Volunteer Voice

Information for those who donate their time, treasures, and talents to our organization

FREEMAN STAGE UPDATE

Hello everyone and welcome back to The Freeman Stage for our 13th season! We are pleased to introduce volunteer members Kathryn Chapdelaine, Maureen Griffith, Kim Littman and Myrie Ward to the 2020 Captains team!

The Joshua M. Freeman Foundation will present a series of enrichment events related to the Centennial of the 19th Amendment ratification. Programs to celebrate this milestone in history through the arts are highlighted on The Freeman Stage website. We hope that you can help us spread the word and that you will participate in one or more of the events!

Virtual orientation sessions are nearly complete! If you have completed your virtual orientation, we will invite you to register for the in-person Venue Tour & Safety Update in the coming weeks.

On March 18, the 2020 season will be announced! Check our website and social media outlets at about noon that day to see who will be a part of this season’s lineup!

— Paul Tooker, Volunteer Coordinator

Meet your new VAC Members and Captains!
Clockwise from top left are: Bob Katz, VAC member; Kim Littman, Captain; Kathryn Chapdelaine, Captain; Mary Pineda, VAC member; Maureen Griffith, Captain and VAC member; Myrie Ward, Captain; Bob DiPalma, VAC member and Dave Kittell, VAC and JMFF staff member.
MEET THE NEWEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER

Congratulations are in order! The Joshua M. Freeman Foundation has selected John Tiberi, a Freeman Stage volunteer, to join its Board of Directors. This is the first time a current volunteer has been selected to the Board. John brings a tremendous amount of experience to the board. He is a retired Vice President of the parent company of New Jersey’s largest utility company. John started as an engineer working in field operations and over the course of his 34-year career was eventually named Vice President of Employee Benefits, Health and Safety. He has served as a member to the boards of several organizations, including Thomas Edison State College, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton Foundation and the Notre Dame High School Board of Governors. John also was a member and chairperson of the Hamilton Township Board of Education planning and budgeting committee and a member of the Hamilton Township Ethics Committee. John has been a tremendous supporter of the Joshua M. Freeman Foundation, volunteering over 300 hours for the last several seasons, serving as chair of the VAC and stepping in to temporarily assist in the Volunteer Coordinator role in 2019. Additionally, John is a mentor for students at Indian River High School.

VOLUNTEER SOCIAL UPDATE

The last social of 2019 was held on Dec. 15 at the Movies at Midway in Rehoboth Beach. About 35 volunteers met for a fun afternoon to watch the movie "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." Before the movie, they gathered for donuts, coffee and fellowship. Thanks again to the generosity of our volunteers, we were able to collect several bags of toys for distribution to needy children in the community.

Please note the following socials for 2020:
- March 26: Big Fish Grill, 4:30-6:30 p.m. This event, for current volunteers, will be held at the Ocean View location, 30415 Cedar Neck Road.
- April 6: New and Experienced Volunteer Social. This event will be held at Bethany Blues in Bethany Beach from 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- June 7: Picnic at the Stage
- Oct. 7: End of the Season Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- December: TBD

— Diane Gilner, VAC member

VAC UPDATE

Well, the 2020 season is rapidly approaching and we are off to a running start. At this point, most of our virtual orientation sessions have been completed. Remember, in order to be eligible to volunteer, we still have to attend the in-person tour of the venue and safety update.

Our volunteer leadership positions have been filled. We start the season with nine captains and welcome Bob Katz, Bob DiPalma, Maureen Griffith, Mary Pineda and Dave Kittell as new additions to VAC.

VAC members are the volunteer's voice. We work to improve the volunteer program and experience. Please feel free to contact any VAC member with any suggestions, concerns or questions you may have. Our names are listed at the end of this newsletter and we are easily identifiable as a VAC member on our ID tags when at the shows.

— Phil Facciolo, VAC Chair

UPCOMING DATES

- Thursday, March 5: Virtual Orientation Session (registration is still open) at 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, March 8: Celebration March in Georgetown
- Wednesday, March 18: Season Reveal at noon
- Monday, March 9: VAC Meeting at 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 26: Experienced Volunteer Social at Big Fish Grill in Ocean View at 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- Monday, April 6: New and Experienced Volunteer Social at Bethany Blues in Bethany Beach at 4:30-6:30 p.m.

VAC MEMBERS

Phil Facciolo, chair; Bob DiPalma, vice chair; Maureen Griffith, secretary
Trudy Albrecht, Diane Gilner, Bob Katz, Dave Kittell; Nicole McDuffie, student volunteer; Mary Pineda, Elena Ripkin, Linda Thetford, John Tiberi and Linda Urban

OUR PURPOSE

Creating opportunities that elevate the human spirit