



The Paramount Theater Volunteer Newsletter

April 2016

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH PROGRAM:

This program acknowledges the volunteer[s] with the most volunteer hours each month who will receive a personalized "Paramount Volunteer" name badge. While a person may only be the *Volunteer of the Month* once per year, he or she may receive an alternate recognition gift for subsequent months with leading hours. In this situation, the volunteer with the 2nd most hours will be named *Volunteer of the Month*.

VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE PROGRAM:

For every 100 volunteer hours completed by an individual volunteer in a six-month period, the volunteer will receive two tickets to a show of their choice.

(Limited restrictions may apply.)

The Paramount Theater's mission - to **educate, enchant, enrich** and **enlighten** - is rooted in our commitment to present a wide variety of arts, education, and entertainment opportunities for all to enjoy.

VOLUNTEER CONTACTS:

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JOHN LOCKNEY

Volunteer Committee Chair
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Congratulations!

March 2016 Volunteers of the Month: Gene and Evelyn Haney



We have been married for fifty years; we've known each other for 61 (my count) or 58 (her count!), and dated for 8 years before we married. We've lived in six states, twelve homes, have a son, a daughter, and three grandsons!

We retired to Charlottesville from Schaumburg, Illinois, near Chicago, in September, 2009 and became volunteers at The Paramount about a month later. We've done about every volunteer activity there is at The Paramount, but our "favorite" seems to be cleaning the Popcorn machines! Oh, yes, and hosting receptions in the Founders Lounge!

We really enjoy the folks at The Paramount - patrons, staff, volunteers, contractors - and hope to keep volunteering for a number of years more!!

FREE Historic Tours of The Paramount Theater Continue Beyond our 10th Anniversary Celebration

What a fantastic time we had throughout our 10th Anniversary Year! During this celebratory year, we offered FREE backstage tours of The Paramount on or around the 10th of every month. These tours were so well received by our community that we have decided to continue offering this amazing look at our historic theater!

The tours are free to the public and are offered several times a month. This initiative is spearheaded by our resident Paramount historian, Sandy DeKay. Sandy works with our programming committee to schedule dates for the tours and then coordinates with three Paramount Volunteers - Judy Schultz, Van Cockcroft,

and Heather Walker - to make sure we have each date and time covered with a Paramount Tour Guide and event host.

Our next tours are scheduled for May 4 at 12Noon and 5:30PM. If you are interested in taking this tour yourself, or suggesting the tour to friends and family, please see The Paramount website to register (registration is not required, but is encouraged). If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Tour Guide or event host, please contact Jenny Hoyer or Sandy DeKay.



Upcoming Events at The Paramount Theater:

April 16 at 12:55PM - **MET Live in HD: Roberto Devereux**

April 17 at 2:00PM - **Paramount Presents: Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny - Live on Stage!**

April 18 & 19 at 10:30AM and 12:30PM - **Arts Education: Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny**

April 22 at 7:00PM - **An Earth Day Conversation with Barbara Kingsolver to Support Virginia Organizing**

April 23 at 10:00AM - **Service Academy Day 2016**

April 24 at 1:00PM - **University Dance Club presents: "Puttin' On the Ritz"**

April 27 at 7:00PM - **Wordplay 2016**

April 29 at 7:00PM - **The Paramount Theater's 6th Annual Grand Marquee Gala**

April 30 at 12:55PM - **MET Live in HD: Elektra (and post-show reception)**

May 1 at 2:00PM - **Big [PG]**

May 1 at 7:00PM - **National Theatre Live presents: Hamlet Encore**

May 4 at 12Noon and 5:30PM - **FREE Historic Tour of The Paramount**

May 13 at 7:30PM & May 15 at 2:30PM - **Ash Lawn Opera & The Oratorio Society of Virginia present: La Traviata**

Friendly Reminders:

The proper attire for Paramount volunteers working an event is white on top and black on bottom. This helps our patrons know at a quick glance who can assist with questions or concerns. For consistency, tops that are off-white, white with additional patterns, or white with colors mixed in are not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.

If available, please bring a flashlight when you usher. This will assist you in helping patrons find their seats once the house lights have been lowered.

Kudos!

Thank you to everyone who helped with our broadcasts of the Virginia Men's Basketball games this season! The tournament events were added to our schedule as they were announced, which did not leave us much time for scheduling ahead. We received positive feedback from the community for broadcasting these games; we could not have accomplished this without your help. Thank you!

The Paramount Theater

215 East Main Street
Charlottesville, VA
22902
www.theparamount.net
434-979-1922

Box Office Hours:

Monday-Friday:
10AM-2PM
434-979-1333
At least one hour prior
to every event.



Meet & Greet Paramount Staff Member: Robert Benjamin - Production Manager

A native Texan and an alumnus of the University of South Carolina, Robert has been employed by The Paramount Theater since the Spring of 2005. As a freelance lighting designer, Robert has around 20 credits to his name including several productions at Live Arts over the last few years. Some of his favorite designs include *Our Lady of 121st Street*, *A Chorus Line*, *Wax Work* (World Premiere) and *Windblown* (World Premiere; with which he was able to work with his mentor David Weiss). While at The Paramount, Robert worked along such world class artists as the Dalai Lama, YoYo Ma, George Carlin, Maya Angelou, Ryan Adams and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. Robert resides in Charlottesville along with his beautiful and loving wife, Brianna, and their incredible little man, Landon.

Welcome New Paramount Volunteers!

We are thrilled to welcome the newest volunteers to our Paramount family! **Mariah Dean, Eugene Fitzgerald, Alexandra Kedrock, Rhonda Meyer, Lu Spotswood, and Dana Wassenaar.** We look forward to working with you!

If you have friends who would enjoy volunteering at The Paramount, please direct them to The Paramount's website or pick up an application the next time you come to an event - we are always accepting new volunteers!

Balcony Lounge Concessions

We are looking forward to consistently offering our patrons two locations where they can purchase concession items when they attend an event. For events that we anticipate a crowd of 600 patrons or more, we will offer concessions in the Balcony Lounge in addition to the Ballroom.

The Balcony concession stand offers the same selections as the one in the Ballroom. Paramount Volunteers can help our Event Staff by assisting with concession stand set-up in the Balcony Lounge, by assisting with popping popcorn in both locations, and once the doors open, alert patrons that concessions are available in the Balcony Lounge in addition to the Ballroom. It is our hope that by consistently opening this bar for large shows, we will offset the crowds in the main Lobby and Ballroom, while enhancing the experience of all patrons in attendance.

**"Volunteers are not servants.
Volunteers are partners working together for
improving America's future."
- Mayor Richard Dal**

Arts Education Events at The Paramount

Did You Know? Along with our adult and community programming initiatives, The Paramount Theater is committed to presenting the very best educational theater that engages children in meaningful ways, complements school curricula, and cultivates appreciation of the performing arts. Our Arts Education school time shows give our youngest audience members opportunities to experience live performing arts in our historic Paramount Theater!

Cathy von Storch (Education Coordinator), Matthew Simon (Programming/Box Office Manager), our production staff, and our volunteer Education Committee all work together to bring and execute engaging and enriching performances each season. Our final education event for the 2015-2016 academic year will take place on Monday, April 18 and Tuesday, April 19 with the presentation of Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's *Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny*. We always have a need for additional volunteer staff at these events. If you are interested in helping for our final (almost sold-out!) performances of the season, please contact Jenny Hoyer. To learn more about our Arts Education Program, please visit our website.



Volunteer extraordinaire Gene Haney helping in The Founder's Lounge on March 17, 2016 for Joshua Bell and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields.