Playing with perspective: Prose writer-in-residence Irving to give Brown Bag | Page 2

# The Chautauquan Daily

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NEWELL

### **Celtic pilgrim Newell closes** week with reflection on nature's grace

#### **KAITLYN FINCHLER** STAFE WRITER

Pull out a map and travel with John Philip Newell; on the western coast of Scotland, there's a small island named Iona, where Newell, pilgrim and former minister, takes people who are looking to connect with their faith on pilgrimages at least four times a year.

Newell, who visited Chautauqua Institution as a chaplain-in-residence and lecturer in 2016, will give his lecture "The Grace of Nature" at 2 p.m. today in the Hall of Philosophy to finish the Interfaith Lecture Series Week Two theme, "Reconnecting with the Natural World."

"(I'm going to) particularly look at Celtic wisdom that celebrates the essential sacredness of Earth, the sacredness of every human being, and looks at that as having a radical impact on how we see and view and handle one another," Newell said, "... (and) how we live in a sort of interrelationship with all things as part of our well-being, as part of our healing." Iona is referred to as Scotland's "holy island," and Newell said in the sixth century, Christianity began in Scotland. He said Iona has been a place for pilgrimages for people from all over the world for hundreds of years. "At least four times a year, I lead pilgrimage weeks on Iona," Newell said. "People come from all over the world to reflect together; to enter times of meditation and prayer together; to have times of hiking on the island; to have times of very intentional study and reflection; times of very simple spiritual practice (and) the practice of sharing meals together." Newell said he wants his Hall of Philosophy audience to take away "a renewed sense of sacredness" and to appreciate everything, from life to breathing to the sunrise. He hopes attendees will use the sacredness and appreciation to reflect on how they're going to live with one another with these views toward nature.



MITCHELL

### Broadway staple Mitchell steps to Amp stage in last-minute program change

#### SARA TOTH EDITOR

When Chautauquans gather tonight in the Amphitheater, ready for an evening of Broadway hits and a superstar headliner, that is exactly what they'll get.

Just maybe not from the superstar they're expecting.

In a last-minute, under-the-wire

ternoon, a new headliner was announced: Brian Stokes Mitchell, a Tony Award-winner whose baritone voice has been a staple on the Great White Way for decades. He'll perform with his longtime collaborator and friend, pianist Tedd Firth at 8:15 p.m. tonight in the Amp for a program titled "Songs and Stories."

When Deborah Sunya Moore,

COVID-19, she and her team sprung into action.

"When someone cancels – and of course, this has happened before in our programming, and it will happen again, especially in this time of COVID - even on a short timeline like this, the first thing we try to honor is something that's in the same vein as what evervone was expecting," she said. "And so for me, the first thing was: 'Stick with Broadway.'"

See **NEWELL**, Page 4

program pivot, Hamilton star Renée senior vice president and chief Elise Goldsberry had to cancel her Amp performance; in a matter of hours Thursday morning and af-

programming officer, got the call Thursday morning that Goldsberry had tested positive for

See MITCHELL, Page 4

### **'Humans of New York' creator Stanton to close week** with stories of connection between people, nature

#### WILL KARR

STAFF WRITER

Thousands of people walk the streets of New York City everyday. Photographer and author Brandon Stanton works to put a story to every face.

After losing his lucrative job in Chicago as a stock broker in 2010, Stanton decided to move to New York with one plan in his mind - and little money in his pocket.

His master plan: interview and photograph a total of 10,000 strangers on the streets of New York, the epicenter of anonymity.

Stanton is the creative mastermind behind the photoblog "Humans of New York," where he first started documenting pho-

stories from his impromptu street conversations.

Now, what started out as a small blog has become an internet sensation, and taken him all around the world. Since 2010, Stanton's work has expanded to numerous other formats, including three New York Times best-selling books and over 20 million followers across all his social media platforms. He has photographed and interviewed political figures, such as President Barack Obama and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Stanton will discuss his work and life journey at 10:45 a.m. today in the

tographs, interviews and Amphitheater to close the Chautauqua Lecture Series Week Two theme of "The Wild: Reconnecting with Our Natural World."

"Stanton's work is all about human connection, our common stories and shared identity," said Vice President and Emily and Richard Smucker Chair for Education Matt Ewalt. "His photographs also show us how our environments help define us, from the urban spaces we have made, to the natural spaces we seek out, in the densest of cities." Ewalt said that Stanton's

works challenge us to question "what it means to truly see each other, from those who we may walk past on the streets of New York, to

**STANTON** 

those on the other side of the world that share common stories with us."

Stanton's conversations and photographs formed the basis for his book Humans of New York. In his book, he features thousands of portraits and interview snippets from his intimate conversations with ordinary people walking the streets of the city. The conversations range from light-hearted and comical to heart-wrenching and emotional.

In a cultural era characterized by technological advancement, political polarization and physical separation, Stanton reminds us of the value and importance of remaining present in the moment, and of remembering to take time to connect with those around us.

See **STANTON**, Page 4

#### IN TODAY'S DAILY



()

today's

WEATHER

#### MELDING MUSIC TOGETHER

Grammy winner Gutkin continues journey with 'Indecent,' from cocomposing original music, to CTC.







SATURDAY

cultivate imagination in ecological



Sunrise: 5:50 a.m. Sunset: 8:55 p.m.

H 75° L 51'

Rain: 11%

#### NATURE & **COLLECTIVE GRIEF**

In wide-ranging conversation, Williams, Lamfrom explore need for healing together, with nature.

SUNDAY





to support.

Page 9

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Rain: **3%** Sunrise: 5:51 a.m. Sunset: 8:54 p.m.

**'IT'S YOUR TURN'** 

Chautauqua's NOW Generation

gathers for first welcome reception

since 2019, learns of new initiatives

Missed a story in the Daily this summer? Find it on our website using the search bar at the top of any page.

Sunset: 8:55 p.m.

H 81° L 61°

Rain: 21%

## THE ARTS



#### BRIEFLY

#### NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

Chautauqua Property Owners Association meeting The Chautauqua Property Owners Association will hold its first general meeting of the season at 9 a.m. on Saturday in the Hall of Philosophy. It will run approximately one hour and is open to property owners and non-property owners alike. It is followed by an Institution Leadership Open Forum at 10 a.m. in the Hall of Philosophy.

#### Live chat engagement

"Humans of New York" author Brandon Stanton's program, live at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater, will also be on CHQ Assembly and will feature live chat engagement. Visit assembly.chq.org to participate.

#### Jumu'ah prayer

Jumu'ah, the Friday Muslim communal prayer, is at 12:30 p.m. today in the Hall of Christ, beginning with instruction, followed with Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf leading the prayer at 1 p.m. live on Zoom from New York City. The Jumu'ah service, which is open to all, combines the traditional elements of the Muslim worship experience with the opportunity to engage with questions to further your understanding about Islam. The Jumu'ah prayer handout is available in both Arabic and English transliteration, with detailed explanations for those who wish to join in prayer or understanding. No special dress is required, and all are welcome.

#### Open Session with the Homies

At 12:15 p.m. today in the UCC Randell Chapel, join four Homeboys and Homegirls from Homeboy Industries as they talk about their lives. This event is programmed by the Quaker House, ECOC and UCC.

#### School of Music news

At 10 a.m. today in Fletcher Music Hall, Opera Conservatory Director Marlena Malas leads a public masterclass. At 4 p.m. today in Sherwood Marsh Piano Studio, Piano Program students give a public performance. Masks are required for these events, and donations are welcome.

Please note that all public events in McKnight Hall have been moved to Fletcher Music Hall.

#### Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle news

There's still time to join the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle Class of 2022. The application and supplemental materials deadline has been extended to today. Applications are available online. Learn how we'll celebrate the CLSC Class of 2022 this season via hybrid class meetings at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, July 13 (Week Three) and Wednesday, July 20 (Week Four). If you'll be at Chautauqua on any of these dates, join us in the Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall, or join us from home via Zoom (invitations will be emailed). For more information about CLSC Recognition Week deadlines or related meetings and events, please visit www.chq. org/clsc or inquire at clsc@chq.org.

#### Sports Club news

## **Prose writer-in-residence Irving to speak** about point of view, memoir in Brown Bag

#### **CHRIS CLEMENTS** STAFF WRITER

Apricot Irving's Brown Bag lecture will focus on two things: point of view and memoir.

"Typically, most writers reach for first-person point of view to speak from their own lives, but it can be really valuable as a writer to play with perspective and adopt the second-person voice, for example," said Irving, an author, educator and the Week Two prose writer-in-residence at the Chautauqua Writers' Center.

One writer who plays with perspective well, Irving said, is Edwidge Danticat, a Haitian-American novelist and short story writer.

"She has a gorgeous essay at the end of one of her early short story collec-tions, *Krik? Krak*!," Irving said. "It's called 'Women Like Us,' and it's written in that second-person voice. I'm going to be reading some excerpts from that and talking about the value of having that perspective where it's almost like someone is standing over your shoulder, coaching and she said: 'It's myself as



hard thing.

