

Unique Fundraising Event Offered to District Congregations

A unique fundraising opportunity that unites membership, draws in friends and public, spreads the spirit of UUism, and is guaranteed to be an inspiring learning experience as well as fun for all is being offered by The Margaret Fuller Bicentennial Committee for a limited time only. Funded in part by the Fund for Unitarian Universalism, the Margaret Fuller Bicentennial Committee is seeking sponsors for fundraising since every dollar raised will be matched up to \$4000. Sponsoring congregations or organizations will share a percentage of donations collected.

The fundraising event, which has proved highly successful in UU congregations, is to rehearse and present a costumed staged reading of Laurie James' original drama, "Roots of Rebellion," that documents the nineteenth century code that public speaking was immoral for women – even in church. Based on historic records, "Roots" brings to life the story of the first women who were so appalled by slavery, poverty, and women's inequality that they broke barriers by protesting in barns, lyceums, churches, wherever they could gather an audience.

Congregation members are cast in the 18+ roles that include Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, and others. Nineteenth century songs are incorporated, and the audience participates by hissing and booing the women's speeches. Author/actor Laurie James, Project Director of the Margaret Fuller Bicentennial Committee and winner of the 2009 UU Women's Federation Margaret Fuller Award, will direct the production. Interested congregation members should contact Laurie James directly by calling 646 265 0967 or 212 563-5523 or emailing ljauthor@nyc.rr.com. More about the Margaret Fuller 2010 Bicentennial can be found at www.margaretfuller.net.