

SPRING 2012 DATES

FRIDAY MARCH 30 SATURDAY MARCH 31

SHOWS AT 7 PM

SUNDAY APRIL 1
MATINEE:
2 PM

FRIDAY APRIL 6
SATURDAY APRIL 7

SHOWS AT 7 PM

SUNDAY APRIL 8
MATINEE:
2 PM

FREEDOM FOUND

This is a story ...

...of tragedy, triumph, and the power of the human spirit.

Abused and victimized in their own land as they battle for freedom of choice, a family immigrates but encounters oppression of a different kind.

Through the trials and heartaches of a difficult life, the family emerges with strength, perspective, insight and self-respect. The cost has been high but a bright future is assured.

This is a compelling musical journey filled with life lessons for all ages. It's a story of struggle and a story of victory.

But above all, it's a story of a quest for freedom ... to Choose WHO to beTM.

FREEDOM FOUND

Presented by Freedom Found Productions

and Florida Lyric Opera

Libretto/Lyrics/Music	Martha Bushore-Fallis
Arrangements/Orchestration	Dean Fernald
Music Preparation	Francis "Sonny" Annis

EILEEN NAVARRO, Director

ROSALIA MARESCA, Production Consultant LINDA SWITZER, Children's Chorus Director JANE RUSSELL GEDDINGS, Choreographer MITSIE KRAACK, Choreographer BARBARA GRIFFITH, Artist, Props Mistress, Stage Manager

Cast Of Characters

Famil	ly	in	Ord	ler	of	Ap	pe	ar	an	ce
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Jake, the son	THOMAS MASSEY
Sally, the daughter	
Marie, the mother	MARY CROOM
Anna, the grandmother	ROSEMARY COLLINS
Raz, the father	KEVIN NICKORICK
Abe, the grandfather	JEFF CLARK

Good Neighbors

Will, Good Neighbor (Country Of Origin) REX TABOR
Lou, Good Neighbor (USA)	PEYTON RYDELL

Three Men

DAVID POWERS, JOHN DEEB, and MARK BELL as Takers, Ship Crew, Builders, Teachers, Gang

Friends

Josie, Girl Friend	ERIKA VAN GORDEN
Lee, Rapper Friend	ROBBY HASSALL

COMMUNITY (School and Neighborhood)

CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Natalie Cottrell Catherine Kraack Robby Hassall Lillian Kraack Caroline Howard Andrea Strickland

CHILDREN'S DANCERS

Annabel Fobert Taylor Leon
Jesmen Grullon Isabel Provenzano
Stefanie Lebarre Chelsea Reeves

DOG

Bitsy

ORCHESTRA

Synthesizer	DEAN FERNALD
Bass	FRANCIS "SONNY" ANNIS
Percussion	SKIP PITTMAN

FREEDOM FOUND

Story Synopsis

Act I

This fictional story tells of a three generation family's struggle to escape extremists and find freedom as legal immigrants in the USA. Although they could be from any country of origin or era, they are lifethreatened. They own legal documents, but their savings are stolen. With advice and financial help from their friend, they escape. When the boy is wounded, the father covers his son and is killed with return gunfire.

The surviving family members cross the ocean by ship to arrive in New York harbor past the Statue of Liberty. As they enter the USA they receive approval of their documents and there is heartfelt relief and hope for a new life in this free land.

Act II

As they search for their new home, they pass a city bazaar with the community celebrating diversity through exciting music. Now they have freedom to Choose WHO to be™, but there are challenges and consequences they could not foresee. Although earnest, industrious and principled, they encounter frequent challenges that, because of wise choices, strengthen their resolve and identity, as individuals and as a family.

They go through tough times and, as a family unit, meet the challenges, cherish the good, and anticipate life. The two children, who are now young adults, adapt to life in a free land, choosing their identities wisely. The finale is a celebration of family, friendship and love in The Dance of Life.