Alumni Hall.

tauqua Literary Arts Brown

Bag titled "How Playing with

Perspective Untangles Com-

plicated History and Opens

Doors to Rapture" at 12:15

p.m. today on the porch of

the Literary Arts Center at

Like Us,' Danticat is imagin-

ing herself as a 15-year-old

girl," she said. "When I met

(Danticat) a few weeks ago,

we talked about this piece.

Someone had asked her

who her ideal audience is,

"In the case of 'Women

That complicity has to be faced on the page. I've found that working with and playing with point of view really helped me get distance and perspective on how to tell my own story, and where to see myself in this larger narrative."

> **-APRICOT IRVING** Prose writer-in-residence, Chautauqua Writers' Center

you on how to get over a a young girl - that's always who I imagine when I write Irving will give a Chauabout Haiti.'"

Irving said that when it came to the writing of her own memoir, The Gospel of Trees, and her time living in Haiti, "it was really difficult."

"The bulk of what I had to grapple with is being a white missionary's daughter, and that tangled legacy of colonization and missions," she said. "I realized, in the process, how much was required of me. I took (Rainer Maria) Rilke's advice when it came to this: 'It was not pleasure you fell into. It was joy. You were called to



#### IRVING

be bridegroom, though the bride coming toward you is your shame.'

When it comes to shame, Irving said, it's a dance; it's about looking back on complicated stories in our lives, where "there's complicity and uncomfortable truths."

"That complicity has to be faced on the page," she said. "I've found that working with and playing with point of view really helped me get distance and perspective on how to tell my own story, and where to see myself in this larger narrative."

### NFMC Northeastern Region to gather once more on grounds

After holding its annual Federation Days virtually in 2020 and 2021, the Northeastern Region of the National Federation of Music Clubs is returning to Chautauqua Institution

on Saturday and Sunday for its 78th annual Federation Days this weekend. Since its founding in 1898, NFMC has become the largest nonprofit organization in America to promote and



support American music, performers and music education. Of the 121,000 members, over 15,000 are from the states in the Northeastern Region, according to Ruth Ann McChesney, longtime Chautauquan, NFMC vice president of the region and NFMC representative to Chautauqua Institution.

On Saturday morning, 30 members will meet at Chautauqua Suites for a business meeting, memorial service, special music by Fast 4ward ladies quartet and a luncheon. At 3 p.m. Saturday



in Fletcher Music Hall, a recital will be presented by 14 of the Chautauqua School of Music students, eight of whom receive NFMC scholarships totaling \$8,700. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this free and inspiring performance. Masks are required for all attendees.

Federation members will attend the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra concert Saturday evening to hear and see the film, "Aladdin." Numerous Federation members will be singing in the Chautauqua Choir at the Service of Worship and Sermon and Sacred Song Service on Sunday. It's great for the NFMC to be back, live and in-person and enjoy all that Chautauqua has to offer.

Join fishing fun from 4 to 5 p.m. today. Rent a fishing rod and buy worms at Sports Club. Don't forget to share your catch with socialmedia@chq.org.

#### **Breakfast at Wimbledon**

All are welcome to view the Wimbledon Women and Men Championships from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday and Sunday at the Sports Club on widescreen TVs. Complimentary refreshments and coffee will be provided.

#### Bird, Tree, & Garden Club news

Join naturalist Jack Gulvin at 9 a.m. today for a Nature Walk & Talk. Meet at the lake side of Smith Wilkes Hall. Join Betsy Burgeson, supervisor of gardens and landscapes, for a Garden Walk & Talk at 12:30 p.m. today. Meet at the Discovery Garden to the right of the Main Gate.

### International Order of The King's Daughters and Sons nature walk and reflection

Join International Order of The King's Daughters and Sons intern Emory Bradley at 5 p.m. today at the IOKDS Chapel for a contemplative group nature walk. We'll read and reflect on two poems while walking a scenic portion of the grounds. All are welcome to come. Paper and pencils will be provided.

#### Nonperishable food drive

Chautauquans can dispose of sealed, nonperishable food items in the gold-papered cartons on the floor inside the north entrance of the Post Office building for the Mayville Food Pantry. For more information, contact James Kullberg at 716-753-5201.

#### Smith Memorial Library news

Financial adviser Alan Greenberg will be leading a free discussion on "Investing for the Future" at 3:30 p.m. today in the upstairs classroom of the Smith. Capacity is limited and on a first-come, first-seated basis.

#### **CLSC Class of 2000 news**

There will be a CLSC Class of 2000 meeting at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, at the Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall. Contact Ellen Chamberlin (440-346-4498) with questions. Please sign up to help with the Alumni Association of the CLSC fundraiser on July 17 at Alumni Hall.

#### Indecent play discussion

Come learn about and discuss the Chautauqua Theater Company production of Paula Vogel's Indecent at 12:45 p.m. Sunday at the Jessica Trapasso Pavilion at Children's School. All are welcome.

#### Chautauqua Men's Softball League game

At 5 p.m. tonight will be the Arthritics v. Slugs. At 6 p.m. will be Fish Heads v. YAC PAC. Both games are at Sharpe Field.



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Laura P. Coombs, ATC, Egoscue Certified Posture Therapist







CINEMA Friday, July 8 THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD - 5:50 (R, 128m, In Norwegian with subtitles) Cannes Winner - Best Actress! Shot on 35mm by award winning cinematographer Kasper Tuxen, writer/director Joachim Trier's "scintillating Oscar contender from Norway, led by a captivating star in **Renate Reinsve**, sets a new gold standard for romantic comedy." *-Peter Travers, ABC News* "So fresh and untethered to rom-com cliché it might actually reshape the idea of what movies like this can be." -Leah Greenblatt, Entertainment Weekly

EVERYTHING EVERY-WHERE ALL AT ONCE -9:00 (R, 132m) When an interdimensional rupture unravels reality, unlikeliest of heroes Evelyn Wang (Michelle Yeoh) must channel her newfound powers as the fate of the world hangs in the balance. Directed by **Dan Kwan** and **Daniel Scheinert**. "A pure fi ework display of technical bra-vado, wild invention, emotional storytelling, comedic genius, action mastery and outstanding performances...everything cine-ma was invented for." -Ben Travis, Empire Magazine

## RELIGION

## Modern life built on dissonance, but loving God remains

e think that the most beautiful interval would be between the beginning and middle of the scale, but it is actually the worst," said the Rev. Randall K. Bush at the 9:15 a.m. Thursday morning ecumenical worship service in the Amphitheater. His sermon title was "Resolving Tensions," and the Scripture text was Mark 12:41-44.

The distance of a tritone interval is three whole steps, or six half steps. Bush pointed to the tritone between C and F sharp, specifically. It is in between a perfect 4th and a perfect 5th, which are very soothing tones. The tritone sounds dissonant in relation to the intervals on either side.

"It was called the devil's interval because it's musical sign is  $\Psi$ , psi in Greek. Musicians were forbidden to use the interval in church music, but it has its place," Bush said.

Leonard Bernstein used it in West Side Story, in "Maria," and "took the motif through the whole score," Bush said. "The tritone was a way to embody the tension between the Jets and the Sharks, the tension in Maria and Tony's relationship."

In the last four measures of the score, the tension remains as the gangs put down their guns and hold on to the tension caused by Tony's death.

"The F sharp with the bass is repeated four times," Bush said. "Tension is always with us, but there remains the loving God, as well."

The tritone is an exceptionally dissonant interval, but it is a perfect symbol for the American season we are experiencing, Bush told the congregation.

"After COVID, we learned how vulnerable we are," Bush said. "The world is more tense: Republicans against Democrats, social conservatives and liberal strategists, the overturning of Roe v. Wade, gun violence, the Jan. 6 investigation, working from home."

He continued, "People working at home with flex hours wonder if they ever truly have time off. The war in Ukraine has disrupted supply lines. We are living life off balance. Our modern life is built on the tritone."

Jesus was no stranger to tension. His ride into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday showed the tension between the imperial Roman forces and a small-town rabbi. The Temple courtyard was common ground, and Jesus and his disciples watched as the wealthy leaders of the Temple emptied their money pouches into the Temple treasury.

"Jesus warned the disciples to beware of people who walk around in rich robes, have the best seats in the synagogue. They devour widows; they will receive greater condemnation," Bush said of Mark 12:38-40.

In Mark 12:10-12, Jesus warned that even though the Temple was a great building, there would not be one stone of it left on top of another.

"The tension reverberated around the disciples. Is there any way it could be resolved?" Bush asked.

The poor widow's simple act of putting her small gift into the Temple treasury provided Jesus with a response.

"This is a text that has launched a 1,000 sermons on stewardship. She gave all she had and parishioners are urged to do the same. The woman held back nothing, and then disappeared," Bush said.

