

# PlayBill OnStage Seniors Who's Who 2023-24



**Fran Benson's** acting career began with living-room dramas that she and her sister staged at family functions in Boston, Mass. Over the years she has participated in McCarter Theatre improvisation classes, Playback Theatre courses, Full Circle Theatre in Philadelphia, and CWW On Stage, which turned into On Stage Seniors. So many delightful hours, so much fun!!!



**Arthur Firestone's** high point of his theater career came in 7th grade with his portrayal of Elvis in the junior high school musical. He still fondly remembers all the girls mobbing the stage for his autograph as he seeks to restart his acting career via On Stage Seniors. Art lives in Pennington with his wife Barbara and cat Yam T'Cha while awaiting the call from Hollywood.



## **Ruth Schulman**

Ruth Schulman has been an active participant in the Princeton community for each of the 60 years that she's lived in Princeton. In addition to being an original member of Seniors on Stage, she is engaged in causes to support justice and equality for all peoples, affordable housing, and peace activities. The friendships developed in Seniors on Stage, and the connections we make with our audiences, these keep me going!



**Adelaide Zabriskie** I came to Princeton to be near family, and somehow found this OnStage class. Worried that I couldn't memorize, and blank out with stage fright, I, instead, have met new friends, and love to go around with the group and put on our show. I especially like the interaction with the audience after our gig!



**Steve Hiltner** has played many roles in life, as a botanist, jazz saxophonist, piano teacher, composer, writer of many blogs, father of two daughters, and founder of two environmental nonprofits. Now in his 10th year in OnStage Seniors, Steve is eternally grateful for the transformative impact that acting and the "yes, and" has had on his life and perspective.



**Fay Lachmann** enjoyed acting in high school and amateur dramatics in England. This is her second season with OnStage. She is retired after a career in international marketing, export management and logistics. Fay lives in Kingston and enjoys reading, memoir writing, bridge, and nurturing friendships.



**Kristine Mossinghoff** played leading roles in high school plays and musicals back in the day. This is her second season with OnStage. She once performed a five-minute opener at a comedy show in NJ. She is a licensed massage therapist and enjoys public speaking about self-care. She loves writing, especially poetry, and lives in Monmouth Junction with her sweet family.



**Leoni Infantry** A Jamaican transplant and Somerset resident, Leonie pursues a variety of interests, with Community Theatre fiercely rivaling Toastmasters as a consuming passion.



**Basha Parmet** has been with OnStage for 13 years and has enjoyed many memorable experiences with the group. She has also participated in many other community theater production over the years. She lives in Princeton with her wonderful cats and loves the outdoors.



**Laura Goldfeld** has been involved with OnStage since it originated as an interest group in the Community Without Walls. She has enjoyed being a part of many different productions. She lives in Princeton and tennis is her thing as well as photography.



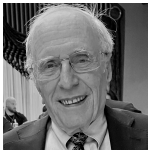
**Mimi Schwartz** is an author of seven books, Professor Emerita in Writing at Stockton University, and member of OnStage for fourteen years. All those performances have turned her to playwriting, a new love!



**Helge Deaton** has been part of OnStage for about 13 years with different leaders, I still love it, and enjoyed all the performances we provided - in different locations and to different folks attending. I'm a child psychotherapist and have loved working in 3 daycares (not simultaneously) for about 20 years. I have enjoyed theatre and music of many kinds all my life, especially singing.



**Sherry Spiegle** has appeared with the former Princeton Opera Association in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *South Pacific*, and *Carnival* at the Washington Crossing Outdoor Theatre and at Peddie School. She has also performed standup comedy in Mercer and Bucks Counties. She sings with the Central Jersey Choral Society classical choir, and the Adath Israel Synagogue choir in Lawrenceville, where she also blows shofar. Sherry is delighted to be a new member of OnStage Seniors.



**Fred Siemon** is a native Californian and lived and worked in San José California until 2023 when he followed his daughter east to Princeton in order to be near her and his grand children. He has had a life-long interest in the dramatic arts and hopes that his membership in On Stage Seniors will help him scratch this itch for performing and deepen his understanding of acting and the subtleties of the art: communication, imagination, emotion, expressivity, clarity, and understanding.



**Pamela Machold**, a native New Jerseyan, helped found the first school for autistic children in the state, Princeton Child Development Center in 1970. She has helped manage a local park and arboretum for over fifty years. This is her debut with OnStage, but played the role of the Wicked Witch in a production of Hansel and Gretel at the Far Hills Country Day School back in the day!



**Rhona Porter** I've been a member of OnStage for 10 years and I love it. Aside from learning lots of new skills, I've made many new friends. It's been a wonderful journey.



**Betsy Rizza** I first fell in love with onstage experiences as a folk singer with a group who performed in coffee houses and in "hootenannies" back in the '60's. And then what better way to practice my improvisational skills than with 3rd thru 5th graders as a teacher for 35 years! They would create plays based on their favorite books and Greek myths. This is my second year with OnStage Seniors and I am loving the challenge, and am so appreciating the supportive camaraderie!



**Candus Hedberg** transferred to Princeton from the San Francisco Bay Area with Educational Testing Service in 1991, intending to stay for two years. But, she loved the cultural events, change of seasons, and easy access to nature in Princeton and decided to stay. A lifelong musician, she sings with the Princeton Pro Musica and plays pennywhistle in the Rum and Onions Pickup Band for the Princeton Country Dancers. "I'm so happy to be with these great folks in OnStage Seniors!"



**Jill Hackett** is a writer, actor and this is her first year with this group. She is the computer guru for the group which is much needed! See our website thanks to Jill: [www.onstageseniors.com](http://www.onstageseniors.com)