

The Chautauquan Daily

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Purposeful & Authentic



ETHERIDGE

Rock icon Etheridge returns to Amp

STACEY FEDEROFF
COPY DESK CHIEF

While female rock icon Melissa Etheridge brings her signature swagger and smoky voice to the Amphitheater tonight, she also brings her authentic self.

A “purposeful and remarkable storyteller,” Etheridge is a good fit to close a week of programming centered on belief, said Deborah Sunya Moore, senior vice president and chief program officer at Chautauqua Institution.

“She walks into these brave places over and over, making it easier for other people to walk their walk because she is blazing that path,” Moore said.

Etheridge last visited the Amp in 2019 to close out the season alongside rocker Pat Benetar and guitarist Neil Giraldo.

“This is going to be a rousing welcome back on to our stage,” Moore said.

A two-time Grammy Award winner, Etheridge has released

16 albums, including 1993’s six-time platinum *Yes I Am*. That same year, Etheridge came out as a lesbian and has been an activist for the LGBTQ community ever since.

Both from that hit fourth album, “Come to My Window” made it to No. 25 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart and “I’m the Only One” reached No. 8.

The 62-year-old singer-songwriter was born in Leavenworth, Kansas, where she started playing guitar at a young age and joining local bands in her teens. After a stint at Berklee College of Music in Boston, she moved to Los Angeles to pursue a music career.

In 1988, she released her eponymous debut album, earning her comparisons to Bruce Springsteen and John Mellencamp. It reached gold status and earned her a Grammy for “Bring Me Some Water.”

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GUZMÁN

Author, Braver Angels fellow Guzmán to call for listening amid differing opinions, beliefs

KAITLYN FINCHLER
STAFF WRITER

Examining the relationship between truth and trust can be a difficult feat, and when looking to bridge the political divide, toxic polarization is an issue.

“We are so divided that we’re blinded,” said Mónica Guzmán, senior fellow for public practice at Braver Angels. “We’re not able to see the truth around us, the truth about the world (or) about the issues that we’re debating. We tend to get distracted by projections of what they’re about.”

Guzmán, author of *I Never Thought Of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times*, will deliver her lecture at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater to close Week Four of the Chautauqua Lecture Series.

To counteract this distraction and divide, Guzmán said other perspectives need to be taken into account – to be seen for what they are and where they come from.

“Part of this is because a lot of things have moved us into a place of inner curiosity,” she said. “My work focuses on curiosity as the key to get us through some of this messiness, and what curiosity looks like.”

Her work encourages people to get to a place of “openness of intellectual humility” enough to open themselves up to the world and its many perspectives.

“We know from the social science research, even if you’re really well educated or if you read a lot of news, a lot of people think ‘I’m safe from all of (the messiness),’” she said.

When conversations are more curious, Guzmán said people’s postures toward the world are also more curious, which results in building more trust.

“The well of trust underneath us is drying out,” she said. “A lot of us want to force truth down each others’ throats, but it doesn’t work that way. We don’t have the complete truth, even if we’re really confident that we have the facts.”

See **GUZMÁN**, Page 4

Friends, colleagues Bowler, Smith to close out Week 4 with personal conversation on belief

JAMES BUCKSER
STAFF WRITER

Katherine Smith and Kate Bowler have known each other for a long time. They met while Smith was getting her master’s degree and Bowler her doctorate degree, bonded over a shared love of classical mythology, and have remained friends ever since.

Chautauquans will see a double-bill at today’s Interfaith Lecture, as Smith and Bowler close out Week Four’s theme “Religious Faith and Everything Else

We Believe In” with discussion at 2 p.m. the Hall of Philosophy.

Bowler and Smith, both working at Duke Divinity, collaborate on the Everything Happens Project, inspired by Bowler’s memoir *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I’ve Loved*. In addition to its popular podcast, the project offers curriculum, a book club and “individual pastoral care.”

“Thousands and thousands of people write in every month, sharing some

of the most painful stories of their lives,” Smith said. “The project holds space for them and bears witness and tries to offer truthful consolation.”

Smith said Bowler had assembled an “unbelievably gifted” and “well-trained” team for Everything Happens.

“You would never see how much silent work, hidden work, that they’re doing, because they know that it is a privilege to get to hold the stories,” Smith said.

See **ILS**, Page 4



BOWLER



SMITH

IN TODAY’S DAILY

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CHALLENGING THE ORTHODOXY

Harvard Kennedy School’s Warren, in examining institutional trust, calls for embrace of common good.

