocalist.”* The NY Times has been particularly vocal in their praise for Ms. West, singling out her “*thickly textured voice [that] has ripened into a driving expressive force*” and an “*ever-deepening feel for the blues.*” She has also performed at Lincoln Center with Wynton Marsalis, The White House, and Maison de la Musique in Paris as well as at numerous jazz festivals, including: the Monterey Jazz Festival, Spoleto Festival, Rochester Jazz Festival, San Jose Jazz Fest, Big Sur Jazz Festival, Los Gatos Jazz on The Plazz, Yerba Buena Gardens Festival, and the Fillmore Street Jazz Festival.

Her collaboration with noted pianist/arranger George Mesterhazy (who accompanied the late Jazz great Shirley Horn) was lauded in the NY Times, as “*a match made in pop-jazz heaven*” (Stephen Holden, *NY Times*, October 22, 2007).

Ms. West has recorded four albums (three studio and one live), including: *Temptation* (1997), *Restless* (1999), *Come What May* (2001), and *Live at Jazz Standard* (2012). In February 2013, Ms. West traveled to NY to appear with [Wynton Marsalis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wynton_Marsalis) and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra to perform in *Blood on the Fields*for which he won a Pulitzer Prize.

Ms. West has been praised for her willingness to creatively re-imagine the standards that she does perform, and an eagerness to identify worthy songs not usually found within the jazz/cabaret repertoire.

Ms. West currently performs at jazz venues around the country and has recurring engagements at Feinstein’s at The Nikko Hotel (SF), SFJAZZ, and Jazz at Lincoln Center (NY). <https://www.mspaulawest.com>

**MICHAEL ORLAND – Music Director**

**Michael Orland** is thrilled to have been a part of the mega-hit TV show AMERICAN IDOL for 16 seasons as the Pianist, Arranger, Vocal Coach, and Associate Musical Director both on FOX and ABC. In between those seasons were stints as Music Director/vocal coach on LITTLE BIG SHOTS and FOREVER YOUNG, both hosted by Steve Harvey. Through these amazing opportunities, Michael has appeared on OPRAH, ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT, ACCESS HOLLYWOOD, and a record number of appearances on THE ELLEN SHOW. At the end of every IDOL season, Michael also accompanied the top 3 contestants to NY for appearances on LIVE WITH KELLY & REGIS (and MICHAEL and RYAN), CBS EARLY SHOW, and concerts on the plaza for THE TODAY SHOW. He also served as a pianist/coach for the NBC summer series AMERICA’S GOT TALENT (Seasons 1 & 2).

In addition to playing and conducting for many celebrities, including Kristen Bell, Erich Bergen, Sabrina Carpenter, Lynda Carter, Kristin Chenoweth, Ariana Grande, Tony-Winner Debbie Gravitte, Marilu Henner, Jennifer Holliday, Roslyn Kind, Barry Manilow, Maureen McGovern, Katharine McPhee, Idina Menzel, the late Wayland Flowers & Madame, and the legendary Kaye Ballard, Michael played for the hit shows FORBIDDEN BROADWAY, RUTHLESS!, and WHEN PIGS FLY in LA. He made his Hollywood Bowl debut accompanying the iconic MGM star Ann Miller.

Some recent highlights include serving as Associate Musical Director on the NBC production of HAIRSPRAY LIVE, rehearsal pianist for the Netflix movie THE PROM, and working with Broadway legends Patti LuPone, Bernadette Peters and TV stars Eric McCormack and Amber Riley.

Watch some of Michael's most fun “Hollywood Week” AMERICAN IDOL quotes here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTKnB5uSSMc&t=7s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTKnB5uSSMc&t=7s&fbclid=IwAR38z4YjV0Jiyom-QU7R-WiXQaYKHLoGj_u7zRNcfwjSK7Irr9SWEOG05DI)

Follow Michael on Twitter and Instagram: @michaelorland

**KEN HENDERSON, Producer**

Ken Henderson serves as Executive Director of REAF and has co-produced all REAF events along with his partner, Joe Seiler since its inception in 1994. When founders Barbara Richmond and Peggy Ermet called Ken and Joe with an idea of producing a benefit to honor both their sons and help raise funds to help support the agencies that provided services for their sons before they died, they both readily accepted.