The problem with this use of the story is that people in serving roles, women, people of color, migrants, are asked to surrender more of their resources than "those who write checks from their frothy wealth," Bush said.

The military budget keeps getting increased while schools and teachers are poorly funded. The climate is in trouble and fossil fuel interests get special legislation.

"Our ecclesiastical institutions have valorized war and put down women and LGBTQ+ people," he said.

"The tensions won't go away," he continued. "Bernstein used the tension in West Side Story when Riff told the boys to 'stay cool,' when Tony sang of impossible love. And when the gangs gathered around Tony's body, the tension was still there." Tensions in the church have made it harder to write sermons, Bush said. "If I talk about only the spiritual, I am called superficial. If I talk about the church in the world, I am called political," Bush said. "What if I took a strict literalist interpretation of Scrip-



COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

ture like the Supreme Court and the Constitution? If that was the case, what word of faith could I speak? If I don't speak, how can we welcome back a younger generation?"

Help is found in the story of the widow. First, Jesus sees her, and notices what she did.

'We have to look around and see what is right before us. Nothing will get better until we first look around," he said. Unlike the Temple leaders, the woman's gift was given

without ostentation.

'She gave out of humility, showing she belonged to God's kingdom," Bush said. "It was a public act that challenged power with a higher vision of our common humanity."

He gave some more recent examples of people who publicly challenged power. In 1797, George Washington resisted a call for a third term as president and established the precedent of the peaceful transfer of power. In 1851, Sojourner Truth asked "Ain't I A Woman?," and turned a women's rights convention into a forum for speaking out against slavery. In 2018, Greta Thunberg spoke out for the environment.

The widow's gift to the Temple treasury was an act of trust and hope, a witness to her commitment and gratitude.

"Her action was more valuable and had more substance than the gifts of the leaders," Bush said. "She turned the act of giving on its head."

Bush quoted author Rebecca Solnit, who said: "Hope is not a lottery ticket you can sit on the sofa and clutch, feeling lucky. It is an axe you break down doors with in an emergency. Hope should shove you out the door, because it will take everything you have to steer the future away from endless war, from the annihilation of the Earth's treasures and the grinding down of the poor and marginal. ... To hope is to give yourself to the future - and that commitment to the future is what makes the present inhabitable."

The tensions of life do not have the final word; there is hope, trust and resurrection.

'In this world we will always know tension; we will hear tritones. But to paraphrase Jesus, 'Be not afraid, for I have overcome this world.' Thanks be to God," Bush said.





JOELEEN HUBBARD / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER The Rev. Randall K. Bush plays the piano during worship before delivering his sermon Thursday in the Amphitheater.

The Rev. Mary Lee Talbot presided. Deacon Ray Defendorf, host of the Catholic House of Chautauqua, read the Scripture. The prelude was movement "Ronde villageoise," from Suite by Johan Amberg, played by the Motet Consort: Barbara Hois, flute; Rebecca Scarnati, oboe; Debbie Grohman, clarinet; and Randall K. Bush, piano. For the anthem, the Motet Choir sang a cappella "Love Bade Me Welcome," music by David Hurd and words by George Herbert, under the direction of Joshua Stafford, director of sacred music and holder of the Jared Jacobsen Chair for the Organ. Stafford played an improvisation (Tritone) for the postlude. Support for this week's services is provided by the Mr. and Mrs. William Uhler Follansbee Memorial Chaplaincy. Unless otherwise noted, the morning liturgies are written by the Rev. Natalie Hanson, interim senior pastor. Music is selected and the Sacred Song Service is created by Joshua Stafford, director of sacred music and Jared Jacobsen Chair for the Organ. For PDF copies of the services, email religionintern@chq.org.

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#### Shakespeare's Timeless History Lessons Week Four • Monday - Friday, July 18-22

Time: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., ages 16+ Hultquist 201 A Fee – 5 sessions – \$89 Instructor: Ruth Gerrard Cole Within the opportunities of Shakespeare's ten History Plays plus his well known Julius Caesar, amazing lessons in history span the centuries. Based in an understanding of his environment, the issues and personalities emerge for all times as he creates them with his dramatic quotations and plots.



#### Don't miss the Week 3 Special Studies Course Human Rights Successes

July 11-15 | Hultquist Center 101 | Ages: 16+ This course will provide a deeper understanding of the successes of the international human rights movement emphasizing its many successes with a focus on civil society organizations, governments, the UN, and multinationals.

**Enroll now** https://learn.chq.org/courses/human-rights-successes

### OLLINGSONDELO



Date: Saturday, July 30 • 8 am • 2.75 miles • Sports Club Sign up online at oldfirstnight.com

If unable to be on the grounds July 30, sign up for the Virtual Around the World Run.

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### FROM PAGE ONE

#### **STANTON** FROM PAGE 1

Page 4

Through his photographs, captions and astute observations, he offers his viewers insight into the intimate life experiences and stories of complete strangers. His work shows that there is truly no such thing as an average person. Rather, we all have unique life stories, backgrounds and experiences that have shaped who we are as individuals making us each extraordinary in our own right.

Stanton's work is all about

human connection, our

photographs also show

us how our environments

help define us, from the

urban spaces we have

spaces we seek out, in

the densest of cities."

-MATT EWALT

Education,

Vice President and Emily and

Chautauqua, at its core, is

all about human connec-

tion and conversation, and

our ability to be present

with one another, learn from

one another and be part of

a larger conversation – not

just with friends and family

but with those we meet for

the first time," Ewalt said,

noting that Stanton makes

for an apt replacement for

previously announced lec-

turer Nick Offerman. "I hope

that we can treasure these

opportunities more, not just

here at Chautauqua but in

hope that people are want-

ing to access this vision. ...

So once again, Iona pro-

makes sure to take a day of

solitude for himself on the

island once everyone else

Iona has always been," New-

ell said. "It's not a place to

go and stay forever, so much

as a place to be renewed so

'That's what the vision of

Newell said he always

duced a note of hope."

has left.

our lives year-round."

Richard Smucker Chair for

Chautauqua Institution

made, to the natural

common stories and

shared identity. His

"I think there is something timeless and inherently good about having conversations with random people on the street," Stanton said in a November 2020 New York Times interview.

During this interview Stanton shared how the pandemic had affected his work.

"There's something about the magic of having a deep conversation with a random person that I truly miss," Stanton said.

Through his storytelling, Stanton paints a portrait of the shared human experience. In closing out Week Two's theme, he will draw on his work, which aims to facilitate natural human connections in a world that is becoming increasingly influenced by human-made distractions.

"I've always felt that

#### NEWELL FROM PAGE 1

"We need to change how we are relating to the Earth, specifically, and to one another if there's to be a future path for humanity on this planet," Newell said. "I came away (from the most recent pilgrimage) with a strong sense of the challenge ahead of us. But, I came away once again with

Chautanqua. The Chautauouan Daily

#### MITCHELL FROM PAGE 1

And since the mid-1990s, Mitchell has been synonymous with Broadway. Nominated for four Tony Awards and earning the win for Best Actor in a Musical for his 2000 role in Kiss Me, Kate, he's also known for Ragtime, Man of La Mancha, and King Hedley II. Simply put, Moore said, Mitchell is "a Broadway star. People truly think of him as Broadway royalty.'

Honored in 2016 with

out of his New York City apartment balcony, singing to the essential workers, honoring them and uplift-

Mitchell took to his tiny balcony on Broadway and West 98th Street, night after night in the spring of 2020 - the height of lockdown, isolation and despair – to sing one song: "The Impossible Dream," from Man of La Mancha, for which he had been nominated for a 2003 Tony.

Mitchell continued the performances of "The Im-possible Dream," a song with fresh relevancy and comfort during the pandemic, until the crowds outside his apartment grew too large to continue.

"Singing both felt like a performance and I didn't want to do that," Mitchell was quoted in the outlet Chelsea News in May 2020. "'The Impossible Dream' is the perfect song for the moment. It gives people hope. It's also a song about trying - just to hear the lyrics -'to fight the unbeatable foe, bear with unbearable sorrow, and to run where the brave dare not go."

During the pandemic, The Actors Fund was able to provide \$4 million in emergency assistance to thousands of artists and actors left jobless when Broadway went dark.

Beyond his work on Broadway, Mitchell has a longlist of acting credits, from "Frasier," "Trap-per John, MD," "Glee," "Madam Secretary," and many more. He's twice performed at the White House, and has appeared with such acts as the United States Marine Band, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, and the Muppets.

"He's done everything," Moore said. "I think the

nal and creedal statements

of the Church of Scotland,

simply did not reflect what

my passion of belief is,"

Newell said. "It was import-

ant for my own integrity to

say that it doesn't reflect

respect for those still prac-

ticing within the four walls

of a church, but that he sees

it now as more of a discon-

nect between faith and life.

