

Passion with a Purpose

Stuart Roth and the Center for Faith and Freedom



When I met Stuart J. Roth at his 8200 square foot state of the art Center For Faith and Freedom in Lakewood Ranch, I couldn't believe me eyes and ears. Let me tell you first-hand what I witnessed and heard.

Roth's amazing journey began to unfold when he moved to Florida in 2002. Stuart was an honors graduate of Florida State University and the Mercer University School of Law. He became a nationally recognized attorney in an international law firm located in Washington, D.C. with affiliate offices in Strasbourg, France and Moscow, Russia. Stuart's practice focuses on constitutional law, civil liberties and human rights and he appears regularly on radio and television offering commentaries on important issues of the day. He has also collaborated on twelve cases heard before the United States Supreme Court.

In 1989, Stuart started the Center for Faith and Freedom. In the early years, the company operated a network of full-power television stations in Mobile and Montgomery, Alabama, and in Nashville, Memphis and Chattanooga, Tennessee. He enjoyed his days

in broadcasting and gained extensive experience in the multi-media industry. Evolving from this business experience and his own convictions on human rights, Roth began offering media support to nonprofit organizations that make a difference in communities and neighborhoods. He realized the need for nonprofits to be equipped with the best technology to communicate their mission and vision in the marketplace of ideas. His award-winning project, Salt and Light Productions was born and throughout the years the company became widely known to many in various parts of the country as it is now to many in our area.

The full realization of Roth's vision culminated in 2006 when the Center For Faith and Freedom's headquarters was completed in Lakewood Ranch. Roth defined the Center's purpose in our community to me: "We designed our building for the sole purpose of serving others. Our mission is to utilize our resources to encourage and inspire other nonprofits in their pursuit of excellence. I strongly believed that relocating to the Sarasota area would benefit both

the company and the community." Music to my ears!

And it gets even better. Salt and Light produces interactive DVD's, PSA's and other multi-media presentations for selected nonprofits at no charge. I could not believe what I heard. Roth showed me a presentation he made for Manasota Buds, a nonprofit organization providing families with a supportive forum for sharing and networking, and to promote understanding and acceptance of Down syndrome. It was very moving and compelling. The Center's state of the art production, editing and studio facility as well as their education and conference center truly enables the Center to effectively offer the nonprofit community an outstanding resource.

Stuart Roth is a man who gives back to help others in a big way. That is why I wanted you to know about him and the great work he is doing. He summed up his feelings to me: "I don't take anything for granted. I am very privileged to have so many fulfilling opportunities to serve others less fortunate. It is an obligation I take seriously." Thank you, Stuart, for your wonderful gift to our community. **S**

-Julie Milton, EDITOR

