Hello JMFF Volunteers!

Please help me in welcoming your new volunteer manager, Londin Boots! I am thrilled that Londin started on April 11 and is training and preparing for the 2022 season! Londin shared a quick note to introduce herself:

“Prior to my start, I was a Property Manager in Lewes where I managed a portfolio of residential communities. Outside of work, I spend most of my time with my family, outside, or exploring Delaware and the surrounding areas. Transitioning into my role as the volunteer manager, I have heard nothing but amazing things about the volunteer corps and am excited to be part of such a great team. As the summer season is growing closer, I look forward to meeting each of you during orientation and working with you at the Pavilion!”

Volunteers — the countdown is ON for our 15th season! Each day we are completing projects and goals that move us closer to opening the gates on Thursday, June 2, with The Great DuBois, a free family show featuring incredible artists performing “the world’s most unique two-person circus show!” If you haven’t had a chance to review our season lineup, please visit the Events & Tickets page on our website. Some of my personal favorites include the ultimate sing-along concert with Choir! Choir! Choir! on June 16, a cappella artist T.3. on July 23, and comedian Nate Bargatze on Aug. 5.

I am extremely happy to be part of the volunteer corps for the Joshua M. Freeman Foundation. Lauren and I moved to the area last year from downtown Baltimore after scouring up and down the east coast for a place to retire. As it turned out, it was a good thing we settled on lower, slower Delaware because within one month after signing a contract on a house here, we found out that we were to become grandparents for the first time, and we would be making frequent trips back to Baltimore. This area attracted us to the programming offered at Freeman Arts Pavilion. We love it here and have spent many hours exploring all this area has to offer. The one aspect of life here that has struck Lauren and I is the warm and welcoming nature of everyone. We were afraid that as newcomers to the area we would struggle to make friends and build relationships. We haven’t been here a year, and yet we are already blessed with strong and vibrant social circles. After spending 40+ years wedded to a desk job digesting e-mails and manipulating spreadsheets, I look forward to a retirement that does not have me drowning in numbers or making sure I copy the right people on my e-mail response. In addition to volunteering for JMFF, I volunteer at the River Soccer Club in Frankford by coordinating the youth soccer referee program. This entails guiding/mentoring teenagers in the laws of soccer and all aspects of refereeing games. I also volunteer with the South Coastal Village, an organization dedicated to helping older adults live independently. Here I often drive members of the Village to doctor’s or social appointments, as well as simply visiting and chatting with members in their homes.

When not volunteering, you might find me riding my bike (ALWAYS with a helmet), slashing massive divots into local golf courses, overturning kayaks in Assawoman Bay, or prowling local farmer’s markets for fresh products to conjure into that evening’s meal. I’ve always loved the arts, raised by parents whose non-professional lives revolved around the theater. They even tolerated my trombone playing throughout grade school and into college. I love most all forms of music but have a particular soft spot for big band jazz, up-tempo roots/R&B, and Broadway. I know I was fortunate to have a vast arts exposure during my upbringing, and I hope to “pay it forward” by supporting the JMFF mission. Personally, I’ve been awed by the commitment and energy of the event volunteers at JMFF. It is truly energizing to see the cadre of dedicated volunteers working to enable a safe and rewarding environment for the thousands of patrons to enjoy the broad slate of arts programming. I am humbled to be considered a part of this organization.
Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Melinda Stone, a new captain for the 2022 season

I retired in 2020 after 37 years with Albertsons Companies where I held various HR leadership roles. I've always been passionate about assisting others, giving back to the community, customer service, and enjoying the arts. I was a 15-year season ticket holder to Broadway Across America when I lived in Arizona.

Volunteering with Freeman Arts Pavilion seemed a great fit for my retirement time and my passions. The 2021 season was my first and phenomenal! I worked in concessions, as a parking attendant, gate monitor, and at the sponsor bar. I continued in the winter assembling Creative Nourishment Art Kits where I was able to see how important our volunteer service is and how it benefits the youth in our community.