Newell said he still has

what I'm teaching."

minute people see him, see his face and hear his voice, they'll say, 'Oh, my gosh. That's Brian.'"

Moore said that the quick shift in programming, coming together in mere hours between Goldsberry's cancellation and Mitchell's confirmation, is a testament to both the draw that Chautauqua has for artists, and the way in which performing arts organizations and venues have leaned on each other

during the pandemic. "This community has become so supportive of one another. One of the things that has happened with COVID, in our industry, is that it has felt less and less competitive and more supportive," Moore said. "We're a closer-knit community. ... That's one of the things that's come

"I'm aware that we're in a

transition time in Western

Christianity," Newell said.

hungry for change; we

want more than what has

historically and tradition-

ally been presented within

our church inheritance."

out of this, in a really positive way."

Chautauqua Institution

-DEBORAH SUNYA MOORE

Friday, July 8, 2022

And when Chautauquans take their seats, they'll bear witness to what that community has been able to do, and what actors and artists have been able to accomplish with each other, and for each other.

"This is going to be one of those evenings of intimate sharing of stories and personal experiences on Broadway, with incredible singing," Moore said. "That makes it one of those evenings Chautauquans will love because it's not just the talent. It's not just the Broadway songs. It's going to Brian, with Tedd, who is one of his best friends, sharing their experiences in that way of storytelling that really resonates with

Senior Vice President and Chief Programming Officer,

This is going to be one of those evenings of intimate

Broadway, with incredible singing. ... It's not just the

sharing of stories and personal experiences on

talent. It's not just the Broadway songs."

#### "My decision to relinquish ordination was to stand Once again, Iona much more clearly and emproduced a note of hope." phatically with those outside of the walls of religion -JOHN PHILIP NEWELL as a way of saying we're

Author. Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening to What Our Souls Know and Healing the World

## A conversation with Renée Elise Goldsberry

Editor's Note: While Renée Elise Goldsberry had to cancel her appearance tonight positive COVID-19 test, the Daily had already conducted an interview and written a story previewing her performance. Out of respect for both the time and efforts of the reporter, and of Chautauqua's programming team – and to enter this article into the Institution's record - we are pleased to run it here in full.

### **ELLEN E. MINTZER**

Actress and singer Renée in the Amphitheater due to a Elise Goldsberry has played plenty of multifaceted, strong women. From Henri-

rapping ability, Goldsberry deftly evoked the complexities of the fiercely independent yet lovelorn Angelica, weights such as Simon & winning a Tony Award for the role in 2016. But Laura Savia, vice president of visual and performing arts, has spent 20 years in the New York theater scene and noted Goldsberry's prowess beyond her most famous role. "I can attest that Renée Elise Goldsberry is one of the most respected actors and human beings in the theater community," Savia said. "It was Hamilton that catapulted her to fame, but long before that, she was appearing regularly in Broadway musicals, new plays off-Broadway, and countless readings and workshops - delivering excellence every single time." Goldsberry will sing with her band, with whom she's been playing for about the last four years, at 8:15 p.m. tonight in the Amphitheater. They will play a range of tunes spanning decades and genres, including pop, jazz, spirituals and folk music.

erhouse vocals and nimble ry said these songs are the classics of their respective genres. She'll pull from the catalogs of musical heavy-Garfunkel and Aretha Franklin, belt her way through a gospel set, and pepper in some of the songs she's most famous for on Broadway. She anticipates that most people will be familiar with some or all of her selections and is excited to take the stage.

this place."

the Isabelle Stevenson Award for his work chairing The Actors Fund, which supports members of the entertainment community in crisis or transition, he also made headlines at the beginning of the pandemic for similar acts of heart.

"He was the one leaning ing them," Moore said.

that one can reenter the

former minister of the

Celtic Christian faith, New-

ell was a teacher within the

faith. At one point in his

life, he said he started to

reflect on his own integrity

and decided to step down

signed up to do as a young

man, in terms of the doctri-

"I realized what I had

In addition to being a

challenging places."

from ministry.



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etta Lacks to Mimi Marquez in Rent to originating the role of Angelica Schuyler in the Broadway smash Hamilton, Goldsberry appreciates the opportunity to bring these characters to life.

She is perhaps best known for Hamilton. With her pow-



By and large, Goldsber-



**18TH ANNUAL ROBERT H. JACKSON** LECTURE ON THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES



### Monday, July 11, 2022 - 3:30pm ET

This event is live at the Hall of Philosophy and is also offered to subscribers of CHQ Assembly. Purchase tickets for in-person or online through Chautauqua Institution at QR code or call 716.357.6200

"I just love coming together with people and singing these songs that we all love," Goldsberry said. "It's fun to host that kind of party."

Besides performing with her band across the country two or three times a month, Goldsberry is keeping busy promoting her Peacock sitcom "Girls5eva," a film she collaborated on with actor Billy Porter called "Anything's Possible," and a Marvel TV show, "She-Hulk: Attorney at Law." She's also been working on an album of original songs for roughly a year and is enthusiastic about sharing songs from her own perspective.

"It's a great honor to perform music that other great songwriters have written," Goldsberry said. "But I'm also a songwriter, so it's really satisfying to speak my own thoughts and share sentiments musically that are very organic to who I am."

Whether onstage, in front of the camera, or in the recording studio, Goldsberry adores performing and telling stories. While she struggles to choose a favorite medium, she noted the uniquely electrifying aspects of performing live.

"I think playing for live audiences is probably the most thrilling and sometimes the most daunting," Goldsberry said. "But the more I've done it, the more I feel it is the most authentic expression of who I am as a performer and as a person."

## THEATER



## Violinist Abigail Allwein performs as Chautauqua Theater Company Guest Artist Lori Wilner, as Vera, dances during a performance of Indecent, which continues its run at 4 p.m. today in Bratton Theater.

## Grammy winner Gutkin continues her journey with 'Indecent'

#### **ELLEN E. MINTZER** STAFF WRITER

Indecent's music director Lisa Gutkin has a million different ideas for projects ping-ponging around her mind at any given moment, an embarrassment of riches. The Grammy winner co-com-

posed the music for the original Indecent, played the violin for it on Broadway and worked on five different productions with five different directors, including with the Chautauqua Theater Company. Working on the show in one form or another has given her a sense of focus.

GUTKIN

"My biggest problem is not trying to think of something, but settling on one idea and following it through," Gutkin said, "which is why working on a collaborative project is so healthy for me, because it helps me center on 'This is what I'm doing.'

Indecent, continuing its run at 4 p.m. today in Bratton Theater, is not a musical in the traditional sense, with heightened numbers that advance the plot, but rather a play with music woven into the fabric of the narrative. It centers on the ghosts of a Yiddish theater troupe telling the story of the embattled turn-of-the-20th-century play The God of Vengeance. The musicians - violinist Abigail Allwein, clarinetist Jason Gresl and accordionist Jeremy Spindler – are not in an orchestra pit, but rather onstage for the duration of the show, playing members of the troupe and performing alongside the other actors. "It's not a musical in that (the) music is not written into the script, so it's a little moldable," Gutkin said.

the stage manager/ omnipresent narrator Lemml, said that Gutkin's music brings his character to life.

"The music really is the soul weaving its way through this piece," Denton said. "And even from the very first note that Abigail plays on the

violin, it arises me. I arise fully based on that note."

Gutkin draws on a variety of influences, American and international, old and new. She has been playing the violin since age 8, and once she learned that she could play by ear, she started teaching herself violin tunes from folkrock albums and guitar riffs from country-western and rock 'n' roll bands.

"I discovered that I could play a lot of styles of music, which really thrilled me," Gutkin said.

She spent a great deal of time in Ireland playing and recording Celtic music. Then The Klezmatics came calling. The acclaimed klezmer music band, which has toured the world and collaborated with everyone from beat poet Allen Ginsberg to Israeli singer Chava Alberstein, was in the market for a new violin play-

er. Gutkin, who wasn't extensively familiar with klezmer music, but is Jewish, felt like it made a certain kind of sense.

Klezmer is the instrumental folk music tradition of eastern and central European Jewish communities. Gutkin said that klezmer is like an early form of jazz and that the style had almost died before artists like The Klezmatics made an effort to revive it. The music in Indecent, which begins in Poland before taking audiences on a journey throughout Europe and across the Atlantic Ocean to America, draws heavily on that tradition. With The Klezmatics, Gutkin began writing music to accompany previously unused Woody Guthrie lyrics. That project produced their Grammy-winning album Wonder Wheel and piqued Gutkin's interest in lyric writing.

Indecent playwright Paula Vogel and original director Rebecca Taichman knew Gutkin's music, and when they sent her the script and asked her to come on board, she didn't think twice. Gutkin



est bungalow colonies. Her

grandparents immigrated

to America in 1907, one year

after Sholem Asch wrote The

God of Vengeance, and with-

in years of when the charac-

ters of Indecent disembarked

at Ellis Island. Gutkin said

that her grandparents would

have gone to see that play,

and theoretically might have

even had friends acting in

it, which strengthened her

"To me, coming in and get-

8246 FF

connection to the material.