Acts, Scenes and Songs

ACT I

Scene 1 Returning Home after School

SCHOOL'S OUT Jake and Sally

Scene 2 Home of Origin

MOTHER'S WORK Marie

WE ARE TOGETHER Marie and Raz POWER OF CHOICE Will, Jake, Sally

TAKERS 3 Men
HELL'S HEROES Raz
WILL'S COAT Will

PROTECTORS Raz, Will, Abe

PAUSE AND CHERISH Marie

Scene 3 Escape Route

ESCAPE Raz

Scene 4 Bow of Ship

ACROSS THE OCEAN 3 Men
DARKNESS TO LIGHT Abe

LAND OF LIBERTY Men (+3 Men) and boys

Scene 5 Park At Arrival Port

LEGAL STATUS

SAVOR OUR DELIGHT Cast (except Raz)

SPIRIT WHISPERS Anna

LOVE, HOPE, FAITH Anna, Sally, Marie BUTTERFLY BREEZES Sally, Lou (Dancer)

ACT II

Scene 1 Home in USA

DIVERSITY ROCKS Lou & Family

POTENTIALITY Marie, Abe, Anna, Lou

Last verse: Jake and Sally

Scene 2 School

SOCIAL ADAPTATION ON ARRIVAL Jake, Sally, Lou, Josie,

FF Chorus

HOME IS WHERE Cast

(except adult family)

CHOOSE WHO TO BE Jake, Sally, Josie, Lou,

FF Chorus

DOES HE LIKE ME? Josie and girls

Scene 3 Neighborhood Green Space

GANGBANGERS 3 Men, Jake, Josie, Sally,

FF Chorus

DEATH! TOO EARLY Jake, Josie, Sally, Lou,

FF Chorus

GUIDE US Lou SALLY'S SONG Sally

POWER OF CHOICE Reprise Jake, Sally, Josie PACK YOUR TROUBLES AWAY Friend Lee DOES HE LIKE ME? Reprise Jake and Josie

Scene 4 School A YEAR LATER

SOCIAL ADAPTATION LATER Jake, Sally, Lou, Josie,

FF Chorus

COMMUNICATIONS AGE Sally and the girls

BUTTERFLY BREEZES Reprise Sally

JAKE'S SONG Jake and Josie

Scene 7 Neighborhood Green Space

FREEDOM FABRIC Family and Lou

DANCE OF LIFE (Finale)

Jake and Josie then family

then all cast

CAST PRINCIPALS, IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE, AND PRODUCTION TEAM



THOMAS MASSEY

Tenor
PERFORMING AS JAKE
THOMAS MASSEY, who plays the lead, Jake, is a St
Pete native and started acting in children's productions
at the St. Petersburg Little Theatre, and later, produced
two of his own original works, while both directing

and acting. Tom learned to play the guitar on his own and performed professionally in St. Pete, but chose to focus on enhancing his skills and experience as an actor and opera singer. Tom has had leads in several musicals, including the World Premiere of FREEDOM FOUND in September, 2010, at the Palladium, and has enjoyed performing in several roles with Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Theater and the St. Petersburg Opera. He currently attends St. Petersburg College, where he studies piano, theory and voice. List of recent credits include TWELFTH NIGHT, HMS PINAFORE, THE FANTASTIKS, JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT, GOTTERDAMERUNG, CARMEN, HAMLET, RIGOLETTO, DRACULA, A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC, MADAME BUTTERFLY and GIANNI SCHICCHI. Tom grew up under the influence of his musically gifted mother, grandmother, Rosalia Maresca, and grandfather, Mario Laurenti. He is grateful for the opportunity to be part of these "FREEDOM FOUND" performances.



ROSEMARY COLLINS

Mezzo-soprano
PERFORMING AS ANNA
ROSEMARY COLLINS, who plays the role of
Grandmother Anna, performed in the March 22, 2008
Reading of FREEDOM FOUND at The Royalty Theater in
Clearwater, with her daughter Lindsey and several of
her own students participating as the FREEDOM FOUND

Children's Chorus. She teaches music at Safety Harbor Middle School, sings in her church choir, and performs frequently throughout Tampa Bay.