The arts really do elevate the human spirit! This led me to want to do more, so I sought to be a captain. I feel very fortunate to have been selected and look forward to utilizing my skills and experiences to partner with each of you and our patrons to expand the ARTS on the Eastern Shore.

Meet Cathy Stone, a new captain for the 2022 season

Last year was my first volunteer opportunity. I must admit, when I signed up to volunteer, my main objective was to see free concerts. Well boy did I mislead myself! As I was beginning to realize that I would one day soon retire from my full-time job, I always thought that volunteering my time would be rewarding. Well, I learned during the 2021 season that it is so much more than rewarding. I learned about the great work that the Foundation does and the opportunities it creates for our children. It was also fun, and it gave me many opportunities to interact with people within and outside of the community. I made some new friends along the way and yes, I saw some really awesome concerts.

My career has been as a legal assistant and administrative assistant for the past 40-plus years. During that time, I had many opportunities to work with our HR personnel and executive personnel which provided me with a background in leadership, organization, communication, and problem-solving. I believe all of these skills, along with the fact that I absolutely love people and interacting with people on many levels, will be useful in making me a good captain at Freeman Arts Pavilion.

I have done some volunteer work in the past, at various nursing facilities, and I did some work with the House of Ruth, an organization that houses women and children who are escaping abusive living situations. My other volunteer opportunity was through a local church, putting together boxes of food to feed food-insecure families in the community. I believe all of these opportunities, and now the opportunities I am being presented by the JMFF, have helped me further develop my "people" skills that will make me a good volunteer captain.

Upcoming dates

Virtual onboarding is underway. You must complete the three eLearning modules online, which includes the video virtual orientation prior to signing up for the In-Person Safety Update and Venue Tour and any performances.

- New Volunteer In-Person Orientations: April 29 (10 a.m.-noon), May 11 (5:30-7:30 p.m.), May 19 (5:30-7:30 p.m.)
- Experienced Volunteer In-Person Orientation: April 27 (3:30-4:30 p.m.), April 28 (5-6 p.m.), May 19 (1-2 p.m.)
- Upcoming Captains Meetings: April 29 (4-7 p.m.), May 17 (4-6 p.m.), June 15 (4-6 p.m.)
- Upcoming VAC Meetings: May 10 (3:30-5 p.m.)
There is something for everyone and I just know that you will discover a new artist or two this summer while volunteering!

As I reflect on celebrating National Volunteer Week, I hope you know how grateful we are for our volunteers. Our mission is in motion and positively impacting our community. Thank you to the volunteers who assembled Creative Nourishment Art Kits — because of your commitment, more than 40,000 local students had the opportunity to create a unique work of art! Thank you to the Volunteer Captains and Volunteer Advisory Committee, who serve year-round as leaders and help create exceptional experiences for you and our patrons.

Thank you to the volunteers who participated in the formal focus groups in February. Your feedback is important, and we look forward to using your ideas and suggestions to improve the volunteer experience.

I look forward to seeing each of you soon at an orientation session. It’s almost time! Cheers to 15 Years!

Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Nancy Dalesio, a new captain for the 2022 season

This will be my 5th year volunteering at Freeman Arts Pavilion. I attended concerts for many years before volunteering. My husband and I also support the Foundation through our sponsorship. I like that in a small way I am contributing to bringing the arts to our little corner of the world.

I love the energy and atmosphere of the whole Freeman Arts experience especially interacting with the patrons and the comradery I share with my fellow volunteers. I am originally from Towson, Maryland but lived in New Mexico for 18 years and Long Island for 7. We always vacationed in Ocean City and eventually bought a summer place here. When I retired from Harford County Public Schools where I was a middle school instructional technology specialist, I became a yoga teacher and integrative therapist at Southampton Hospital. After moving to Ocean City full time in 2013, I began working at Beebe Hospital teaching yoga and meditation to cardiac rehab patients, until my second retirement in 2020. When I’m not volunteering, I love to travel, and I spend time with my family and friends. I also enjoy practicing yoga, painting, skiing, and boating.

I am married to a wonderful, supportive husband who is also my best friend. I have 2 amazing children, Elise and Michael as well as 2 wonderful grandchildren, Logan and Anna. Keeping us on our toes is Avery, our very rambunctious chocolate lab.

