

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

### PAUL W. HODES OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY

Hon. Paul W. Hodes served two terms as a United States Congressman from New Hampshire's second congressional district, (2007-2011). He has combined professional careers in entertainment, law and politics from an early age.

At Dartmouth College, he studied theater, dance and music. He performed as an actor in numerous roles, worked on productions of his original plays, danced with the artists who would later form "Pilobolus" and played guitar in ensembles led by Jazz great Don Cherry. He won a Frost Play competition prize for his original play "The Arena". He studied at the National Theatre Institute in Waterford Connecticut and returned there to work as the sound engineer for the O'Neill Playwrights Festival.

After graduating from Dartmouth in 1972, he returned to New York City and continued his studies as an actor at the Herbert Berghof-Uta Hagen studio and appeared off-off Broadway in the original cast of "What's a Nice Country Like You doing in a State Like This?". He founded the Town Meeting Theater Workshop and in 1973, produced a season of new American Plays in collaboration with the Ensemble Studio Theater in Vermont. He was the musical director for a production of "Yucca Flats" at the Manhattan Theater Club. He worked in film as a freelance film production assistant and for a documentary filmmaker. He produced a documentary film "Raceweek in Newport" which was distributed internationally and appeared in a film directed by Jules Dassin. While performing on the folk music circuit, he worked for Cinema-Sound Ltd, producing programs in the early days of Public Radio. In 1975 His play "the Edsel was a Mistake" was produced by Playwright's Horizons, a notable off-broadway theater.

In 1975, Hodes moved to Boston to attend Boston College Law School. He appeared in Boston Arts Group's production of "Hotl Baltimore" while attending Law School and played music at clubs in New England. After graduation from Boston College Law School in 1978, Hodes moved to New Hampshire to begin his legal career as an Assistant Attorney General under then-Attorney General David Souter.

Hodes served in the criminal justice division, where he pursued a series of successful homicide prosecutions and the first successful environmental prosecution against polluters. He continued as the Special Prosecutor for the State of New Hampshire leading the successful prosecution of the largest white-collar fraud scheme to date in the state's history, the "Stewart-Meyers" case. Prior to his congressional service, Hodes pursued the private practice of law as a trial and entertainment lawyer. He represented and advised musicians, filmmakers, playwrights, record labels, studios, and artists on a variety of matters. He was a shareholder and director of the New Hampshire law firm, Shaheen & Gordon, P.A. from 1996-2006 and is now Of Counsel to the firm.

Hodes was elected to Congress in 2006 and was chosen as the President of the historic 2006 freshman class. He served as a national co-chair of President Obama's 2008 campaign. In Congress, he was a member of the Arts Caucus, testified on artist's rights before the House Judiciary committee and served on the exclusive Financial Services Committee and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Throughout his career, Hodes has devoted substantial time to community service and advancing the arts in New Hampshire. He acted and Directed in plays produced by the Kearsarge Theater Company and the Concord Community Players. As a guitarist, songwriter, producer and sound engineer, he and his wife, Peggo, a singer, pioneered rock and roll for families. With their band, Peggosus and as "Peggo and Paul", they were long time members of the State's touring artist roster and most notably earned two Parents Choice awards for their groundbreaking family music. Hodes holds copyrights on a catalog of original compositions. Hodes has produced, engineered and performed on numerous recordings. He founded an independent record label, Big Round Records, now an imprint of Parma Recordings and manages Big Round Music, LLC an ASCAP affiliate.

In 2000, Hodes wrote the book and lyrics for "The People's House", an original musical collaboration with composer Lawrence Siegel produced by the American Stage festival. In 2004, just prior to entering politics, Hodes wrote the libretto for "Oscar Wilde" in collaboration with composer Thomas Oboe Lee. Hodes served as a New Hampshire State Councilor for the Arts as an appointee of then Governor, now U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen. As Chairman of the Board of the Capitol Center for the Arts from 1990-1996, Hodes helped to lead the Concord community's efforts to transform a derelict vaudeville house into a premiere, award-winning performing arts institution that now serves as an important economic engine for the city. He has also served on the board of the Concord Community Music School, as Chairman of the Board of Tricinium, Ltd, and as Chairman of the Board of the Story Preservation Initiative. He is currently President of The Dance Hall in Kittery, Maine. Hodes is the guitar-slinging front man for Paul Hodes and the Blue Buddha Band playing his original compositions, roots rock, and blues. He and Peggo continue to perform in acoustic settings. Hodes was the long-time host of the radio shows/podcasts "Capitol Close Up", "Beyond Politics" and "Balance of Power" heard in weekly rotation on WKXL-AM-FM, archived at nhtalkradio.com, and now podcast everywhere.

In 2012, President Obama appointed Hodes to the National Council on the Arts, the board which advises the Chair of the National Endowment on the Arts. Hodes currently serves on the advisory board of the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at St. Anselm's College and the Rudman Center for Justice and Policy. He has served as a board member of the NJDC and ADL, New England. He is affiliated with ASCAP as a writer and publisher as manager of Big Round Music, LLC. He has been a member of the Recording Academy (NARAS), the National Music Publisher's Association (NMPA) and is a member of the musician's union, the AFM, local 374.

He and Peggo live in Kittery Point, Maine. They are the parents of two artistic children, Max, an audio engineer and rock musician who is the Director of Operations for the California Jazz

Conservatory in Berkeley, Ca. and the leader of the Bay Area band "Vannon" and Ariana, a singer-songwriter, actress, model and non-profit entrepreneur who lives Nashville, Tn.