Photo Credit: Portrait Innovations

AVERY GROSS

Soprano PERFORMING AS SALLY

AVERY GROSS, performing as supporting actor Sally (Jake's younger sister), has been "performing" since she began to walk and talk, and theater is her passion. At seven years old she auditioned and was chosen to perform in the FREEDOM FOUND Children's Chorus for the World Premiere of FREEDOM FOUND September,

2010, at The Palladium. Subsequently, Avery performed with the New Century Opera production of MEPHISTOPHELES. She enjoys singing in her school chorus and children's church choir at Heritage United Methodist Church in Clearwater and, since she can remember, with her Mom and Dad (Jennie and Spence), while riding in the car. Avery's future plans include performing on stage, singing, acting and dancing. She would like to express appreciation to Virginia Seaman, her voice instructor, and also to Karen Foster for helping her with choreography.



MARY CROOM

Soprano PERFORMING AS MARIE

Born in the Philippines and reared in Corpus Christi, Texas, Mary's love of music began in her childhood. She performed in her hometown community theatre where she played the role of Anita in *West Side Story*. Most

of her musical experiences have been drawn from singing with show bands and rock groups in Seattle and Miami to fronting variety and contemporary dance bands in Maryland and California. She has recorded original music with Melvin Seals, keyboard player from the Jerry Garcia Band, and has also recorded a CD of original music called "Miracle in Disguise." Currently teaching piano and voice for beginning students at Mattioli School of Music in St. Pete Beach, she is also in a musical duo called "Shade of Twilight" (www.ReverbNation.com/ShadeofTwilight) that plays in the St. Pete Beach area.



KEVIN NICKORICK

Baritone PERFORMING AS RAZ

Mr. Nickorick is a versatile vocalist who began his operatic career with the Toronto Opera Repertoire under the direction of the acclaimed Giuseppe Macina. Locally, he has performed with the St. Petersburg Opera, and is a regular with the Sunstate Opera and Florida Lyric Opera. His portfolio of over 26 roles in 18 operas covers the gamut from the effervescent Goro (Madama Butterfly) to the title role of the demanding Wagnerian opera, Siegfried. His many appearances with the Treasure Coast Opera in Ft. Pierce also include a children's version of the Barber of Seville which he edited and staged and which has been enthusiastically received by thousands of school children in St. Lucy County. He has also appeared as an anthem singer for the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning hockey team.



JEFF CLARK

Baritone PERFORMING AS ABE

Mr. Clark is a former member of the Metropolitan Opera chorus and has sung leads in *La Traviata*, *Faust*, *Carmen*, *Rigoletto*, *Pagliacci*, *Il Trovatore*, *La Boheme*, *The Merry Widow*, and *Elizabeth of Russia* (world premiere). He

has performed roles from shows such as *Man of La Mancha*, *Oklahoma*, *Carousel*, and *Kiss Me Kate*, and *The Fantasticks*. William S., a musical on the life of William Shakespeare. Mr. Clark has performed with the Summit Orchestra & Singers, the Renaissance Opera Orchestra, the Bay Lyric Orchestra, and the Florida Lyric Opera.



REX L. TABOR, Jr.

Tenor PERFORMING AS WILL

At home on both the operatic and musical comedy stage; Rex Tabor brings a wealth of experience to any role. Creating classical roles in such operas as *La Boheme*, *Tosca*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Barber of Seville*, to lighter fare

in *Die Fledermaus*, *The Gypsy Baron* and the *Merry Widow*, each new role is realized with stunning realism and great good musicianship. Relying on a great sense of humor and a flair for comedic timing, Mr. Tabor brings new styling to musical comedy roles requiring not only good singing but great acting as well. Audiences were treated to Nicely Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls* and Melvin P Thorpe in *Best Little Whorehouse* in Texas in recent productions. In addition such roles as Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, Lazar Wolfe in *Fiddler* and many more abound in this character actors repertory. In addition to stage appearances, Mr. Tabor is at home on the concert stage with a busy career around the Tampa Bay Area and all of Florida. Appearances with local orchestras as well as Florida based orchestras keep him busy traveling the state. With his wife Cynthia Broadwater he

has written, produced and directed a review based on Broadway musicals from the turn of the century to today.