The music really is the soul weaving its way through this piece."

#### -CHARLES DENTON

Conservatory actor, Chautauqua Theater Company

ting to play a character that could have been my grandmother or my great-aunt was just wonderful," Gutkin said.

Gutkin co-wrote the music for Indecent with composer Aaron Halva, who also played the accordion for the show's Broadway run. The two brought a complementary skill set to their partnership. Halva knew more about scoring music for theater, while Gutkin provided knowledge about Judaism and its musical conventions. "It was just a beautiful process," Gutkin said. "His music and my music just

melded so well together." She has appreciated the opportunity to work with numerous directors and creative teams on Indecent, observing that it's a layered work that offers rich possibilities. Directors can choose from a multitude of angles and focuses. Gutkin said that Lisa Rothe, who is directing the CTC production, highlights the family and community aspects of the story, which strikes a particularly profound chord during this reemergence of live theater.

"The coming together of everyone, the entire team, is poignant in a different way, and I think that has infiltrated the play beautifully," Gutkin said.

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CTC Conservatory Actor Charles Denton, who plays

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grew up in a Yiddish-speaking community that her grandparents built in Westchester, New York, which she called one of the earli-

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## RELIGION

## Bahnson encourages people to get hands dirty in sacred soil

#### ALYSSA BUMP STAFF WRITER

Soil can cultivate more than just the life of plants and vines or fruits and veggies. Perhaps, it can help humans reroot an intrinsic bond to the Earth.

Fred Bahnson, an award-winning writer and the author of Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith, visited Chautauqua on Wednesday to deliver his lecture in the Hall of Philosophy. Following the week's Interfaith Lecture Series Theme of "Reconnecting with the Natural World," Bahnson's lecture, titled "Soil and Sacrament: A Journey Among the Keepers of the Earth," explored the magic of soil, community and homegrown food.

In 2012, Bahnson became the founding director of the Food, Health and Ecological Well-Being Program, a national leadership development program at the Wake Forest University School of Divinity.

With this being his first time on Chautauqua grounds, Bahnson said he felt inspired by the environment, particularly in the Hall of Philosophy.

"The breeze is just coming in across the lake, and (we are) surrounded by trees. I cannot think of a better place to be talking about being in the garden - living in the garden," Bahnson said.

The soil of a garden provides the foundation of life for vegetables, fruits, herbs and other plants. The harmony between the soil and the collection of living organisms nested within guides a plant to its full development, Bahnson said.

"There's an entire ecosystem in a handful of soil - bacteria, fungi, protozoa, nematodes, earthworms. Through their breeding and dying, such creatures vivify the world," Bahnson said. "This pattern of relationships I find a captivating mystery. I love plants, but I'm most attracted to that ferment and secret work that goes on beneath the surface."

Bahnson's love for soil motivated nim to help start the Anathoth Community Garden and Farm in North Carolina in 2005; he directed the initiative for the next four years. An African American woman donated five acres of land to the project, and the garden was started to heal the wounds of the community. Around 120 families per week of different religions, ethnicities, economic states and backgrounds would volunteer their time to tend to the growth of food. "Those four years were really an amazing time of building this community project centered around growing and sharing food with our neighbors," Bahnson said. "And it occurred to me at a certain point that this garden project that we were cultivating was much more than just a way to put food in people's bellies; there was something larger at work." At this small community-led garden initiative, Bahnson realized participants were involved with a labor of love, a relationship with the soil that has a long, spiritual history. In fact, the Biblical origin of life through

Fred Bahnson, author of Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith, speaks Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy for the Interfaith Lecture Series.



#### -FRED BAHNSON

Author, Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith

the creation of Adam shows this, as Adam's name stems from "Adamah," Hebrew for "ground" or "earth."

"The garden is our oldest metaphor. In Genesis, God creates the first Adam from the Adamah and tells him to till and keep it," Bahnson said. "The fertile soil of which all life depends. Human from humus. It's our first etymological clue as to the inextricable bond we share with the soil. Our ecological problems today are a result of having forgotten who we are. We are soil people, inspired by the

very breath of God." In 2022, growing



Bahnson, who is the founding director of the Food, Health and Ecological Well-Being Program at the Wake Forest University School of Divinity, shares the importance of connecting to the environment in a hands-on way.

and cultivated, and one of the the dark, damp environment key motivators is the human urge to reconnect with their faith through the soil.

'It's no accident that most of the Biblical stories didn't out of the darkness and the happen in temples or church- restriction of the column. es," Bahnson said. "For the Biblical writers, land was an implicit part of their relationship with God. The land itself was implicit in God's dealings with Israel in the Old Testament, and in everything Jesus did in the Gospel accounts." The Anathoth Community Garden and Farm is still growing and receiving nourishment, but Bahnson stepped down in 2009 to focus on his writing. "In my journey, I wanted to go and visit other places like this, like what I experienced and taught at (Anathoth)," Bahnson said. "(I wanted to) write about some of the people doing this work." Bahnson selected four places to visit and write about in his book. The first stop was a Trappist monastery called Mepkin Abbey, where Thomas Merton was a monk. "Mushrooms are their livelihood ... the kind that you can eat: oyster mushrooms and shiitake mushrooms," Bahnson said. "And that's how monasteries operate. They have their own kind of self-sufficient cottage industry, if you will."

of a black plastic column with mycelium and substrate. Once a slit is cut into the column, a mushroom may grow "The monks' lives of prayer are a lot like the growing mushrooms; a lot happens in the darkness, happens unseen," Bahnson said. "And only occasionally does the fruit emerge, the fruit of your prayer, the fruit of your contemplative work in the darkness." Bahnson began to read a short excerpt from his book about Mepkin Abbey. In the passage, Bahnson wrote that being a monk is harder than it looks. Monks do not eat much food. Periodic fasting is said to help people better understand themselves and turn their energy inward to understand their desire for God, according to Bahnson. "On this third trip to Mepkin Abbey, I decided that while I would engage the rigors of bodily denial at some meals, I would also bring a cooler of food, which could be secretly stashed in the guests' fridge," Bahnson said. Bahnson rattled off a list of delectable food items he brought with him, which included anything from homemade peasant bread and jam to organic fruits to hearty

greens and even a few beers.

One of the monks, Brother Dismas, uncovered the hidden beers, and Bahnson asked him, "Did you want to join me for a cold one?" The monk then grabbed his shoulder

for their whole lives, to tend to the soil.

**DYLAN TOWNSEND / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

'Over and over, I heard from these kids, 'I grew up Jewish but didn't understand a lot of these agricultural food laws in Deuteronomy

1000 is no longer a labor of love. With the human population reaching nearly 8 billion, Bahnson said food production focuses on abundance and affordability.

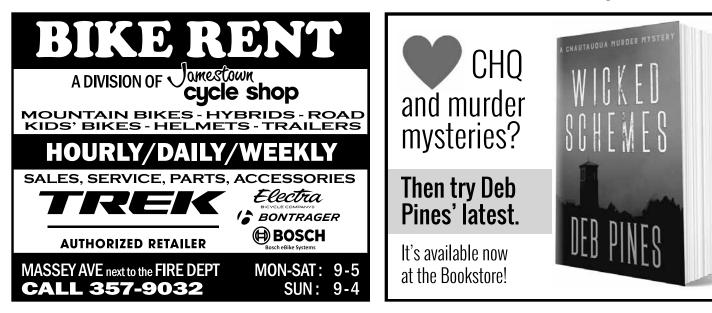
"Since World War II, as a result of excessive tillage and use of petrochemicals, we have managed to squander a third of our country's topsoil." Bahnson said. "With the combined challenges of climate change and the global food crisis, the balance of life on Earth is rapidly approaching the tipping point."

Bahnson's community garden tried to reroot a connection between humans and soil through inviting people to get their hands in the dirt. Our bodies, he said, are meant to be in communion with the soil.

'There's some kind of miraculous biochemical process that happens when we touch soil that gives us a little endorphin hit," Bahnson said.

He began to realize that while his community garden was special, it was not unique. Bahnson said community gardens across the country are constantly being tilled

The mushrooms grow in



and said, "Bless you, my son."

Bahnson's book also touched on Dismas' journey to becoming a monk. He joined at the young age of 18, and he had been in the monastery for six or seven years when Bahnson met him.

"After four years of studying academic theology at Notre Dame, he realized he couldn't even fix a kitchen sink," Bahnson read. "'I needed to put the faith in my hands,' (Dismas) said. He'd learned that certain mental and spiritual problems could not be resolved intellectually. They needed to be worked out physically with one's own body."

The overarching reason Dismas joined the monastery was a calling. Bahnson explained it as "a yearning without apparent remedy" that could be approached through physical service.