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LESSONS FROM FAITH

Drawing on wisdom from Sikh tradition, Singh share stories of facing discrimination with grace.

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BEYOND THE HORIZON

CVA’s ‘Sense of Place,’ closing this weekend, pushes viewers to critically examine landscapes.

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TODAY’S WEATHER



H 72° L 61°
Rain: 0%
Sunset: 8:48 p.m.

SATURDAY



H 74° L 58°
Rain: 0%
Sunrise: 6:00 a.m. Sunset: 8:47 p.m.

SUNDAY



H 76° L 57°
Rain: 0%
Sunrise: 6:01 a.m. Sunset: 8:46 p.m.

OPERA



BRIEFLY

NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

Chautauqua Women's Club news

The Flea Boutique is open from noon to 2 p.m. today behind the Colonnade. Join the Chautauqua Women's Club for Mah Jongg from 2:30 to 5 p.m. today at the CWC House. Pre-order your Duff's Famous Chicken Wings take-out at chautauquawomensclub.org. Pick-up is from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. today.

CLSC Class of 2024 Formation Meetings

Join the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle Class of 2024. Participate in the CLSC Class of 2024 Formation Meetings in-person or via Zoom at 9 a.m. on July 25 (Week Five); and Aug. 8 (Week Seven). Find an application online at <https://chq.org/schedule/resident-programs/literary-arts/clsc/>. 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).

Wiffle Ball Pick Up Game

At 12:45 p.m. today at Sharpe Field, there will be a Wiffle ball pick up game. All kids welcome ages 5 to 14, just show up and play.

Opera Conservatory news

Come join us as members of the Opera Conservatory sing an array of arias and more for internationally-renowned tenor Dominic Armstrong. Singing in front of an audience is key in the development of the young singer, giving them the essential experience needed to further hone their craft. Performance classes with the Chautauqua Opera Conservatory are regularly held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays in McKnight Hall.

Masterclass with violinist Ilya Kaler

From 2 to 4 p.m. today in Fletcher Music Hall, students from the Chautauqua School of Music Instrumental Program work with renowned violinist Ilya Kaler.

Stop the Bleed Course

At 3:30 p.m. every Tuesday throughout the season at the Fire House Hall, the Chautauqua Fire Department will be holding a Stop the Bleed course in association with the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. The course is free to the public. Contact Sid Holec at sidholec@gmail.com or 941-716-1729 to register.

Maureen Rovegno Retirement Celebration

At 3:30 p.m. today in the Hall of Philosophy, Chautauqua Institution honors longtime Director of Religion Maureen Rovegno, who retired in February 2023 after 18 years of year-round employment.

Shabbat Dinner honoring Maureen Rovegno

At 6:45 p.m. on July 28 at the Zigdon Chabad Jewish House (23 Vincent), please join us as we honor Maureen Rovegno for her many years of leadership, dedication, love, caring and hard work for the entire Chautauqua community. Enjoy a four-course Jewish meal in a warm and welcoming environment. Space is limited. RSVP required at www.cocweb.org/shabbat-dinners. For more information, email rabbi@cocweb.org or call 917-364-1013.

'WHAT HAPPENED THEN, WELL, THAT'S THE PLAY AND HE WOULDN'T WANT US TO GIVE IT AWAY'



BRETT PHELPS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

From left, Chautauqua Opera Company Guest Artists Eve Gigliotti, mezzo-soprano, as Mrs. Lovett, and Kevin Burdette, bass-baritone, as Sweeney Todd, watch as the ensemble performs in masquerade during Chautauqua Opera's production of Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. *Sweeney Todd* concludes its run at 4 p.m. today in Norton Hall, with an operalogue set for 2 p.m. in Norton.



BRETT PHELPS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gigliotti plays a tune while Chautauqua Opera Apprentice Artist Felix Aguilar Tomlinson, tenor, as Tobias Ragg, rushes to take cover.



BRETT PHELPS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Apprentice Artist Monique Galvão, mezzo-soprano, at center, performs with members of the *Sweeney Todd* ensemble.

THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

LETTERS POLICY

The Chautauquan Daily welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be submitted electronically, no more than 350 words and are subject to editing. Letters must include the writer's signature including name, address and telephone number for verification. The Daily does not publish anonymous letters. Works containing demeaning, accusatory or libelous statements will not be published.