Mr. Tabor has been doing double duty lately as both performer and assistant to the director in musical theatre. He recently made his directorial debut with the Treasure Coast Opera and a new realization of the Student Prince and later in *Barber of Seville* and *Die Fledermaus* for the Florida Lyric Opera. This coming season promises to be a very busy and rewarding one for this busy performer. As well as the Premiere of FREEDOM FOUND, Rex will be singing the role of Faust in New Century Opera's April production of *Mefistofele*. He will also be singing Rodrigo in Rossni's Otello as well as the uncle in Secret Garden.



PEYTON RYDELL

Soprano PERFORMING AS LOU

A freshman at the University of South Florida in Tampa, she studied for years privately under the brilliant Rosalia Maresca. She was cast in CCS's "The Wizard of OZ" and Idlewild Baptist Church's production of "Pass the

Mustard" last year. She is a member of Cambridge Christian Ensemble, Gulf Coast Youth Choir "Le Petit" and "Voca de Vita" choirs, which have enabled her to participate in mission trips overseas and to perform at Carnegie Hall. In addition to singing, Peyton enjoys golf, piano, guitar, and spending time with friends and family. Peyton is a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority freshman at USF in the School of Music, majoring in Classical Voice, and plans to study Criminology.



ERIKA VAN GORDEN

Soprano PERFORMING AS JOSIE

While at East Lake High School she sang with the elite vocal ensembles Madrigals and Chamber choir and, in 2006, was chosen to sing the Mozart's *Requiem* on the stage of Carnegie Hall under the direction of Judith

Willoughby. With Opera Tampa she has sung in the chorus for the productions of Tosca and Faust and with the St. Petersburg Opera she sang in the chorus for the productions of *Cosi fan tutte* and *Carmen*. She is currently studying at St. Petersburg College under Dr. Marilyn Michaell, where she also sings with the college's elite vocal ensemble Madrigalians under the direction of Vernon Taranto. Summer of 2010 She studied abroad with the college in Rome where she sang at Basilica di San Paul

and Basilica di San Silvestro where she performed Pergolesi's "Quae moerebat et dolebat" from Stabat Mater and Gabriel Faure's "Pie Jesu" from Requiem.



DAVID POWERS

Baritone
PERFORMING AS LEADER OF THE THREE MEN
DAVID POWERS, is at home both in operatic and musical comedy roles. He enjoys character roles. For the New Century Opera in Tarpon Springs, Florida, he has sung the principal roles of Gunther in Wagner's "The Twilight of the Gods" ("Gotterdammerung") and Pandolfo in

"The Maid Mistress" ("La Serva Padrona") by Pergolesi. David created the role of Julius Caesar in the World Premiere of "Octavian and Cleopatra", an opera by Sharon Lesley and David Ohrenstein of Sarasota, Florida, He played the villain in "Crossing the Bay", a new musical by Bill Leavengood and Lee Ahlin, staged at the Falk Theatre in Tampa. For the Fresh! Live! Theatre Company, formerly in St. Petersburg, he played principal comic roles in "The Big Finish", a new musical by Sean Sanczel, and "An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bouef" by Michael Hollinger, A former member of the Screen Actors Guild, David has also played principal roles in regional television commercials.



JOHN DEEB

Bass
PERFORMING AS "THREE MEN"
Baritone John Deeb, has been entertaining Florida
audiences in the Suncoast area since 1973. He has been
seen at such venues as the Tampa Bay Performing Arts
Center, Ruth Eckerd Hall, Mahaffey Theater and the

Aslo Theater in Sarasota. He has performed a variety of baritone roles including Germont (Traviata), Tonio and Silvio (Paqgliacci), Alfio (Cavalleria Rusticana), Count di Luna (Il Trovatore), Escamillo (Carmen), Dr. Bartelo (Barber of Seville) and two of the three Kings in Amahl and the Night Visitors. Mr. Deeb also sang with the New York City Opera's opening of TBPAC under the batton of Meastro Julius Rudell. He has been seen with the San Carlo Opera Co., The Florida Opera, Jefferson Opera of New Orleans, Tampa Bay Opera, Laurenti Opera Players and the Florida Lyric Opera.