I love volunteering at Freeman Arts Pavilion. Besides meeting new people, it is also exciting to be exposed to so many talented artists that I might never have heard of or listened to if it wasn’t for volunteering here.

Nancy Dalesio

Volunteer Social Update

The VAC Social Committee held its first meeting on March 31. Many exciting ideas were discussed and while our budget may not be huge, our desire to bring volunteers together for fun and fellowship is enormous!

We have three events planned so far. There will be a social at the Salted Vines Winery from 6-8 p.m. Sunday, June 12, for volunteers and guests. The Winery is located at 32512 Blackwater Road in Frankford. Wine, wine slushies, and Delaware craft beer are available for purchase. In addition, there will be a food truck on-site. You are also permitted to bring your own food and non-alcoholic beverages in sealed containers. There is limited seating inside and on the patio, where a musician will be performing, but feel free to bring your own chairs and sit outside on the lawn.

In the fall, the annual Volunteer Appreciation dinner/dance will be planned. More information to come soon! And back by popular demand, in December, we will gather at Bourbon Street At the Beach and enjoy Ocean City Winterfest of Lights!

The Social Subcommittee members are Mary Pineda, Lynette Catha, Linda Ferguson, and Melanie Hoffmann. Please feel free to share ideas for future get-togethers with us! As we get closer to June 12, look for an email reminder for the winery event.

Melanie Hoffmann
VAC Social Subcommittee Chair
Focus Group Findings

Stemming from the results of the annual Volunteer Survey in September 2021, a series of focus groups were conducted and completed by an outside consultant to elicit information from volunteers to gain a deeper understanding of your experience and to learn how the organization can continue to improve its award-winning volunteer program.

The key themes of interest the focus groups explored were Communication, Roles and Responsibilities, and Recognition and Retention. 160 volunteers were randomly invited and about 40 volunteered to participate. An analysis of the findings was compiled and submitted to Foundation leadership for review in early April.

In consideration of the creative solutions, candor and care demonstrated by the focus group volunteers, the Freeman Arts Pavilion leadership team has responded by identifying key areas of focus for immediate action this year as follows:

Communication:
- Improve the efficiency of daily huddles
- Enhance communication effectiveness between captains and volunteers for greater support and training purposes

Roles/Responsibilities:
- Review scope of volunteer shifts and training procedures

Recognition/Retention:
- Modify recognition program
- Volunteers will receive a 50% discount for most Canteen food items from an expanded menu
- A dedicated area in the rear of the venue will be identified for volunteers to enjoy the show

All three VAC subcommittees are currently in discussions to develop plans to implement associated changes. Updates on progress will be communicated at the in-person orientation sessions and as specific plans are completed.

Captains Update

After a much appreciated and well-earned time to recharge, the captain team is anticipating a fantastic 2022 season and we are ready to get on with the shows. There are several changes to the composition of the team with two captains (Mary Pineda and Trudy Albrecht) completing their three-year terms and the addition of four new captains joining for the 2022 season. PJ Cavanaugh is also leaving the team as she transitions to a JMFF seasonal staff position. We have much gratitude and best wishes for Mary, Trudy, and PJ as they move on from their captain role. They will certainly be missed but we’ll surely see them at the venue this summer.

We welcome the new captains: Len Caro, Nancy Dalesio, Cathy Stone, and Melinda Stone and look forward to working with them this year. Returning captains are Kathryn Chapdelaine, Lynette Catha, Melanie Hoffmann, Myrie Ward, Kim Littman, Diane Gilner and Pat Farina. The kickoff meeting for the team was held on March 21 and assignments for shows and the New Captain Orientation session were completed earlier in April.

Volunteer role descriptions have been slightly revised and updated, a review of the need for changes related to updated venue configuration is underway, and “short shifts” will be piloted this season. We will start the season off with short shifts for pacers, criers, and donor relations attendants. A long-term initiative to provide IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, access) training has also been initiated. The goal of this effort is to ensure that the Foundation effectively reaches out to the entire population that we serve in Sussex County and the Delmarva region, further enhancing our mission to provide access to the arts for all.

