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Some of the wickedest theater in New York City is happening in one of the most unexpected of places. Several times a week at the New York Simulation Center for the Health Sciences (NYSIM) located within Bellevue Hospital, thespians pretending they're patients get routine checkups, discuss embarrassing symptoms, respond to devastating diagnoses, and engage in other scenarios with current and future healthcare providers. "We have more than 250 actors in our database, ranging from 16 to 88 years old and speaking 10 different languages," says Sondra Zabar (MED '91) of the Standardized Patient Program, which she directs along with NYU's division of general internal medicine and NYSIM, a partnership between the Langone Medical Center and the City University of New York. The performers provide feedback and let educators observe the students' history taking, eye contact, clinical reasoning, note writing, and physical exams via one-way mirrors and video. "We have programs for nursing, emergency room responders, pharmaceutical companies [doing] clinical trials, and for faculty, to reinforce their communication and leadership skills. [The scenes] are only limited by our creativity," says Zabar. —D. I.