

 KIMMEL CENTER, INC.  
260 S. Broad Street  
Suite 901  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Phone: 215-790-5800  
Fax: 215-735-3119  
www.kimmelcenter.org

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# Volunteer Notes

## Wedding Bells

Here is a first for the Volunteer Program. **Marty Jones** and **Forrest Mayo**, two of our Kimmel Center volunteers, were married on February 26, 2008.

Marty and Forrest volunteer in the evenings at the Information Desk. We can't say that they met while volunteering here—they've known each other for a very long time. Regardless, it's a thrill for us that this happy time in their lives is taking place while they're working with us. Best wishes to the happy couple!

*Sally Kutyla*

## Bulletin Board

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. Please stop by the Volunteer Bulletin Board and read the letters of appreciation from our colleagues at the Kimmel Center. This display will be posted through May 5th.

*Shirley Luber*

## From the Editor

Welcome to the spring issue of *Volunteer Notes*. Spring represents new beginnings, faces of new volunteers, and new information of interest to you. Read Sally's article on how two of our volunteers are making a new beginning as husband and wife. Herb Wartenberg introduces us to the new volunteers that have joined our group since the last issue. Also in this issue is the article by Gil Silverman and Richard da Silva describing the new Volunteers' Archives that contains reference resources for volunteers.

We also have some of our standing columns. Jeanne Issacman's column *Spotlight on You* features David Hackman, and Marilyn Blatter puts a different slant on her *Fun Facts* column by asking *Did You Know*. Since April has been identified as Volunteer Appreciation Month, please read about Shirley Luber's bulletin board.

Most of you probably know about the Penn Praxis study concerning the public spaces of the Kimmel Center. Read the article describing the latest news about the progress of this study.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of Volunteer Notes, and want your input to make this a quality newsletter, and to keep you informed about what is relevant to your role as a volunteer.

*Phil Shapiro*

## American Society of Ancient Instruments

The American Society of Ancient Instruments will present its Seventy-Ninth Annual Festival this year. This celebration consists of three different concerts, performed on three Sundays at 3:00pm: May 4, May 11, and May 18, 2008. The concerts will be held at the Old First Reformed Church at Fourth and Race Streets, in Philadelphia, PA. Soloists will join the Society for each of the concerts.

Kimmel Center volunteers are invited to attend the concerts as guests of the Society. Guest tickets are available at the K.C. Information Desk.

*Bill Chambrés, Historian for the American Society of Ancient Instruments*

## Volunteer Resources

Sometimes the information we need most is right before our very eyes and we forget it's there or where to look for it. In addition to all the brochures and pamphlets for upcoming events at the concert halls, the Information Desk has nine manuals providing excellent resources for any and every question. We're all familiar with the extensive *Information Manual*—eight chapters covering everything from tickets to building amenities, neighborhood resources and volunteer programs. Check it out every shift for updates, concert schedules, additions and changes. The *Transportation Book* is the most recent compilation of rail schedules; SEPTA bus routes, maps of downtown Philadelphia, sightseeing buses and PATCO timetables. Any information on public transit can easily be accessed.

*The Kimmel Center Story* is an outstanding collection of photographs depicting the history and construction of the building. The *Organ Book* and the *Kimmel Center Art Collection* are worth a "read" during slow times to refresh our memories of forgotten facts. The *Restaurant Manual* is a frequently referenced book. Visitors to Philadelphia as well as hometown folks often look for suggestions on places to dine in the area. For in-house use we have the *Daily Information Sheets*, *Tour Directors Program Manual* and *Volunteer Directory*.

One cannot possibly know the answer to every question, but knowing where to look for a quick and accurate response is right at our fingertips.

