

PLAYBILL[®]

The **Adult Children Of Divorce Committee**
Of FamilyKind Welcomes You to Our
First Annual Fall Friendraiser

An Autobiographical Play

64 SQUARES

by Peter Roccaforte

An intimate perspective from
a child of divorce.

Written and Performed by Peter Roccaforte

Directed by Kristen French

Presented by the ACOD Committee
of FamilyKind

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<https://familykind.org/acod-committee/>



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FAMILYKIND is Proud To Present

THE ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE COMMITTEE



The **ACOD committee** has formed to help identify and increase awareness of the impact of divorce on adult children. The committee was created to provide resources and programs that foster resilience and recognition of those impacts in order to empower adult children of divorce.

Divorce hurts whether children are thirteen or thirty. The **ACOD committee** wishes to look more closely at the trauma suffered by those whose parents divorced during their children's adulthood, at a time when its prevalence is on the rise (gray divorce rates have more than doubled since 1990). The **ACOD committee** brings light to the unique and too often unspoken issues facing this demographic. For instance, adult children often question what was and wasn't true about their childhood and was there ever real love or was it all a lie. Thank you for your support of our effort to illuminate and increase understanding of the unique challenges facing adult children of divorce.

**The ACOD Committee Of FamilyKind Welcomes You
To Our First Annual Fall Friendraiser**

64 SQUARES

*We thank the venue, the **Goddard Riverside Community Center**, for hosting our event today. **Goddard** invests in people, strengthening community, and we are honored to be part of its community. Please support **Goddard Riverside** so that our community can be stronger. In particular, we thank **Susan Macaluso** of **Goddard Riverside** and the **Bernie Wohl Center** for all of the help and support coordinating today's event.*

FamilyKind's ACOD Panel Discussion

Directly following the play

The ACOD committee is proud to present a panel of experts, by experience and profession, to discuss the unique characteristics of being an adult child of divorce, and their own life stories.

NICOLE GOLDSTEIN is our moderator and a presenter. Nicole is an account executive for a junior clothing manufacturer in New York City's bustling Garment Center, and an avid supporter of FamilyKind. Nicole joined the ACOD to provide her strong work ethic and commitment in furtherance of its mission. Nicole's parents separated when she was 16 years of age and divorced when she was 20. Her experiences during that period, as well as her love affair with her husband, Brett, have informed her life and growth ever since, and she looks forward to furthering cultural understanding and support for adult children of divorce through her work on the ACOD Committee.

LAUREN BEHRMAN is a clinical psychologist in independent practice for over 34 years. Lauren has co-authored a book on divorce recovery entitled "Loving Your Children More Than You Hate Each Other", in addition to numerous articles on various topics related to divorce, and she lectures and teaches workshops on conflict resolution internationally. Lauren is excited to be a part of this Committee exploring a rarely explored subject, the impact of divorce on adult children. Lauren's conversation with Robyn Mann, over a seltzer, three years ago was the first time she had ever conversed about her own experience as an adult child of divorce with another peer who shared that life experience. This opened her eyes to the common and unique experiences of adult children of divorce.

ROBYN MANN is an attorney who specializes in matrimonial and family law and a trained mediator in family matters. Robyn is personally invested in the stories of adult children of divorce, as her parents separated when she was 22 years of age and divorced (she believes) when she was 29 years of age. Robyn experienced the unique impact and character of being an adult child of divorce, and she brings that experience to her practice in family law. Robyn met Lesley Friedland, executive director of FamilyKind, in 2013, and found a friend and supporter who has provided an important platform for the further understanding of ACODs.

PETER ROCCAFORTE is our playwright, and his story, as presented in 64 Squares today, provides a sounding board for the voice of a child of divorce, through his unique perspective. Thank you Peter for supporting FamilyKind and the ACOD Committee!

KRISTEN FRENCH is very grateful for this opportunity to bring Peter's story to life, and is making her professional directing debut with 64 Squares. Kristen has worked as an assistant director and choreographer in a number of academic and community productions, including *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*, *Bells are Ringing* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Kristen wishes to thank the artistic team for its time and talent in bringing this play to the stage.

The ACOD Committee welcomes adults aged 18-36 to join in further conversation and exploration of the unique characteristics of being an adult child of divorce at the 92nd Street Y in April 2020. FamilyKind will be furthering its mission to provide resources to this demographic in a 6-session workshop and support group on Wednesdays from April 22nd-May 27th from 6:30 pm - 8 pm. See insert in playbill for additional information.

For further information about this important topic, please contact: Lauren Behrman at 212-799-7921.

The ACOD Committee wishes to give credit to Noelle Oxenhandler, coauthor of *A Grief Out of Season*

a book dedicated to identifying and exploring the adult child of divorce experience.

FamilyKind is eternally grateful to **Peter Roccaforte**, the incredibly talented playwright and actor, for his fortitude and generosity in sharing his journey with us.

FamilyKind gratefully acknowledges the vision, insights and incredibly hard work of the members of the **ACOD committee**. This small group of volunteers have come together to make sure that Adult Children of Divorce get the support they truly deserve.

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ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

at the 92nd Street Y

6 Sessions on Wednesdays 6:30–8:00 PM
April 22–May 27, 2020



The message from our culture is that your parents' divorce doesn't really matter when you're a young adult. After all, you may be away at college, living on your own, or even married with your own children. We understand that parental divorce can be deeply disruptive to young adults, and have a significant impact on how your adult life evolves.

There are very few supports offered for adult children of divorce. We've created this group to provide a safe space for you to process and share feelings related to your parents' divorce. Group members will gain insight into how parental divorce can impact everything from their sense of identity to their feelings of security in romantic relationships. Together, group members will find ways to acknowledge our grief, heal and grow.

Facilitators of this group have both experienced parental divorce in addition to being professionals in the field.

Open to adults aged 18-36 whose parents divorced when they were children, and those whose parents divorced as adults.

Group facilitators:

Lauren Behrman, PhD & Nancy Adler, PhD

for more information contact:

laurenbehrman@gmail.com or nancy.adler.phd@gmail.com

64 SQUARES

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL PLAY

Run Time: Approximately 70 Minutes

No Intermission

Please Turn Off Cell Phones, Etc.

PETER ROCCAFORTE

Writer/Performer

Peter is excited to be back on stage telling his own intimate story of relationship struggles, family issues and life journey where he faces the question of how to LOVE. Peter has previous acting experience in the Philadelphia theater community. Peter is grateful to share his story in collaboration with such an important and impactful organization.

KRISTEN FRENCH

Director & Wife

Kristen is very grateful for this opportunity to bring Peter's story to life, and is making her professional directing debut with 64 Squares. Kristen has worked as an assistant director and choreographer in a number of academic and community productions, including *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*, *Bells are Ringing* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Kristen wishes to thank the artistic team for its time and talent in bringing this play to the stage.

BRANDON DUNCAN

Assistant Lighting & Sound Operation/Assistant Stage Manager

Brandon is a NYC actor and writer, and is ecstatic to be part of the 64 Squares team! www.brandonduncan.com.

Peter, Kristen and the 64 Squares Team thank all who join us today, and the Adult Children of Divorce Committee and FamilyKind, for this opportunity to present this memorable, touching story of Peter's life experience.

Thank you to our generous sponsors listed on previous page and our wonderful volunteers Michael Brunwasser and George Eng.