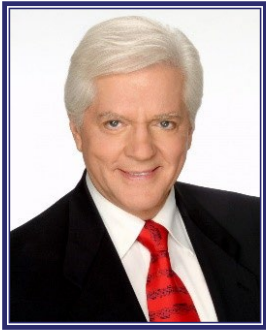


# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* TEACHERS *of* SINGING



## BILL HAYES

### THE BILL HAYES FUND

PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE NATIONAL MUSICAL THEATRE COMPETITION

Bill Hayes' remarkable and ongoing career has spanned over 70 years, featuring nearly every musical and theatrical medium during that time: musical theater, straight theater, television, operetta, radio, commercial recordings, cabaret, industrial musicals and movies.

Receiving his master's degree in voice performance from Northwestern University in his early 20s, his beautiful tenor voice was trained in the classical technique. With a young family to support, opportunities on the stage and in television pulled him in that direction. His early career was boosted by a long run on the weekly television variety show *Your Show of Shows*, in which he sang everything from opera to hit parade standards. In addition, he danced and acted in comedy skits with other pioneering TV stars, including Sid Caesar, Imogene Coca and Carl Reiner. He left the show in 1953 to be a lead in the original cast of Rogers and Hammerstein's *Me and Juliet*. Bill's credits include over fifty roles in musical theater and nearly that number in straight theater productions. In musicals, he sang leading parts in Golden Age standards, such as *Carousel* and *South Pacific*, and later, the classics of the early '60s, including *Bye-Bye Birdie* and *Camelot*. He sang both tenor and lyric baritone roles. Through the following decades, Bill continued to build his credits, including leading parts in *1776*, *Sweeney Todd* and *The Music Man*. Remarkably, at the age of 83, Bill performed the tap-dancing role of Billy Flynn in *Chicago*.

For many years Bill supported his large family by appearing in regional summer stock, Broadway tours and as a versatile recording artist, radio performer, television and film actor. Eventually, family needs required that he stay in one location so in 1970 he accepted the role of Doug Williams on the daytime television drama *Days of Our Lives*. This began a remarkable new phase of his career: Bill was an immediate hit with the audience and due to his skill as a singer, music began to be incorporated into the plot of the show. He eventually married his popular co-star on the show, Susan Seaforth Hayes, and they still appear frequently on the series. In the midst of this very busy career Bill managed to complete a PhD in Education.

Bill is an active 96-year-old, residing in Studio City, California. Bill and Susan received the Daytime Emmy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018. They are dedicated opera fans and have held season tickets to the Los Angeles Opera for decades. Bill and Susan have co-authored two books and are working on a third and cherish time spent with their large family.

Watch a documentary on Bill Hayes life: <https://www.billhayesmovie.com/fullmovie>

---

## **GIVING to NATS**

To contribute to this fund, visit the "[Give](#)" tab on NATS.org. When making your donate online, designate "The Bill Hayes Fund" in the notes section of your gift. You also may contact the NATS Executive Office at (904) 992-9101 for assistance.