After Mepkin Abbey, Bahnson visited a community close to his North Carolina home called The Lord's Acre, a community garden similar to Anathoth.

The garden was a place of healing and community for past drug addicts or people who had come out of prison. The next subject of Bahnson's book was Zach Joy, a former heroin addict.

"Zach's story was one of many that I described in that chapter of stories of redemption that happens when people with difficult paths are given entrance into a community that just welcomes them and accepts them and gives them good work to do," Bahnson said.

The next destination Bahnson visited and described in his book was Adamah Farm, where Jewish interns in their 20s would work for three months, or sometimes stay

and Leviticus until I worked on a farm, and then it made sense," Bahnson said.

Sam Plotkin, one of the interns at Adamah Farm, began to learn how horribly structured the American food systems are. From the way animals were treated to overprocessing and preservatives added to food, Plotkin began to learn through a Jewish lens.

Bahnson read from his book: "(Sam) said, 'I realized religion could exist in a field, planting potatoes, and I could suddenly relate to it. All along, I've been searching for a secular Jewish community, but what I found at the Jewish farm school was divinity (and) awe, the source of life.

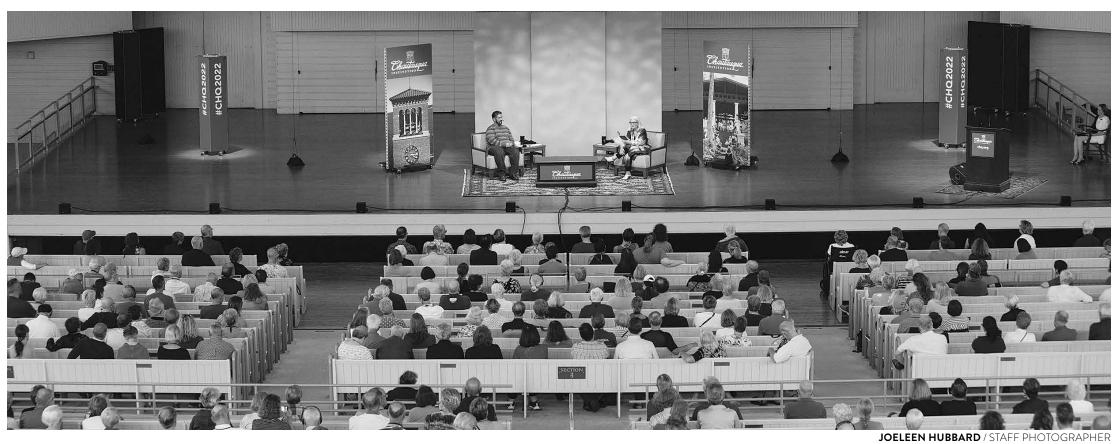
For his entire life, Bahnson felt a separation between his Christian faith and the environment. He may have been spiritual, but he felt a disconnect from the Earth. After his travels and work with community gardens, Bahnson has become more eager to work on climate change issues.

"I think the key to solving climate change, to ameliorating the problems we've already caused, is to bring ecological awareness, and especially for people with faith," Bahnson said. "I think that is one of our offerings. We have an imaginative framework already in our religious tradition."

Looking to all people of faith or no faith, Bahnson hopes humans begin to cultivate an ecological conversion to once again give love back to the Earth.

"I think it's incumbent on each of us to begin to cultivate that imagination and then act upon it, in whatever sphere that we're in," Bahnson said.

## LECTURE



Award-winning author and naturalist Terry Tempest Williams reads an excerpt from her memoir Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place Thursday in the Amphitheater.

# LET'S HAVE A CONVERSATION

## Lamfrom, Williams discuss how to connect with nature, each other

#### MEGAN BROWN STAFF WRITER

In two chairs onstage, with a box of tissues between them, David Lamfrom and Terry Tempest Williams held what they want all of the United States to have: a conversation.

At 10:45 a.m. Thursday in the Amphitheater, as part of the Chautauqua Lecture Series theme of "The Wild: Reconnecting with Our Natural World," naturalist and writer Williams and Lamfrom, the vice president of regional programs for the National Parks Conservation Association, reflected on the idea that honest conversation, in which each party is vulnerable, can heal and build bridges.

Lamfrom began the presentation with a land acknowledgement.

"I want to acknowledge that we are in both the ancestral and the current home of the Seneca Nation and of the Iroquois Confederacy, but I also just want to say that



If we don't collectively grieve, then I believe that it comes out sideways, which is, I think, in many ways the violence that we're experiencing."

#### -TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS

Author, Refuge: An Unnatural History of Time and Place

"fall desperately in love with it and that it would become the greatest work, struggle, and fight of my life."

He then thanked Williams for inspiring him and for working toward a better future.

Prior to their discussion in the Amp, the two spent time getting to know one another. Lamfrom said the audience was joining them



sometimes land acknowledgements can be performative," Lamfrom said. "I just want to say that I'm offering this to bring forward respect, dignity, and with the theme of reconnection, that we all think about what that might mean, what it might mean to learn a little bit more about that history, about how that history has impacted our present, and what the future could look like."

Lamfrom clarified that he was not bringing this to people's attention to cause guilt and shame, but to encourage people – "to have the grace to hold that with curiosity, with care, with eagerness" – to be open about the world and the ensuing conversation.

Both Lamfrom and Williams have a deep connection to the desert. This connection formed before Lamfrom ever met Williams.

Through her work as a naturalist and writer, Williams has experienced great success. As a naturalist, she has been awarded the Sierra Club John Muir Award and the National Wildlife Federation's Conservation Award for Special Achievement. As a writer, she received a Hemingway Foundation Literary Grant, and is currently a writer-in-residence at the Harvard Divinity School. She has consistently combined her scientific literacy with her talents as a writer; this has inspired Lamfrom.

"When I moved to the California desert ... and I was trying to figure out what the hell I was doing, I would read her books and her poetry, and it would center me and help me connect," Lamfrom said.

He acknowledged that Williams had no idea about his move to the California desert and how he would mid-conversation. Their bond and their discussions were happening before they stepped out onto the Amp stage and would continue after they stepped off it.

"I loved today at breakfast, how you said our opening conversation is 'No more,' because we have lost so much already, and when we talk about compromise, we've already compromised too much," Williams told Lamfrom. "And so you're here with two individuals that are not moderate. We've been seen as extremists, but we are called extremist in our own home ground. It's only because of our own extreme love."

With that in mind, Lamfrom introduced his first question , asking Williams what words she wants people to associate with her. She responded with a story about having her father send her pages of his memoir. When he completed it – handwritten on legal pad paper – she typed up the memoir and presented it to him.

He said to her, "Terry, I used to think of you as my loving daughter. I don't see you that way anymore."

Williams shared this anecdote to exemplify her duality, saying that she is a poet and a naturalist, but she is also "a pain in the ass" to her dad.

"I think with a name like Tempest, you have a healthy disturbance that swirls around you," Williams said.

Next, Lamfrom asked what Williams needed, "right now." "I need conversations,"

she said, nearly instantly.

The night before, Williams spent the evening on the patio with her friends. The twilight of the evening enshrouded them. In the darkness, Williams said to herself, Williams discusses ways to connect with nature and each other with National Parks Conservation Association Vice President of Regional Programs David Lamfrom Thursday in the Amp.

"Maybe this is where we all need to be speaking from."

Lamfrom asked what was on Williams' heart today, as they sat on the stage. Williams encouraged the crowd to ask themselves that question: What is heavy on their heart?

For Williams, it is gun violence, the overturning of Roe v. Wade, the Jan. 6 hearings, and, on a more intimate level, the question of "how we speak to one another around our own dinner tables."

Williams' uncle Richard Tempest, who is a former Utah state senator, does not share her political views.

After the 2020 presidential election, he said to her over the phone, "I don't want to talk to you."

This hardly threw Williams, who admitted that her family is very blunt.

"But I want to talk to you," she said to him.

They both said they wouldn't change their perspectives: on abortion, guns, gay marriage or climate change, but Williams told him they had to find a bridge.

Williams said that he told her, "'If you're serious about having a conversation with me and the people that I relate to ... then go back to where you began, with beauty. Go to the source, and then I can open your books and be moved.' He said, 'Depoliticize your language.' And I said, 'Rich, I'll try. On the page I will try. And what will you do?' And he said, 'I'll keep talking to you.'"

Williams compared our fears about the world around

us to rattlesnakes, a creature that Lamfrom is familiar with. Rattlesnakes' prey are also often very dangerous creatures. To protect themselves while they eat, rattlesnakes bite their prey to release venom, but wait for the prey to trail off elsewhere and die before they come to consume it.

"If a rattlesnake bites somebody or has to use its venom defensively, that might be the difference between life or death (for the rattlesnake), so the last thing a rattlesnake wants to do is bite somebody," Lamfrom said. "But it does what it has to do to survive in this world."