MARK BELL

Baritone PERFORMING AS "THREE MEN"

Mark Bell is presently a 3rd year vocal performance major at St. Petersburg College studying under the direction of Dr. Marilyn Michael. He is currently a music scholarship recipient and performs with the SPC Madrigalians, a

select group of advanced singers chosen by audition. In addition, Mr. Bell has performed with the St. Petersburg Opera in productions of Madama Butterfly, Die Fledermaus, and Samson et Delilah. He is currently the soloist/ bass section leader at Christ United Methodist Church in St. Petersburg, Florida. Mark is studying music and planning to sing opera as his career choice.



ROBBY HASSALL

PERFORMING AS RAPPER LEE

Robby Hassall, performing as Rapper Lee, Friend of Jake and Sally, Clearwater, Florida, developed the love for singing and acting when he was 3 years of age. He performed in many church productions then in school drama productions and is now, at age 14, performing

in community theater. In 2009 he graduated with a professional acting degree from John Casablancas Acting, Modeling And Carreer Center In Tampa, Florida. Since joining the World Premiere of FREEDOM FOUND in 2010 he has come to know and love all of the cast as extended family. "Each Freedom Found Musical Drama is one step closer to Choosing Who To Be" - Robert says. He has also starred in many productions such as - Alice and Wonderland (White Rabbit), David and Goliath (Goliath), and Knights On Broadway 1&2 (Ralph).



BITSY

Bitsy is a very friendly black and white Shih Tzu from Tampa, Florida. She is 4 years old and loves to eat her treats and play with her owners Lexi, Tommy and Shelby. Her brother is a huge, 110 lb Labrador that she LOVES to annoy. Bitsy also loves to play hide and go seek.

PRODUCTION TEAM



EILEEN NAVARRO, *DIRECTOR*.

President of Gulfport Community Players and producer, director, and performer of theater for fifteen years.



After a long and successful opera career, **ROSALIA MARESCA**, *PRODUCTION CONSULTANT* left the prestigious Manhattan School of Music, where she was Professor of Voice, because she was invited to run an opera company in the Tampa Bay area, which became the Florida Lyric Opera. She is Director of Music at James United Methodist Church. She is currently teaching voice

at Ruth Eckerd Hall and Mattioli Studio at St Pete Beach. She is committed to developing Tampa Bay talent, as with the show FREEDOM FOUND.



LINDA MULE' SWITZER, *MUSIC DIRECTOR*, was a prizewinner in the Florida District Metropolitan Opera Auditions and a prizewinner in the Atlanta Regional Metropolitan Opera Auditions. She holds a Master of Music degree in voice performance from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and a Bachelor of Music Education from Longwood College in Farmville, Va. Mule' is active as a performer in regional opera,

zarzuela and musical theater. She has performed roles with Opera Tampa, Sarasota Opera, Orlando Opera, Florida Lyric Opera, The Florida Orchestra, Treasure Coast Opera, Pensacola Opera and Spanish Lyric Theatre. Mule' felt extremely fortunate to have a role in the world premiere of Anton Coppola's Sacco and Vanzetti, under the baton of Conductor Anton Coppola. She most recently performed the role of the widow in the Spanish version of the Merry Widow, entitled La Viuda Alegre, for Spanish Lyric Theatre. Mule' owns The Florida Arts School, is an adjunct professor of voice at St. Petersburg College, and is a vocal instructor at Ruth Eckerd Hall. She is proud to be a long-standing member of Actors' Equity. Her students can be found on Broadway, in regional opera companies, television and film. Linda is dedicated to helping talent of all ages get the training and make the contacts necessary to work in the business.



