FREEMAN STAGE UPDATE

Who is your favorite performer coming to The Freeman Stage? If you are like me, it is hard to decide!

From our Young Audience series to Shakespeare and the Tamburitzans to Steve Miller Band, you can see the diversity of our mission, “partnering to present memorable experiences and providing inspired arts education for all.” We have 66 performances scheduled beginning May 31 with Locals Under The Lights, a must see event for all!

We are filled with JOY as you join us to volunteer this season and look forward to seeing you in person at one of the orientation sessions!

— Denise DiSabatino Allen, Education & Community Access Coordinator

CAPTAIN UPDATE

Our 2019 season kicks off with a full complement of Volunteer Captains.

This year we welcome five new captains to our volunteer leadership team. Joining our team are: PJ Cavanaugh, Bill Freedman, Tom Legis, Diane Gilner, Lynette Catha.

Returning captains are: Trudy Albrecht, Phil Facciolo, Mary Pineda, Mimi Rottiers and John Tiberi. You will also see some “guest appearances” from past captains Margaret, Mike and Patti!

On behalf of the captains, we extend a hearty “welcome back” to our experienced volunteers and to our new volunteers we collectively say “welcome aboard” as we prepare for an exciting season at The Freeman Stage.

— Phil Facciolo, VAC Vice-Chair and Captain

STAGE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Jeff Giles, JMFF Security Supervisor

Meet Jeff Giles, our new Security Supervisor for The Freeman Stage. Jeff grew up in Wilmington and is a Saint Mark’s High School graduate. He attended the University of Delaware where he earned a degree in Criminal Justice. Jeff brings to the security team 32 years of law enforcement and security experience. His entire career in law enforcement has been with the Delaware State Police.

He worked primarily out of Troop 6 and also served as the team leader for the Delaware State Police Maritime Dive Team. Jeff and his wife, Juli, have called Rehoboth home for the last five years. They have two daughters.

Although Jeff is new to The Freeman Stage staff, he is no stranger to the amount of volunteer effort required to ensure a successful show. He has volunteered at the Stage working in the merchandise tent. Despite the fact he has only been on the job for three weeks, it hasn’t taken him long to form an opinion about his new coworkers. He is impressed with their professionalism and dedication exhibited in going about their daily tasks.

“They inspire people by their example to participate in a great cause,” he said.

His goal is twofold: First — to create an environment that is safe and secure for everyone to enjoy all that The Freeman Stage has to offer. Second — to assemble a security team that is professional, well trained and empathetic with the public. We welcome Jeff to the Stage family and look forward to working with him as we enter our 12th season.

— Phil Facciolo, VAC Vice-Chair and Captain
VAC UPDATE

The VAC met on March 11. Here are some highlights of the meeting:

- We expect to have about 215 volunteers complete the newly implemented Virtual Orientation program by mid-April.

- Next up, our Arts in Education program will offer The Moving Pastels Project at Millsboro Middle School in late March and the three day presentation of Charlotte’s Web on June 4, 5, & 6 where we will host over 6,000 students.

- We have five new Captains. We start this season 11 strong!

- We will continue the Pin recognition program, with additional forms of recognition to be explored. More spontaneity in recognition is the goal.

This season we need to impress upon the volunteers that the performance requirements (40 hours and 2 free or non-performance opportunities) are going to be monitored and enforced. Consequently, volunteers are encouraged to check their hours and keep current on their progress as the season unfolds.

— John Tiberi, VAC Chair

VOLUNTEER SOCIAL UPDATE

The Social Committee has been busy at work. The first social of the year was held on March 21 at The Wheelhouse in Lewes. About 57 current volunteers enjoyed delicious food as we gathered to socialize and get excited for the 2019 season at The Freeman Stage. Denise and Molly spoke to the attendees.

The second social was held on April 8 at Bethany Blues in Bethany. Over 90 current and new volunteers met for an evening of fun and fellowship. New volunteers had an opportunity to hear about the upcoming season and existing volunteers shared their passion with others who have not yet volunteered at the Stage. There was a buzz in the air about this year’s lineup.

Please mark your calendars for the remaining social events for 2019:
- June 2: Volunteer Picnic at the Stage
- Sept. 25: End of the Season Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- Dec. 12: Last Social of the Year

— Diane Gilner, VAC member

YOUR SUMMER PLAYLIST!

Enjoy this Stage in your life not only as a volunteer, but as a patron!

Tickets are still available for most shows — take a chance on an artist you may not know, but we guarantee you’ll love!

Visit freemanstage.org today!

“The sun is never denied the light it gives; likewise, you are never denied the kindness you bestow.

— Matshona Dhliwayo

VAC MEMBERS

John Tiberi, chair; Phil Facciolo, vice chair; Linda Federman, secretary; Trudy Albrecht; Chuck Bologna; Alyson Cunningham; Diane Gilner; Sue Katz; Nicole McDuffie, Student Volunteer; Nancy Nimsz; Elena Ripkin; Linda Theford and Linda Urban

OUR MISSION

Partnering to present memorable performances and provide inspired arts education for all.