Dates have been established for orientation sessions for new and experienced volunteers.

Last year, as many of you know, was a year with many changes. As last year kicked off, the organization did an amazing job to make the new venue space ready for prime time in an extremely short, aggressive amount of time. While the attention to detail was impressive, after putting the new space through its paces, the need to make several changes was recognized and the changes were quickly enacted. The need for additional tweaks was also recognized as the season progressed.

This year, with a full season of performances under our belt and because of feedback from volunteers and patrons, additional changes to the physical space are being put into place. These will benefit patrons and volunteers alike and will serve to improve the overall experience and consistency for all participants. Feedback received from the volunteer survey and from the focus groups was well received and as a result, additional focus will be placed on enhancing communication and interaction between the captains, staff, and volunteers.

We are looking forward to a smooth year bringing the best possible experience to patrons, volunteers, staff, and artists alike as we present the arts at Freeman Arts Pavilion.

Pat Farina
VAC Newsletter Subcommittee Chair
Volunteer Advisory Committee Update

Let’s start off by welcoming Marianne Owens as the newest VAC member, serving the remaining term for PJ Cavanaugh, who is transitioning to a seasonal employee role for Season 15. Marianne started volunteering with the Foundation in 2021 and has graciously accepted her new role on the VAC and on the Newsletter Subcommittee.

As we continue to prepare for the start of the 2022 Freeman Arts Pavilion season, the VAC members, along with this year’s captains, completed a review of all 2022 Volunteer Role Descriptions. This review was important to ensure all requirements necessary to serve more than 80,000 patrons could be met and that volunteers could efficiently function within this season’s “No Pod” venue.

This season will see the return of individual ticketing and seating. Some shows in the venue will consist of a Fixed Seating area in the front of the seating lawn, with a General Admission “Bring Your Own Chair (BYOC)” section behind the fixed seating area. For those shows with no fixed seating, it will be completely General Admission (BYOC) seating.

All these changes make it very important for each volunteer to be aware of what their specific role entails and which volunteer captain directly supports each role. At each show, there are five captains: Head, Green, Parking, Inside Gate, and Outside Gate. Each captain has the responsibility to oversee duties and operations of their assigned volunteer area along with guiding and supporting the volunteers. Below is a list of each volunteer position and who they directly report to when serving in that position:

- Chair Checkers report to Inside Gate Captain
- Concessions Attendants report to Green Captain
- Criers report to Outside Gate Captain
- Donor Relations report to Head Captain
- Gate Monitors report to Head Captain
- Pacers report to Outside Gate Captain
- Parking Attendants report to Parking Captain
- Scanners report to Inside Gate Captain
- Sponsor Bar Attendants report to Head Captain
- Ushers report to Gree Captains
- Venue Setup report to Facilities Manager

In addition to the above, our review provided the opportunity to make a few refinements to the volunteer roles and expectations. Here are some highlights:

- Inexpensive ear protection is suggested for volunteers who may be sensitive to volume if positioned near the speakers or the stage.
- Criers will be supported by the security staff and will not engage in confrontation with patrons
- Ushers may assist patrons who require mobility assistance. Ushers are compassionate and understand to always ask and obtain permission before physically assisting and/or touching a patron’s personal belongings, including wheelchairs, canes, and walkers. Ushers may assist patrons with accessibility needs by ensuring they have a clear path to move within the venue
- Parking attendants must be comfortable in directing parking for large numbers of vehicles. Parking attendants will identify any concerns or safety hazards in the parking areas to Foundation staff. Parking attendants will encourage pedestrians to use sidewalks and safe areas of parking lots for walking. This includes assisting pedestrians across intersections in the Bayside community.

The VAC continually seeks any ideas, suggestions or comments that will assist in creating a positive volunteer experience. Every volunteer has something positive to offer to the overall program and your VAC members look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Mary Pineda, VAC Chair

Congratulations PJ Cavanaugh!