Lamfrom and Williams agreed there is a mythology around rattlesnakes, which creates fear. Ultimately, myths of any sort are the cause of fear in our lives.

"What are we afraid of? The myths we create around each other," Williams said. "As you said to me today, the rattlesnake is a meditative creature, a gentle creature that knows patience, and it perfectly adapted through time."

The myth that rattlesnakes are aggressive and dangerous and something that consumes our thoughts parallels the myths people have of those different from them – particularly people with different political beliefs.

Myths and fear make it impossible to grieve, which Williams believes we need to do now more than ever.

"If we don't collectively grieve, then I believe that it comes out sideways, which is, I think, in many ways the violence that we're experiencing," she said. "Because what I've learned in our family, and like many families who have had a lot of death, is that if we're present with that grief, if we're present in the dying, then grief becomes the sibling of love. And we don't need to fear it as much as embrace it."

Lamfrom agreed, and suggested that perhaps this suppression is part of America's history and culture.

"It connects to our values as a country. We are tough. We can make it. We can trudge through," Lamfrom said. "But what happens to the grief that we have repressed? And does that not allow us to express the full range of being a person? Do we then not get to ask for what we really need? And in that, do we then just pretend that things are a way that they're not?"

Lamfrom said that when we are not able to grieve losses and instead ignore that anything was lost, we bar ourselves from "knowledge, experience, power, growth, health, humility, joy."

Lamfrom's statement reminded Williams of a man she knows, Willie Grayeyes, who took the state of Utah and San Juan County to court for gerrymandering.

"He won the case," Williams said. "In one of the largest counties of the United States, they found justice in a Navajo majority, a Denay majority."

After this victory, Grayeyes ran for county commissioner, but Williams' extended family took Grayeyes to court, claiming he was not a resident and, therefore, could not run.

When asked by the judge to provide proof of residency, Willie Grayeyes explained that he is a resident of Utah because "my umbilical cord is buried here."

"You can imagine the guffaws, the laughter," Williams said. But the judge ruled that Grayeyes was a resident, saying that he was "not only a resident of the State of Utah; he understands what dwelling in a place means, that we can only hope to emulate."

To end the lecture, Williams read an excerpt from her obituary for the land, titled, "A Burning Testament." A good friend of hers, who was covering the wildfires in Los Angeles, asked her to write this essay because she was overwhelmed with the destruction around her.

"Let this be a humble tribute, an exaltation, an homage, an open-hearted unity to all we are losing to fire, to floods, to hurricanes, and tornados, and the invisible virus that has called us all home and brought us to our knees," Williams read. "May we remember this and raise a fist full of ash to all the lives lost, that it holds. Grief is love. How can we hold this grief without holding each other? ... I will mark my heart with an X made of ash that says the power to restore life resides here. The future of our species will be decided here, not by facts, but by love and loss. Hand on my heart, I pledge allegiance to the only home I'll ever know."

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The Carnahan-Jackson Lectureship and The Kevin and Joan Keogh Family Fund support Brandon Stanton's lecture at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater.

Mrs. Alvin C. Jackson was the first member of her family to come to Chautauqua. She initially came to the Institution at 18 to study Sunday school teaching meth-

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ods. She later returned with her husband and daughter Katharine on a regular basis. When Katharine married Clyde L. Carnahan of Jamestown, the Jackson's purchased a home at 41 Palestine and continued to spend summers here each year.

The Carnahans lived in Jamestown and became devoted Chautauquans. Katharine served as an Institution trustee and on board committees for Smith Memorial Library and the Department of Religion. She and Clyde participated actively in the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua.

David Carnahan is the

long record of commitment and service to the Institution and served as a former director of the Chautauqua Foundation and a former trustee of the Institution. David met his wife, Martha, at Chautauqua.

Joan and Kevin Keogh were devoted Chautauquans for all their adult life. Joan and Kevin are survived by their three children: Sean, Maura and Kyle. Sean, his wife Kim, and their three boys live in Massachusetts. Maura and her three boys live in Wisconsin. Kyle, his wife, Liz, and their three children live in Connecticut. They all return to Chautauqua each summer, extending the Chautauqua tradition to another generation. Kyle currently serves as a trustee of the Institution. The Keoghs heard about Chautauqua through an acquaintance in late 1974. Believing they would enjoy the lectures and music, and anticipating that their children, ages 3, 5 and 7, would enjoy Children's School and Club, they immediately rented an apartment for a week in 1975. Their family has been back every year since, purchasing their home on the grounds in 1983. Joan served on the Chautauqua Institution Board of Trustees from 1990 to 1998, was director emeritus of the Chautauqua Women's Club, served on the board of the Chautauqua Catholic Community, and was a member of the Planned Giving Committee. Kevin passed away in 2003, followed by Joan in 2019.

A X Y D L B A A X R is L O N G F E L L O W One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.						
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son of Katharine and Clyde Carnahan. Now the chairman of the board of the Carnahan-Jackson Foundation, David continued his parents'



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SUMMER WILL HAVE ITS FLIES. — RALPH WALDO EMERSON

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers t 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and a 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.



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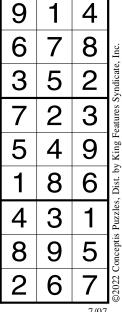
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## COMMUNITY

## NOW Generation launches '22 season, learns of new initiatives

CASSIDEY KAVATHAS STAFF WRITER

In a time of change at Chautauqua and a generational shift around the country, members of the NOW Generation are stepping into their roles of future leadership.

"Your parents or grandparents, people that came before you, have loved on this place, and it's a reason that we're able to be here and be so strong," said Chautauqua Institution President Michael E. Hill to attendees at a reception last Saturday at Girls' Club. "It's your turn. It's your turn to become the heroic people that we hear stories about. It's your turn to help us dream about what this place is going to look like."

NOW Gen, which is composed of Chautauquans ages 21 to 40 who want to ensure the Institution's continued legacy, held its annual welcome reception this summer for the first time since 2019. The reception opened with a welcome from Hill and continued with remarks from Jennifer Stitely, associate vice president of advancement, who introduced a new initiative: one that will pool donations to one program in order to have a stronger impact.

"It's an opportunity to be connected, to have a bigger impact, and to know that you are working with those that you care about deeply to support programs and initiatives that mean the most to you," Stitely said.

Stitely opened the floor to a friendly competition between two initiatives: lake management and youth and family programs.

"We would like you to consider supporting one of these, and whatever other programs will mean the most to you," Stitely said. "We will then be taking up the baton and carrying it across the finish line, or to the next generation."

Toby Shepherd, Chautauqua Lake project manager, and Alyssa Porter, director of youth and family programs, gave presentations about their respective work. NOW Gen members will vote for which program to pool their funds toward later in the season. "We collectively have an opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lake. I grew up here, so the lake, for me, is part of that childhood and part of growing up, like learning to swim, fish and sail here," Shepherd said. "Hopefully a lot of you've had that same experience being Chautauquans, and hopefully we want that experience to happen in the next generation, and the next generation. I think the Institution sees the lake as existential to our future." Shepherd spoke about why the lake is in danger and how the Institution hopes to

begin a science-based comprehensive plan to save it.

"We're partnering with an organization called the Jefferson Project, which is a collaboration between IBM Research and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to bring world-class research to this lake," Shepherd said. "They have been here in pieces starting in 2020 and last year. ... They are coming back this year, and we are working to build, essentially, a smart lake."

This "smart lake" system

sion of this programming, which includes Children's School, Boys' and Girls' Club and the Youth Activities Center, throughout the summer season.

"Underneath (the YAC) now this year, we're redesigning our young adults program targeting ages 16 to 20," Porter said. "If you do go by now and see an old-school dorm style thing happening, we can see the potential now."

The CLSC Young Readers program and STEM initiatives for kids are also expanding this summer. Porter works on overall youth and family experiences on the grounds. "I really am looking for those moments where we can have more multigenerational experiences, more interdisciplinary experienc-es," Porter said. "How are we working with our other departments, like recreation and our lecture platform, to make sure that our youth and families have the best possible experience here and are really getting something that is truly Chautauqua-unique?" In the coming years, Porter hopes to focus on accessibility and programming enhancements to build a

stronger sense of community among Chautauquans.

"Our programs are wonderful and we have this great strong foundation, but they're not accessible to every young person. As we move forward into 2022 and beyond in a world where we have experienced COVID as a mass disabling event, ... we have young people coming out of school shutdowns and dealing with additional stressors that we didn't have to deal with as kids," Porter said. "We're going to need that support to make our programs accessible for everyone so we can continue to build those wonderful memories that many of the people in this room are able to have."

**GEORGIA PRESSLEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** At top, Chautauqua Institution President Michael E. Hill addresses NOW Gen. Above, Toby Shepherd, lake project manager, discusses the importance of the work being done to improve the health of Chautauqua Lake, and how NOW Gen's support can make a difference.