Submit letters to:

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stoth@chq.org

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Friday at the CINEMA

Friday, July 21

BLUE JEAN - 6:00 England, 1988. Margaret Thatcher's conservative government is about to pass a law stigmatizing gays and lesbians, forcing Jean (Rosy McEwen), a gym teacher, to live a double life. As pressure mounts from all sides, the arrival of a new girl at school catalyzes a crisis that will challenge Jean to her core. "McEwen, who is in almost every scene, is superb." -Odie Henderson, *Boston Globe* "It's as persuasive as it is powerful." -Wendy Ide, *Observer* (UK) (NR, 97m)

PRETTY PROBLEMS - 8:45 With low cash flow and Plan B jobs, plus a snooze-alarm sex life, Jack (Michael Tennant) and Lindsey Stimpson (Britt Rentschler) are officially stuck. But when they get invited to a Sonoma chateau by affluent strangers, they end up on the most uninged weekend of their lives. "A tight script, stellar ensemble cast, and plenty of easy-on-the-eyes shots of California wine country make for a delightful time at the movies." -Christian Zilko, *IndieWire* (NR, 106m)

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RELIGION

Faith needs community to find grace, forgiveness, healing, says Barnes

“According to the late Mircea Eliade, historian of religion at the University of Chicago, all faith traditions offer an ‘axis mundi,’ an axle that keeps the heavens and earth spinning together. Religion keeps this axis healthy and connected,” said the Rev. M. Craig Barnes.

He preached at the 9:15 a.m. Thursday morning worship service in the Amphitheater. His sermon title was “Healing Our Sins,” and the scripture reading was Mark 2:1-12. “Every home is an axis mundi, as well,” Barnes said. In homes with a center pole, the pole, symbolically, goes down to the center of earth and up to the stars. When there is a disaster, when the stars are falling, people want to go home to where the axis mundi is.

The poet T. S. Eliot wrote that the definition of home “is the still point of the turning world where the past and future are gathered together,” Barnes said. “That may not describe your home; you may still be searching for a place where faith and a sense of mission can be found.”

In the scripture reading, Mark says Jesus was at home in Capernaum. Barnes noted that Jesus is usually thought of as being itinerant. But in Mark, Jesus has a home that is open to the world and people flocked to it for healing, identity, faith and mission: the axis mundi.

In the story, four friends brought a friend who was paralyzed to see Jesus; they were so determined to get him healed that they dug a hole in the roof of Jesus’ house and lowered their friend down in front of Jesus.

“It was probably a good thing that Jesus grew up in the home of a carpenter. It was probably also a good thing he was not married; talk about bringing your work home,” Barnes said.

Jesus was impressed by the faith of the four friends. “This story is not about the paralyzed man,” Barnes said. “It is about the four men whose faith healed their friend. Their faith unleashed the gracious compassion of Jesus.”

He continued, “This is one of the first, most profound descriptions of Christian community, to have friends who will carry you to the only one who can heal a sin-sick soul.”

Returning to the theme of home, Barnes said that for millennia home gave people their faith and their identity. It is only recently that people leave home to find their true self.

“Identity is no longer an inheritance or a gift of the community, but a self-construction,” he said. “All the rest of society is a resource for you to construct an identity you like and we have peddled that for two generations.”

The speaker at his daughter’s graduation “peddled the same drivel that the speaker did when I went to college,” he said. “‘You are the best and the brightest, dream your dreams, you can be whatever you want to be.’ If you want honesty, the speaker would say, ‘We have nothing for you, you are on your own.’”

Barnes said being on your own – making a life by your choices – is an assumption. Raising a child has become helping kids make good choices. When a child is young and breaks a window, instead of yelling at them, the parent brings them inside and asks, “Was that a good choice?” The child says, “I’m thinking no,” and the parent says, “Good choice.”

“When they get older there is more at stake in the choices they make,” Barnes said. “They think they are choosing a life when they are making choices. Looking at college, they have reach schools and safety schools – and God help your child if her best friend’s safety school is her reach school.”

Guidance counselors tell parents that it is the child’s choice to attend whichever college they want, but the parents get to pay for it.

“When a student chooses a major, they think they are choosing a life, at age 18. They have seen doctors on television and think that looks like a good life, so they choose pre-med and think they are on their way to being a doctor,” Barnes said. “Then they take Biology 101 and they are not going to be a doctor.”