JANE RUSSELL GEDDINGS

CHOREOGRAPHER

A native of Charlotte, NC, has been teaching movement for thirty years. She is the founder and owner of MISS JANE'S CLASS INC, a company which provides dance and gymnastics programs in private schools. She has been choreographing for theatres along the west coast

of Florida for twenty years; and is a Lary and Hami Award winner for her choreography. She currently choreographs and teaches dance for the New Century Opera Ballet Company. "Miss Jane" has also performed in many plays and musicals, singing, dancing, acting. Her work includes writing and producing musicals for children. She served as an adjunct professor in the dance department at the University of South Florida, and was instrumental in introducing tap in the curriculum. Jane recently taught and performed at Space City Tap Fest in Houston, Texas; and is scheduled to again teach and perform at the upcoming Tap Fest in March 2011. She and her husband, classical pianist Robert Miller, are lifetime members of the American Liszt Society; and they are presently resting a 102 year old home in Brooksville, FL.



MITSIE KRAACK

CHOREOGRAPHER

Mitsie Hilburn Kraack is an Atlanta native where she attended Northside High School of the Performing Arts where she studied ballet, modern, jazz and musical theatre. While at Northside, she toured with the Atlanta Convention Bureau performing around the world in London, Brussels, and Paris, as well as New York, Las

Vegas and regionally throughout the southeastern United States as a "Coke is It Kid." A graduate of the University of South Florida with a B. S. in Dance Education, Mitsie has been a professional choreographer for more than twenty years. Her professional dance background includes work and training with Gary Harrison and Company (Atlanta, GA) and as Co-Director of Souls of the Feet with The Dance Theatre of Georgia, Inc. (Jonesboro, GA). Mitsie is a committed teacher dedicated to the education of children in the arts. She is currently the Artistic Director for Theatre Art and Dance Alliance (TADA) in Lithia, FL. She has choreographed many regional and high school shows such as: Footloose, Annie, Music Man, and Grease and most recently her choreographic work was seen at Progress Village Middle School, Randall Middle School and Children's Alliance For Summer Theatre at TADA. She continues to pursue opportunities for students to perform in Tampa, Orlando and New York.



BARBARA GRIFFITH of Knoxville, TN: Props Mistress and Projections Knoxville Opera Props Mistress, BS UT, Knoxville, MS Education, Assoc Degree in Television Production.

Original design and painting of all the projections, Props mistress, and provided artistic input.

ORCHESTRA



SKIP PITTMAN plays drums, electronic drums, tuned, and untuned percussion. He plays harmonica, as well. He composes, orchestrates, records,mixes, and produces music in all genres. He has performed in every major arena in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. He has worked and performed with Ice Follies, Holiday On Ice in addition to working on network television projects. Skip

has provided percussion for every performance of FREEDOM FOUND, from the inception to the current run of shows.

DEAN FERNALDORCHESTRA: KEYBOARD

FRANCIS "SONNY" ANNIS

ORCHESTRA: BASS

FREEDOM FOUND



MARTHA BUSHORE-FALLIS

PRODUCTION CONSULTANT. Martha told her Mom of plans to "be a baby doctor" while a doll-carrying 5 year-old in Knoxville, TN, and recalls writing music at age 7. Her father loved music, played many instruments and sang in the church choir with Martha. At age 19 Martha sang in 6 European countries as member of the Univ of TN Singers. She had formal lessons in flute, piano,

voice, guitar, and played harmonica with her father and organ on her own. She graduated from UT with a BA in English after studies of modern plays and Shakespeare. Professionally, Martha Bushore, MD, graduated in 1970 as the only female grad, from a starting class of 100, from the University of TN then lectured in many countries and most states urging improvements in care for the life-threatened child, which is her passion. Awards are many, including TN Medical Assn. Distinguished Service Award for her work in the nation's first Child Restraint Law in 1978, Am Academy of Pediatrics DS Award for Creation of the Field of Pediatric Emergency Medicine in 1988, Award from the Knoxville Women's Center for courage compassion and commitment to helping women, 1988, called Godmother of kids' emerg care in US News and World Report, January, 1992, Assoc Prof Emory Univ Dept of Peds '92-'93, listed in Who's Who in 2004 (as Martha JaneSmith Bushore-Fallis), and the Am Academy of Pediatrics gives an annual Martha Bushore-Fallis APLS (Advanced Pediatric Life Support) Award. Martha published in several scientific publications, she also served on the Editorial Board of Pediatrics, Provided care for children in several other countries and for thousands of children in TN, GA, & FL before retiring in 1999 as a Fellow in Pediatrics, Critical Care, and Emergency Medicine, with special qualifications in ped emerg med. For relaxation, Dr. Bushore-Fallis has sung in many choruses and church choirs, served on multiple boards and has been member of multiple service orgs including Rotary (as a Paul Harris