### **Appliance Sales & Service**

NOW Gen, made up of Chautauquans ages 21 to 40, are working toward a new initiative this summer.





NOW Generation members and Chautauqua Institution staff gather for an opening welcome reception last Saturday at Girls' Club — the first NOW Gen has had since 2019.

will allow for a real-time, detailed report of what is happening in the lake at all times through high frequency sensors and other technological instruments.

'Chautauqua Institution is a great place, but it's not like we own the entire lake. Why are we doing this ourselves?" Shepherd said. "Well, we're trying to get the ball rolling, and really use that to reach out to the state, federal and local organizations for support, as well."

The event then shifted to Porter, who acknowledged the intersection of the lake with youth and family programming. Porter spoke about the continued expan-

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The event closed with an expression of gratitude to outgoing NOW Gen President Carrie Zachry.

"We do have a changing of the guard, and (Hill has spoken on) continuing to pass the baton. ... Carrie has guided us through COVID. She has kept us together," said NOW Gen Council Member Tally Bevis. "She has rallied the troops on the council, and I'm so grateful to Carrie and for all that she has done."



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### Chautauqua Yacht Club invites the community to sail!

Members of the yacht club wish to reach out to those who are new to sailing, No fees! If you are interested in an afternoon sail or participation in weekend races (Saturday and Sunday 2pm) as a passenger or crew, please contact Noel Calhoun 847-691-9593.

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## PROGRAM



- 6:00 Sunrise Kayak & Paddleboard. Sign up with payment one to two days before event at 716-357-6281 or sportsclub@chq.org. Sports Club
- (7-11) Farmers Market 7:00
- (7-9) "Dawn Patrol" Round 7:00 Robin Doubles. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 7:45 Mystic Heart Interspiritual **Meditation: Spiritual Practices** of World Religions. Leader: Michael O'Sullivan (Korean Zen). Presbyterian House Chapel
- Episcopal Holy Eucharist. 7:45 Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 8:00 Daily Word Meditation (Programmed by Unity of Chautauqua.) Hall of Missions
- 8:45 Catholic Mass. Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- (8:55–9) Chautaugua Prays For 8:55 Peace Through Compassion. Hall of Missions Grove
- 9:00 Nature Walk & Talk. (Programmed by the Bird, Tree & Garden Club.) Jack Gulvin, naturalist. Meet at lake side (back) of Smith Wilkes Hall
- 9:15 ECUMENICAL WORSHIP. "Expanding What's Possible." The Rev. Randall K. Bush, interim pastor and head of staff, Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church, Severna Park, Maryland. Amphitheater
- Jewish Discussions. (Programmed 9:15 by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) "Kabalah on Meditation and Song." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 10:00 Opera Conservatory Masterclass. Marlena Malas. Fletcher Music Hall
- 10:15 Service of Blessing and Healing. UCC Randell Chapel
- 10:30 (10:30-12) Morning Doubles. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Email tennis@chq.org

Building

on the



Chautauquans spend an afternoon knitting Wednesday on the porch of the United Methodist House.

the day before to secure your spot. Chautauqua Tennis Center

- 10:45 CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES. "Humans of New York: The Power of Authentic Storytelling." Brandon Stanton, photographer; creator, "Humans of New York." Amphitheater
- 11:00 (11-5) Chautauqua Crafts Alliance Festival. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Crafts Alliance.) **Bestor Plaza**
- 11:00 (11–5) Gallery Exhibitions Open. Fowler-Kellogg Art Center and Strohl Art Center
- 12:00 (12-2) Flea Boutique. Shoppers limited to 12 at a time in 15-minute increments. Programmed by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) Behind Colonnade
- 12:15 Prose Writer-in-Residence Brown Bag Lecture. (Programmed by the

Chautauqua Writers' Center.) Apricot Irving. Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall Porch

- 12:15 Challah Baking Class. (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 12:15 Open Session with the Homies. (Sponsored by Quaker House, ECOC, and UCC.) Homeboys and Homegirls from Homeboy Industries. UCC Randell Chape
- 12:15 Twelve Step Meeting. Marion Lawrance Room, Hurlbut Church
- 12:15 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion.) Everett Jewish Life Center
- 12:30 Garden Walk & Talk. (Programmed by the Bird, Tree & Garden Club.) Betsy Burgeson, supervisor of garden and landscapes, Chautauqua Institution. Meet at Discovery Garden north of the Main Gate
- 12:30 Jumu'ah Muslim Prayer. Hall of Christ Sanctuary



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12:30 Play CHQ. Nature Rubbings. Burgeson Nature Classroom 12:45 Catholic Speaker Series. "If Today You Hear God's Voice, Harden Not

Your Hearts: Tuning in to the Voice of

- God" The Rev. Raymond Guiao, SJ. Methodist House Chapel 1:00 Stroke of the Day. Learn a new tennis stroke. Chautauqua Tennis
- Center 2:00 INTERFAITH LECTURE SERIES. "The Grace of Nature." John Philip Newell, author, Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening to What Our Souls Know and Healing the World. Hall of Philosophy
- 2:00 Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds. Fee. (Purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is handicap accessible.) Leave from Main Gate Welcome Center
- Mah Jongg. (Programmed by 2:30 the Chautauqua Women's Club.) Memberships available at the door. CWC House
- 2:30 (2:30-4:30) Afternoon Doubles. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Email tennis@chq.org the day before to secure your spot. Chautaugua Tennis Center
- 3:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion.) Hurlbut Church
- (Programmed by the Department of Religion.) UU House 3.30

Religion.) Episcopal Cottage

(Programmed by the Department of

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- Takeout Dinner. (Programmed 4:30 by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) Farmer Brown's BBQ Pulled Chicken. CWC House
- Hebrew Congregation Evening 5:00 Service. "Kabbalat Shabbat: Welcoming the Sabbath." Rabbi Elyse Goldstein. Susan Goldberg Schwartz, cantorial soloist. Miller Park (if rain, Smith Wilkes Hall)
- 5:00 (5–6) Kids Clinic. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Chautaugua Tennis Center
- Cinema Film Screening. "The 5:50 Worst Person in the World." Fee. Chautaugua Cinema
- 6:45 Community Shabbat Dinner. (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) RSVP Required. Fee. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 8:15 SPECIAL. Brian Stokes Mitchell. Amphitheater
- Cinema Film Screening. 9:00 "Everything Everywhere All At Once." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema



- - p.m. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House Goldstein. Marion Lawrance Room,
  - 10:00 Institution Leadership Open Forum. Hall of Philosophy
  - 10:15 Sabbath Morning Worship Service. Rabbi Elyse Goldstein. Susan Goldberg Schwartz, cantorial soloist. Kiddush lunch to follow. Hurlbut Church Sanctuary
  - 11:00 (11-5) Chautauqua Crafts Alliance Festival. (Programmed by the Chautaugua Crafts Alliance.) Bestor Plaza
  - 12:00 Play CHQ. Free Play and Equipment Checkout. Boys' and Girls' Club
  - 1:00 (1-5) Gallery Exhibitions Open. Fowler-Kellogg Art Center and Strohl Art Center
  - Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds. 2:00 Fee. (Purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is handicap accessible.) Leave from Main Gate Welcome Center
  - 3:00 **National Federation of Music** Clubs Scholarship Awardee Recital. Masks required. Donations

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound. and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest

### 9:45 Torah Study. Rabbi Elyse

- Hurlbut Church

- 2:00 Contemporary Issues Forum. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) "Eleanor Roosevelt: An Emblem of Hope." Candace Fleming, author. Hall of Philosophy

  - welcome. Fletcher Music Hall
- 3:15 Chautaugua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department



Psalm 96: 11-12

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- 78th Meeting at Chautauqua of ... the National Federation of Music Clubs — Northeast Division
- (7–11) Farmers Market 7:00
- Mystic Heart Interspiritual 7:15 **Meditation: Spiritual Practices** of World Religions. Leader: Carol McKiernan (Silent Meditation/ Centering Praver), Hall of Philosophy
- 9:00 **Chautauqua Property Owners** Association (CPOA) Meeting. Hall of Philosophy
- (9–12) Breakfast at Wimbledon. 9:00 Sports Club
- **Chabad Jewish House Community** 9:30 Shabbat Service, Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Kiddush to follow at 12:15
- of Religion.) Focus on preceding Contemporary Issues Forum lecture. Chautaugua Women's Club at Hall of Missions
- Chamber Music Resident Artist 4:00 Series. Alexander String Quartet with Eli Eban. Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall
- 5:00 Catholic Mass. Hall of Philosophy
- 5:50 Cinema Film Screening. "Everything Everywhere All At Once." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
- CHAUTAUQUA SYMPHONY 7:30 ORCHESTRA, "Aladdin" Live in

Concert. Stuart Chafetz, conductor. Amphitheater

9:00 Cinema Film Screening. "The Worst Person in the World." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema



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