We want to send a heartfelt Congratulations to PJ Cavanaugh! PJ is stepping into a different role for Season 15, she has decided to become a seasonal Freeman Arts employee! She served more than 1,000 hours as a volunteer and has decided to transition to a staff role. PJ has served as a Captain for the last three years and served on the Volunteer Advisory Committee.

PJ, thank you for your service as a volunteer! Thank you for your leadership in the Captain program and as a member of the Volunteer Advisory Committee! You have shown commitment, compassion, and collaboration while serving as a volunteer.

We all look forward to working with you as a seasonal employee and know you will continue to make a positive impact on the organization!
Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition & Retention Update

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Freeman Arts Pavilion. Without you, the growth we have seen over the last 14 seasons would not have been possible. As the Freeman Arts Pavilion continues to gain more prominence, and as we look into the future, keeping a solid corps of experienced volunteers intact, while replenishing the ranks is a continual effort.

The Recruitment, Recognition and Retention Committee has been meeting since the end of the 2021 season to discuss all aspects of the volunteer experience. We are happy to report we have a full pipeline of new recruits for the 2022 season so that we can better meet the needs at the venue for performances. One of our primary objectives this season will be to ensure all volunteers feel appreciated and recognized for the great work you do whether it is helping in the parking lot, at the auxiliary concessions, ushering, greeting patrons, or checking chairs, to name a few roles.

If you have ideas how we can improve recognition of the volunteer corps, feel free to share with your captains, the volunteer manager or any member of the VAC throughout the season. We want to hear from you!

The committee would also like to thank Bob Katz for his years of service as chair of this subcommittee. Bob has been a volunteer for 10 years contributing in every way possible. His leadership and collegiality helped keep the subcommittee focused on the challenges so that our volunteers have a great experience every time you come to Freeman Arts. Mark Kronenberg, who has been a VAC member since 2021 and a volunteer since 2015, will chair the subcommittee this year. Please feel free to share your thoughts with Mark at mekro1956@gmail.com on ways to improve the volunteer experience.

Below is the list of pin recipients for milestone years of service and hours of service in 2021. Thanks to all for your incredible support of the Foundation and our patrons!

Mark Kronenberg
Volunteer Recruitment,
Recognition and Retention
Subcommittee Chair

2021 Milestone Hours of Service Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours of Service</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400 Hours Pin</td>
<td>PJ Cavanaugh, Turdy Albrecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350 Hours Pin</td>
<td>Sarah Grady, Linda Urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 Hours Pin</td>
<td>Lynette Cattha, Myrie Ward, Phil Facciolo, Kathryn Chapdelaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 Hours Pin</td>
<td>Mary Pineda, Melanie Hoffman, Chuck Bologna, John Tiberi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Hours Pin</td>
<td>Ellen Fox, Mary Kendall, Diane Gilner, Mike Bosco, Patrick Farina, Tom Gairy, Kimberly Littman, Marc Grimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 Hours Pin</td>
<td>Maureen Griffith, Bob Katz, Jim Roche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Hours Pin</td>
<td>Melinda Stone, Linda Ferguson, Barbara Facciolo, Tom Ligis, Deborah Curtin, David Chapdelaine, Anne Kerr, Jeff Pierce, Elena Ripkin, Frank Ripkin, Rich Hammond, Richard Parker, Irene Toth, Marc Goodman, Angela Ross, Skip (Steven) Skipper, Joe Ryan, Steve O’Neill, Len Caro, Tricia Cassidy, Mary Peevy, Brooke Estes, Cathy Stone, Kathy Skipper, Marianne Owens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Hours Pin</td>
<td>126 Volunteers received this award</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Milestone Years in Service Awards