Fellow) and Sertoma. Martha and her husband, Jim, retired Toronto pediatric surgeon and pianist, are proud of their 3 Canadian families, all of whom are involved in theater and music, and 3 US families with 6 married children for a total of 12 in the next generation and an additional 12 in grands! Jim renewed her dream of writing musical theater after their marriage in 2003. Dean Fernald and Francis "Sonny" Annis, once introduced, became dear friends & committed their extraordinary professional musical ability and experience to making the dream now entitled FREEDOM FOUND, THE MUSICAL DRAMA, come true almost nine years of steady work. Rosalia Maresca hugged the score and said, "You deserve to have this produced... Why not?" Hope you enjoy the show!



DEAN FERNALD

ORCHESTRA: KEYBOARD

Dean recalls playing piano at age 5 and having to sit on an unabridged dictionary to reach the keys. He astonished his parents, who both played the piano, by hearing music then playing what he heard... "had a good ear". Dean left at age 18 to attend the Northern Conservatory of Music in Bangor, Maine, and graduated with a major

in doublebass in 1972. He played Hammond organ 1972-1975 in a rock band, The Maine Attraction, then multiple bands in Maine before moving to Tampa Bay in 1991. He plays in multiple bands right here "in paradise" and doesn't ever plan to leave. Currently playing in Suncoast Dixieland Jazz Society groups including Dixie Chaps, and dance band Pleasure, at Bilmar Beach Grill Razzie's and Treasure Island Yacht Club, Sarasota Singles Club, and St Pete Coliseum tea dances. Performed in last year using piano, synthesizer (as many instruments), guitar, bass, and tuba. For fun, Dean plays sax and trumpet at home, as well.



FRANCIS "SONNY" ANNIS

ORCHESTRA: BASS

Francis grew up in Forrest Hills, PA, 14 miles
East of Pittsburgh, as youngest of 6 children in
a musical family, and his 1st instrument was a
button accordion (Concertina?) at age 4. Turning
PRO at age 5, he toured with neighborhood with
his entourage (who carried the chair for him to
stand on) playing "3 songs for a nickel". He recalls
a great day when they earned 80¢ to share on

candy! He took violin lessons from age 6 to 10 then played tuba in the orchestra till the trombone was available in 7th grade. He bought his own trombone at age 16 and quit high school to travel with a dance band, visiting 48 states, Canada & Mexico by age 18. He practiced trombone 4 hrs/day for 3 yrs then lost it in a Greensboro, SC, show club fire. Suddenly working as a string bass player and eventually replacing the trombone in Elkhart, IN, at the Conn Factory. He still practices bass every day.

Professional career for 21 yrs playing music and conducting for Tupperware Industrial Sales Shows, taking him to most every major US city, even in Hawaii, plus Mexico City and Acapulco, Mexico, and to the Bahamas. Then with Walt Disney World Creative Entertainment Division for 18 yrs, performing in "Top of the World" Show Room. Stars he played included Mel Torme, Della Reese, Chita Rivera, Pattie Page, Frankie Lane. Francis "Sonny" Annis did tours with Liberace, Four Girls, Rosemary Clooney, Helen O'Connel, Kay Starr, Martha Raye, Rose Marie, and The Lennon Sisters, and Myron Floren. He did shows with Robert Goulet and Bob Hope.

Colleagues from Disney requested permission to create a software program with the Annis music notation style. He is renowned for his beautiful pen and ink music notation. He and Dean began FREEDOM FOUND with this calligraphy style then gradually adapted the computer software to reflect Sonny's perfectionist style.

Now he plays with the most talented musicians in west central Florida.