*Mary Ann Veneziale*

## Summer Activities

**June 21**—Summer Solstice Celebration. Imagine! A 15-hour party with games, dance performances, food, bands, and much more. A great family activity. Summer Solstice starts at 3pm, and continues until 6am, welcoming summer with a drum circle at sunrise. Tickets are only \$10 (\$5 for kids under 12)

**Summer Thursday nights**—something for everyone! July 10, 17 & 24. World Music Dance Parties in Perelman Theater, Organ Series in Verizon Hall

**August 20**—Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra. Selections from Leonard Bernstein's Broadway Musicals featuring America's most talented rising stars. Verizon Hall—8pm

**August 21**—World Music Dance Party. Still Black, Still Proud: An African Tribute to James Brown. For more information, see [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org) or inquire at info desk or box office

*Herb Wartenberg*

## Penn Praxis Update

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts has hired PennPraxis and the Penn Project on Civic Engagement to lead a citizen-driven design process on ways to energize and activate public spaces in and around the Kimmel.

Phase 1 kicked off with a series of public forums, led by the Penn Project on Civic Engagement. This work was combined with feedback received online and through the Philadelphia Inquirer to create principles for design that will be the foundation for work that will be conducted by University of Pennsylvania (undergraduate architecture and fine arts) and University of the Arts (undergraduate and graduate industrial and exhibit design) students in their Spring 2008 semester. Over 200 citizens participated. Moderators who facilitated the discussions submitted reports summarizing the citizen work.

In Phase 2, the public forum discussions and other civic feedback has been consolidated by the Penn Project for Civic Engagement into design principles. The principles serve as a basis for the work done by studio groups from the University of the Arts and University of Pennsylvania, who are looking at design solutions in different and interesting ways. The two student groups will coordinate work throughout the Spring 2008 semester.

On April 14th, PennPraxis conducted a Civic Feedback Session, in which initial design concepts were presented and citizens were engaged about how well preliminary design work matches the principles. The Kimmel Center organization will now begin the process of examining the proposed improvements. A timeline has not yet been established for completion of this next phase of evaluation.

*Phil Shapiro*

## Did You Know

1. Did you know that the Philadelphia Orchestra has created a new "Create-Your-Own Series" for the 2008–2009 season? One can choose six or more concerts and choose your seat location for each concert!

2. Did you know that you could go online at [kimmelcenter.org/sub0809](http://kimmelcenter.org/sub0809) and listen to audio clips and see video of performances of Kimmel Center Presents performers?

3. Did you know that many of the resident companies have a FREE lecture or "chat" an hour before their performances and sometimes there are short postlude concerts or "chats" after the performances?

*Marilyn Blatter*

## Same Place New Faces

We have three new leaders at the Kimmel Center. **Elizabeth Santangini** is the new Director of Human Resources, **Rob Palachick** is now Director, Development Services, and **Erica Curtis** is the Education Projects Coordinator. We'll have an opportunity to learn more about each one of them in upcoming issues of our newsletter.

We have twelve new volunteers as well. They are:

At the Information Desk—Ed Connolly, Sue Isenberg, Rupal Prasad, Carmen Rodriguez, and Len Usvyat.

In MAEC—Joann Bradley, Naida Mosenkis, and Maxine Stotland.

Providing Office Support—Zoe Chen, Sandy Gilmour, Jean McCallum, and Jerry Rubin.

Let's make them feel welcome!

*Herb Wartenberg*

## What do they do when not volunteering at the Kimmel Center?

**Neil Dreibelbis**, a Kimmel Center tour guide, is an accomplished artist. His artworks will be featured in "Variations," an exhibition of painting, collage and mixed media works at the Cosmopolitan Club in Philadelphia. Neil invites you to stop by for the artist reception or anytime during the exhibition.