Years of service or longevity pins are awarded in 5-year increments. At the end of your fifth year, 10th year, and then every individual year after 10 we award a milestone pin for years of service. We also award a first-year pin to all new volunteers who complete the first season successfully.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Year Pins</td>
<td>Marc Grimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Year Pins</td>
<td>Margaret Jacobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Year Pins</td>
<td>Sharon Page, Patti Wiedermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Year Pins</td>
<td>Joel Wiedermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Year Pins</td>
<td>Bob Katz, Sue Katz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Year Pins</td>
<td>Sharon Miles, Joanne, Karambellas, Mark Kronenberg, John Reinhold, Peggy Reinhold, Chuck Bologna, Sharon, Penhallogen, Maria Shields, Michele Thrift, Wesley Wickes, Cathy Abbott, Trudy Albrecht, Martha Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Year Pins</td>
<td>Chuck Boilon, Mike Bosco, Lynette Cattha, PJ Cavanaugh, Nan Dove, Ellen Dowling, Manch Eick, Tom Gaity, Anne Kerr, Margaret Sidlick, Paul Sidlick, Bob Suter, Linda Urban, Colleen Wilson, Lynn Wivell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mark Kronenberg
Volunteer Recruitment,
Recognition and Retention
Subcommittee Chair
Thank you all once again for partnering with us to provide 42,577 Creative Nourishment Kits to the students of Sussex and Wicomico counties! On April 5, we delivered the final 7,200 kits to all 17 elementary schools in the Wicomico County schools. The impact we were able to make during the COVID-19 pandemic is a testament to our work of transforming lives through the arts.

After 26 months of contactless student engagement, we will be back in the schools next month with live school programming! We have partnered with Sonia De Los Santos, a Latin Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter, who performed at our venue last summer.

Sonia, who resides in New York City, will spend one week here in Sussex County and perform 10 school assembly programs. A multitalented artist, Sonia sings, plays guitars indigenous to her native country of Mexico, and adds some kazoo and harmonica playing to her show.

She also explores the wonderful dance traditions of her Mexican culture. She will perform for the school children along with another musician who plays acoustic bass guitar.

Sonia presents a bilingual age-appropriate music program highlighting her life in America as an immigrant from Mexico. The districts Sonia will visit expressed a great interest in having her perform to complement their dual language or Spanish immersion programs.

To learn more about Sonia, visit soniadelossantosmusic.com.

More exciting news to come about our Arts Education plans for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year!
Meet the Staff by Pat Farina

Lauren Kuzminsky

Meet Lauren Kuzminsky, our new Box Office Manager at Freeman Arts Pavilion. Lauren joined the team in February. She grew up and lived in Rockville, Md., and moved to be closer to her parents, Meg and Alan, and her brother, Adam, to Long Neck in August 2020.

Lauren’s most recent position, prior to taking on this new role, was in property management in a billing capacity with Seascape in Lewes. This experience, as well as many previous experiences while in the DC-area, has prepared her for her new responsibilities, which include managing the box office and administering contracts for artists performing at the Pavilion.

What drew Lauren to apply for her current position was a desire to work in an environment close to her heart: music and the performing arts. Lauren has a fascinating background, starting with a concentration in performance at Shenandoah Conservatory at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Va.

This included extensive training in opera as well as study in mass communications. She has many friends who were associated with various venues in the D.C. area and has spent a lot of time working in and managing the performing arts environment. For over 8 years, Lauren also managed and performed in a rock band, Spellborne, playing all around the Virginia-Maryland-D.C.-area. Spellborne featured an eclectic range of music (categorized as a Symphonic Metal Band), ranging from original compositions to Metallica to Evanescence to Depeche Mode among many others.

Lauren’s background also includes working at the Gaithersburg school Bach to Rock where she served as the assistant director. The school is a unique music school that holds classes for students ranging in age from 6 months to adult education. Lauren said it’s amazing how receptive and responsive to music children are, even at 6 months old. Working there was an incredibly special, rewarding experience. Along those lines, our Arts Education program is one of the things that was so attractive for Lauren.

Lauren’s introduction to the organization was through her mom, who has attended several shows in recent seasons including Heart and Earth Wind & Fire,” she said. “My mom was very impressed by everything about the Foundation and how they presented those shows.”

That definitely left an impact on Lauren and the job opening at Freeman Arts caught her attention! Lauren’s first impression of the staff was that she was impressed by the teamwork, the dedication, and the shared mission to present the arts to all.

Her goal for her new gig is “to work to see that the box office presents a great experience for people to leave happy and excited to come back,” she said.

