



HB
STUDIO

LEGACY
CIRCLE



The Last Lesson

by Richard C. Mawe

How many versions of this story line do you remember? “When I was young, I thought my parents were totally out of touch with how I should respond to the challenges of my youth, but so many years later, I discovered how wise and thoughtful they were.”

Can that storyline connect with the HB legacy drive that I volunteered to assist?

Growing up I didn't know anyone whose parents were concerned about legacy. Born in 1929, I only learned years later that millions of families (including my own) were completely devastated during that infamous depression and post-depression period.

Things changed dramatically after World War II. Hundreds of thousands of individuals took advantage of the GI Bill and attended colleges and professional schools they never dreamed would be available to them. A new Middle Class was born! Parents who arose from nothing were now determined that their children would have it all. Wills were openly discussed.

Flash forward to 2021. Wills and legacy are much more common for families at all income levels and are even a frequent topic for “how to” articles in the press. Progress? Yes! But let's seize an opportunity to deliver a far greater last lesson. **Let's teach the next generation that charitable giving should be an integral and universal commitment in all legacies, signifying a beautiful summation of any life! Imagine this invaluable gift to our society!** Amounts would not be as important as the principle. **Institutions like HB would benefit and humanity would be enriched.**

I sincerely hope that those of you who are thinking about your own legacy will embrace the “last lesson” and consider including HB as part of your plan.

Various factors could inspire your individual decision. Perhaps you recognize the impact HB has had on the American theater, or you may wish to celebrate your relationship with Herbert or Uta or another teacher, or you might simply act on love for the theater arts in all its manifestations.

My decision. After working 25 years to ensure first rate science was available at a public institution, I realized that the work of theater artists was far more accessible, more readily felt and understood, and consequently, more important to the growth and development of the human spirit.

Simply put, I believe HB made me a better human being. My years as a student, teacher, actor, and administrator at HB have been richly rewarding, allowing me a clearer understanding of the human experience and the commonality of the problems that beset and challenge us throughout history.

Please join me and pledge legacy support for HB. Its existence can only enrich our world. Stay well.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Mawe
*President Emeritus, HB Studio Board of Directors
& HB Legacy Circle Chair*

ABOUT RICHARD C. MAWE

Dr. Richard C. Mawe began his HB training in 1956 while serving as Flight Physiologist in the U.S. Navy. During his tenure at Hunter College, where he retired as the Dean of the Division of Sciences and Mathematics, he continued his studies as well as taught at HB. During those years, he developed a close relationship to HB's founders, Herbert Berghof and Uta Hagen. After Berghof's death, Hagen invited his administrative help and advice. Following Hagen's death, and designation as sole member of the corporation, Mawe created the first Board of Directors for HB Studio, and served as President for many years. During those years, he appeared in many films, TV, and movies, allowing for an awareness of the needs and challenges facing theater artists.



HB LEGACY CIRCLE*

Herbert Berghof & Uta Hagen, *HB Studio Founders*
Richard C. Mawe, *HB President Emeritus &*
HB Legacy Circle Chair

The Lili Afan Estate

Leticia Ferrer, Teresa Teuscher, & Thyra Bielfeldt
Helen Gallagher

Anne Jackson & Eli Wallach

Dr. Wallace Johnson & Karen Duguid

Alison Lonshein

Edith Meeks, *HB Executive & Artistic Director*

Patricia O'Grady

Janice Orlandi

Marie-Louise Stegall, *HB Board President*

*HB Legacy Circle members as of July 1, 2021

ABOUT HB

Nestled in the heart of the West Village in New York City, HB Studio is a creative home for theater artists to hone their creative skills and to contribute to a theater that expresses the social, moral and political realities of the world in which we live.

Legendary actress Uta Hagen joined Broadway actor and director Herbert Berghof as his partner, in life and as a master teacher, at HB Studio soon after its founding in 1945. Based on her teaching at HB, Hagen authored her seminal texts, *Respect for Acting* and *A Challenge for the Actor*, cementing her legacy as one of the greatest American master-teachers of acting in the 20th century. Today, HB is a cherished workspace for accomplished and emerging artists around the world to train and to cultivate their unique artistic potential.

Over the past 75 years, HB has served generations of artists as a non-profit organization by staying true to a commitment to provide subsidized classes and workshops; ongoing mentorship and professional development opportunities; critical financial aid; and access to workspace for actors, singers, playwrights, and directors at every stage of their career. HB is committed to promoting diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organization in order to help create a theater community that shares this commitment and makes meaningful contributions to a greater global society.



JOIN HB STUDIO'S LEGACY CIRCLE

Leave a lasting impact at HB Studio by becoming a member of the HB Legacy Circle. As a non-profit organization, HB Studio can offer tax benefits for many kinds of planned gifts. Consider designating a part of your estate, or remembering HB as a beneficiary in your life insurance policy. If you are interested in learning more about the many planned gift options available, we advise speaking with your financial advisor. In the meantime, it is simple to make a pledge of future support by becoming a member of the HB Legacy Circle today!

NAME* (AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PUBLICLY LISTED AS A HB LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBER)

ADDRESS*

CITY, STATE, ZIP*

PHONE*

EMAIL*

BIRTHDAY (OPTIONAL)

**Required fields*

- Yes! I pledge to make a planned gift commitment to HB Studio.
- Yes! I have already remembered HB Studio in my plans.
- I'd like to remain Anonymous in public listings.
- I'd like to receive more information about how to leave a legacy gift to HB Studio.

CONTACT

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