May 12 to June 26, 2008

Artist Reception: Friday, May 16, 5 – 7pm

Exhibition hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 – 11:30am,  
2:00 – 5:00pm

Cosmopolitan Club—1616 Latimer Street, Philadelphia, PA  
19103

Call the Club before stopping by 215-735-1057

**Carole Curtis**, information desk volunteer, also serves as president and clarinetist for the Chester County Concert Band. The band will present its Spring Concert on Sunday, May 4th at 2:30pm at Fugett Middle School in West Chester. The program includes a lively mix of Sousa Marches, Swing, Dixieland and classics. Tickets at the door are \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students. Kids under 12 years old are free. Directions and information at [www.cccb.org](http://www.cccb.org)

*Sally Kutyla*

## Volunteers' Archives

*What is "Penn Praxis" all about? How is the Avenue of the Arts like a three-movement symphony? What is the Philadelphia Orchestra's Global Concert Series? Who said, "The key to state-of-the-art concert hall design in 2001 is flexibility, versatility, adjustability,"—Russell Johnson or Rafael Viñoly? Who was the young Peter Nero's favorite classical pianist, favorite jazz pianist?*

Answers to these and similar questions—both substantive and trivial—are readily available in a new reference resource for volunteers. Through the efforts of volunteer Richard da Silva, we now have an archive of materials about the Kimmel Center that will aid us in the performance of our assignments.

The records at this time consist mainly of articles from journals, magazines, newspapers, and the like. A table of contents lists and describes each item. The items are grouped in the following categories: Academy of Music, Acoustics, Avenue of the Arts, Art & Architecture, Building, Dining & Shops, Economic and Cultural Impact, Education: Merck Arts Education Center, Finances, History, Maestros-Music Directors, Other Performing Arts Centers, Performances & Performing Groups, Philadelphia Area, Pipe Organ, Tours, and Penn Praxis.

The archive is located in a file near Sally Kutyla's office. You are welcome to visit the archive and take advantage of the information it has to offer. As the archive is located in the office areas, please call our tour desk at 215-790-5886 or Sally Kutyla at 215-790-5819 to make arrangements to visit. We hope the archive makes it easier to add to your knowledge and keep abreast of new developments.

*Gil Silverman & Richard da Silva*

## Spotlight On You



What does David Hackman do as a Kimmel Center volunteer? Well, as he told me, "I'm there to serve." So he assists in the volunteer services office several times a month, helping in any way he can. He's been volunteering at the Kimmel since its opening more than six years ago. Naturally inquisitive and computer savvy, Dave tabulates all the volunteers' hours, helps with data base maintenance, and generates program

reports. The results of those tabulations are used in the Kimmel Center's Annual Report and volunteer program records. He has also helped with special events, such as the "Pay to Play" event that helped launch the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ.

Dave and his wife Debbie live in Marlton, NJ with their two daughters Rachel and Abigail. He has a degree in electrical engineering and, for many years, worked for Lockheed Martin. About three years ago, he began teaching piano, mostly to children. He has plans to attend Westminster Choir College to obtain a teaching certificate. Dave attended Juilliard's pre-college division when he was younger. He was on the verge of attending the college when he was influenced to look for a more lucrative way to earn a living.

Dave is interested in genealogy and he has been able to trace ancestors from the 1600s. He also works for his church, taking care of their accounting needs. His ultimate desire is to create a non-profit organization that will offer a venue for young performing artists to showcase their talents.

*Jeanne Isaacman*



**Marine Paul**, a long-time Kimmel Center volunteer, died Monday, April 7, 2008. She was 53. Marine had been an active member of our volunteer program since the Kimmel Center opened in 2001. She usually worked at the Information Desk on the weekends, in the evening. Her warm smile and friendly nature were hallmarks of her personality. Her colleagues and the visitors she assisted always appreciated her good humor.

Marine enjoyed her friends, gatherings, and was a real baseball fan. She loved volunteering and being part of the Kimmel Center.



The Kimmel Center also recently learned of the death of **Ned Taylor**, who died while vacationing in St. Martin. In the summer of 2001, months before the Kimmel Center opened, Ned served on our first advisory committee and helped shape what would evolve into today's volunteer program. Ned enjoyed helping with special events, especially Solstice and Members' Open Houses. Whatever the event, Ned could be found in the middle of the action, enjoying the day

and having fun volunteering. We will miss his booming voice, big laugh and high-energy enthusiasm. Evelyn Taylor, the Kimmel Center web manager and staff photographer, is Ned Taylor's daughter.