Lauren is excited to be part of the team creating the atmosphere at the Pavilion this year and is anxious to get the season rolling.

Outside of work, Lauren enjoys living by the water, the serenity of living in our area, the restaurants, reading, visiting friends, wineries, music and nature preserves. She is also in the process of writing a novel.

We are fortunate to have Lauren on the team. Please wish her the best when you see her. Welcome aboard Lauren!

Volunteer Impact: Tips & Tricks

Here are some basics about utilizing Volunteer Impact for scheduling your shifts for shows and events. Log into the website MyImpactPage.com. Feel free to browse around the site and check out the “Help” link at the top right for detailed instructions on anything you need to know about utilizing MyImpact.

My Profile Tab: Fill in and/or update the Contact Info and the Additional Info page. Under the MyProfile tab you can also change your password and access your Time-clock QR code.

Opportunities Tab: You can see activities you are signed up for here. If you need to cancel a shift you registered for, then hit the Remove button.

Schedule Tab: Here you can check on the activities you have completed, and the hours logged from each activity.

2022 Files: Here you can view the Volunteer Handbook, Volunteer Agreement Letter and Volunteer Role Descriptions.

Updated Info on Scanner and Sponsor Bar Shifts: The Scanner and Sponsor Bar shifts will require prior approval this year. Volunteers who were Scanners last year will automatically have approval. Volunteers that worked Sponsor Bar and/or Concessions last year will have approval.

Explore the MyImpact pages after you log in. It will help enhance your volunteer experience.

Linda Ferguson
VAC Secretary
Marc Goodman

This upcoming season will be Marc’s fourth season volunteering at Freeman Arts Pavilion. He is originally from Brooklyn, N.Y. He worked and retired from the United States Postal Service after 34 years and was a resident of Monroe Township, N.J., before moving full-time in 2018 to Ocean View. Previously, Marc also coached for over 20 years as an assistant on girls’ basketball and soccer teams.

Marc’s first exposure to Freeman Arts Pavilion was as a patron and saw a lot of volunteers, which made him curious about volunteering. He then decided to become a volunteer. He enjoys meeting different people and enjoys the parking volunteer role at the point. Marc likes to make sure that every patron that passes him is engaged and welcomed into the venue.

Marc also volunteered at the Cheer Center in Ocean View where its mission is to promote and help maintain the highest quality of life and independence for clients by developing and providing services that meet the continuing needs of people 50 and over.

Marc also has recruited several friends and neighbors to become volunteers. He tells people that while volunteering you will experience great comradery, and although you might not be able to see the show in some roles you are serving, you still hear great music.

Marc’s grandson, Jordan, pictured with Trudy.

Marc and his wife, Vivian, have been married for 44 years and have an English bulldog, Nola. They have a son and daughter and a 7-year-old grandson.

Marc took his grandson, Jordan, to the Tower of Power concert and that evening Jordan decided he wanted to follow in his grandfather’s footsteps and become a volunteer. Jordan was issued an honorary volunteer lanyard by captains Lynette and Trudy. How’s that for a recruitment strategy — get them while they are young?

Marianne and Peter Owens

Marianne and Peter Owens are one of several husband-and-wife duos who volunteer at the Freeman Arts Pavilion. Last year was the Owens’ inaugural volunteer season and they are eagerly waiting to support the 2022 season!

“We heard about the live concert venue in the summer of 2019 and enjoyed attending a few concerts.” Additionally, Marianne’s work brought her in touch with Maureen Griffith who introduced her to the volunteering opportunity. Marianne also volunteers with Special Olympics in Sussex County, serving as a unified tennis coach. “We enjoy meeting the other volunteers and the JMFF employees. It is also a great way to spend time outdoors giving back to the community. We try to sign-up for the same concerts and joke about having a “date-night” volunteering!”

Marianne and Peter both grew up in New Castle County. Then after raising two children in Connecticut, they relocated to Ocean View to enjoy the pleasant climate and time near the ocean. They enjoy staying active and spending time outside, jogging on the Assawoman Canal Trail, taking long walks at the beach, Fresh Pond, and Cape Henlopen State Parks. Marianne plays tennis at Sea Colony and elsewhere with friends in the area. Peter retired from ADP in April 2021. Marianne provides consulting services to facilitate work-based learning activities connecting students with various employers.