As one of the original founders, Ken has helped create REAF’s vision and oversee most of the Foundation’s event committees. In addition to co-producing the *"Help is on the Way"* and "*Help is on the Way for the Holidays"* productions, he and Joe have worked with over 65 touring Broadway shows to produce the popular *"One Night Only"* benefit cabaret series of fundraisers for REAF and Broadway Cares/ Equity Fights AIDS. They also produced REAF’s *"All You Need is Love: A Help is on the Way Valentine Benefit", "Divas & Dames",* and *"Dances from the Heart I and II"* and *"Broadway Bares/San Francisco Strips*" for the past seven years.

In 2022, Ken and Joe moved to the Palm Springs/Cathedral City area, created an event committee there and began to produce a series of events in that area called *“House Party PS”* benefiting local charities in the Coachella Valley. These events each have a different theme, include special entertainment and a silent auction. These House Parties have all sold-out and raised significant funds for Coachella Valley area charities.

Additionally, Ken is the key contact for corporate underwriting for REAF, oversees the beneficiary selection process, is the chief administrative officer, and donates his graphic design skills and time to the Foundation. It is the faces of the many friends lost to AIDS, those still fighting the battle and the ongoing crises in hunger and homelessness that motivate Ken to continue with this cause. Together, we all can truly make a difference.

**JOE SEILER, Producer**

**Joe Seiler**, along with his partner Ken, has served as Executive Producers for *"Help is on the Way"* events since REAF’s inception. Joe has co-produced all 27 Help is on the Way events as well as 19 *"Help is on the Way for the Holidays"* gala events.  Joe has directed several of REAF's *"Help is on the Way for the Holidays"* shows and co-produced all five editions of REAF's newest, sexiest show, *"Broadway Bares/ San Francisco Strips."* Joe has also co-produced REAF's "*All You Need is Love Valentine Benefit," "Dances from the Heart," "The Big Gay Comedy Show"* and *"Donna Sachet's Big Gay Comedy Extravaganza."* He has been an integral force in developing new events for the foundation and has co-produced *"One Night Only"* cabaret benefits featuring approximately 60 Broadway touring casts including casts of: *Jekyll and Hyde, Cabaret, Sunset Boulevard, Les Miserables, Titanic, Ragtime, Aida, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Kiss Me Kate, The Full Monty, Some Like it Hot, Phantom of the Opera, The Producers, Mamma Mia, Lion King, Beauty and the Beast, Hairspray, Evita, Annie, Avenue Q, Jersey Boys, Wicked, The Book of Mormon, Hair, West Side Story, Once, Newsies, Kinky Boots, School of Rock, Hamilton* and many others. Joe has also served as co-producer and director of REAF’s *"One Night Only: Comedy Tonight"* and *"Divas and Dames in Concert."*

Joe began producing theatrical benefits while living in NY where he also worked as a band singer and MC. He eventually moved to SF where he worked for Macy’s as Manager of Training and Development. During this time, he also coordinated numerous events including talent shows, fashion shows, and customer appreciation events. Joe has been heard as the “Voice of God” for *"Help is on the Way*" events, the SF GLAAD awards, and the annual SF Hotel Hero Awards. Joe also has produced and edited a series of promotional video presentations about REAF and its mission. During the pandemic, he produced and edited 3 virtual REAF benefit concerts featuring video highlights from past REAF performances. Joe has also been instrumental in the recent development of a REAF Palm Springs chapter, supporting charities in the Coachella Valley.  In Palm Springs, REAF is producing its newest benefit series, *"House Party PS,"* featuring theme-based entertainment events conducted in beautiful residences donated by REAF supporters. Joe, along with his partner Ken, are proud to have been awarded the Lifetime of Commitment Award for dedication in improving the lives of those touched by HIV/AIDS from the Board of Directors of the National AIDS Memorial Grove. Joe is also proud that REAF has recently been awarded the 2019 SF Pride “Heritage of Pride Community Organization Award” and Certificates of Honor from both CA Governor Gavin Newsom and from the office of SF Mayor London Breed. Joe has served as the Board Chair of REAF since its inception and thanks the many volunteers who give of their time and talent who have helped to provide over 4.5 million dollars of support to services for homeless youth, hunger programs and for those living with HIV/AIDS.