“We highly recommend volunteering at the Freeman Arts Pavilion. It’s important to try all the different roles to see which are of personal interest and most satisfying.”

Marianne and Peter Owens

Marianne is enthusiastic about her opportunity in 2022 to further support the Arts Education programming, bringing arts activities back to the classrooms in the region.

The Owens are proud parents of two children - Brian and Lauren, and their son-in-law Jordan. Marianne and Pete are patiently waiting to meet and welcome their first grandchild, due in early May.
Connecting our Community by Pat Farina

We are adding a new feature to the Volunteer Voice to highlight local performers and arts organizations who have partnered with Freeman Arts Pavilion. For our inaugural spotlight, we are delighted to highlight Clear Space Theatre Company in Rehoboth Beach, which will bring its production of "9 TO 5" to the venue on July 7.

I recently had the opportunity to talk with Clear Space’s Director of Development and Outreach Stephanie Whitcomb at the theater on Baltimore Avenue in Rehoboth.

Clear Space Theatre and the Joshua M. Freeman Foundation share similar goals of supporting the arts in our community. Clear Space’s mission is “to inspire audiences, artists, and students by providing high-quality performances and educational experiences.” Their vision is “to be a leader in the vibrant performing arts community of Southern Delaware.” Both the Foundation and Clear Space are nonprofit, are supported by the Delaware Division of the Arts and are both participating in the Arts Incubation program.

In addition to presenting about 12-14 different productions each year, Clear Space has also created, and is home to, a vibrant Arts Institute that offers professionally taught classes in acting, voice, and more for all ages and experience levels. Their hallmark program is called Broadway Bound. Other offerings include Adult Classes, Summer Intensives, Spotlight on Young Performers and Babies on Broadway. Clear Space also produces the Summer Children’s Theatre, which is are Saturday morning shows by kids for kids and are performed for eight weeks in July and August, Stephanie said.

Clear Space was founded in 2004 and has been at its current location since 2011. Funding comes from ticket sales, tuition, performance contracts, donations, and support from grants, including a general operating grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts.

The organization is impressively able to present an incredible level of quality and variety of performances with a full-time staff of just five people. The staff is augmented by contract help to perform key roles including music director, teachers, set designers, choreographer, stage manager, and costume designer. The acting casts are primarily professional, particularly for summer performances. Straw Hats Auditions in New York is a noteworthy sourcing pool used for selecting professional actors for Clear Space productions. Volunteers also perform various roles as needed. In many cases, volunteers in the community house the actors while they are performing in town.

With the number of performances, education classes, rehearsals and community outreach projects, Clear Space is bursting at the seams in its current space. The theater itself provides a very intimate experience with only 172 seats surrounding the stage. There is a great desire and a goal to grow and expand and additional space is most needed to support classes, rehearsals, and training space. The organization does a great job with the physical space they have to work with and site plans to expand have been completed. A valiant effort is underway to obtain approvals from the city.

As far as upcoming shows to highlight, they typically have about 12-13 shows per season, approximately one per month,” Stephaine said. "The turnover for shows is very quick, typically we’ll have a show for a month or so, take the weekend off, and then open with a new show the following week. Upcoming shows include 'The Lighting Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical' opening on May 6. Our production of '9 TO 5' will also be playing this summer.”

When asked what accomplishment Clear Space was most proud of, Stephanie said “we are most proud of the variety of shows we present, from popular mainstream shows and musicals like 'Mamma Mia' to shows such as 'Rabbit Hole' and 'The Submission' that are more thought-provoking. We believe it’s important to take risks and to present shows that may be a bit edgy. We believe in taking risks and doing it with integrity. It’s great to know that our audiences support our approach.”

When asked what message she would give to people unfamiliar with Clear Space, she said "try it! You'll be surprised. You don't expect this level of theatre to exist in Sussex County.”