He continued, “So they go back and think about what else they can do and they remember that lawyers on



MORNING WORSHIP

COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

television have a pretty good life, so they decide they will be a lawyer and they think they have changed the trajectory of their life. They can do this several times.”

After graduation, Barnes said, this notion of being able to choose a life stays. “Parents say pick a job, any job, please. If you don’t like the job, choose again. If you don’t like your town, your friends, your church, choose again. I have watched people think they are changing their lives, but what they are doing is rearranging the furniture of the same life.”

Barnes returned to the sermon from Wednesday about the Gerasene demoniac to offer a clarification. Jesus told the man who had a legion of demons cast out of him to stay with the community where he was from.

“I am not saying that Jesus expects you to stay in an abusive community. If it is abusive, leave. But community is an essential part of faith. We can never leave the notion of community,” Barnes said. “Like the four friends of the paralyzed man, we need to have our friends because we can’t do faith on our own.”

As a pastor, Barnes was always amused when people would come into his office and demand the church do something or they would leave. “Why did they think that was a threat? It is OK if you need to leave a particular church,” he said.

Theologian Martin Buber said when two people come together to form a sacred place, God is present. But when one of the people leaves, the creative, sacred space is gone. Jesus said wherever two or three are gathered, he would be there.

“Any community will disappoint the dreams that people have for it,” Barnes said. “German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer said that nothing is more dangerous to a community than the dreams people have for it because people will always love the dream more than the community. But the community is God’s reality.”

When Jesus healed the paralyzed man, he told him that his sins were forgiven and the scribes who witnessed the healing asked Jesus why he said that.

“Jesus did not believe that the man was paralyzed because of sin. He was just cutting to the chase. That was easier to say than ‘Rise and walk,’” Barnes said.

The axis mundi is the grace of God and that is what Jesus’ ministry was all about. “When Jesus fed the hungry or healed the sick, they got hungry again and sick again. Those were signs of what the soul needs, the restored relationship with God where sins are forgiven,”



DAVE MUNCH / PHOTO EDITOR

The Rev. M. Craig Barnes, president emeritus of Princeton Theological Seminary and Week Four’s chaplain-in-residence, delivers his sermon Sunday in the Amphitheater.

Barnes said.

He continued, “We are at home with God in a community with people who will hold us and carry us to Jesus. We can engage in personal acts of worship and charity, but no one can give themselves absolution. We all need a priest to proclaim the axis mundi, to say ‘in Jesus Christ you are forgiven.’ That’s what the community does and why we have to have it.”

The Rev. Mary Lee Talbot, who lives in Chautauqua year-round with her Stabyhoun Sammi, presided. The Rev. Barbara Wells, facilitator of Unity of Chautauqua, read the scripture. The Motet Consort – Barbara Hois, flute, Debbi Grohman, clarinet, and Will La Favor, piano – played “Largo e sostenuto and Allegro assai,” from Trio No. 2 in A Minor, by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach. The Motet Choir sang “Healer of our every ill,” music and text by Ken Medema. Joshua Stafford, director of sacred music and Jared Jacobsen Chair for the Organist, directed the choir and Nicholas Stigall, organ scholar, provided accompaniment on the Steinway piano. The postlude was “Ciaccona in C minor,” BuxWV 159 by Dietrich Buxtehude, played by Stigall on the Massey Memorial Organ. Support for this week’s chaplaincy and preaching is provided by the Mr. and Mrs. William Uhler Follansbee Memorial Chaplaincy.

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Annual Meeting

Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua

Thursday, August 3, 2023
4:00 pm
in the Chapel
Presbyterian House
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The purpose of this meeting is to elect trustees and the nominating committee, and for the transaction of business of the association.

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FROM PAGE ONE

GUZMÁN

FROM PAGE 1

Guzmán argues the truth is not just facts, but the human interpretation of what people do and believe about the world.

Whether debating issues with family members or in their communities, Guzmán said she hopes the audience can get out of “stuck places” in their lives.

“The work of bridging divides over tough issues is psychologically felt as ‘very difficult,’ but is technically very easy,” she said. “There are certain tactical things you can do that are a cinch, if you remember to do them in conversation.”

Guzmán said her “key thing” is implementing tactics people can use to build trust and understand each other. Still, they often want agreement to be the outcome and “that’s part of the problem.”

When it comes to the CLS theme “A State of Believing,” Guzmán said she is “always” in a state of believing.

“Our beliefs about the world — about ourselves, about each other, about our

relationship to each other — are absolutely critical and often wrong,” she said. “The most important thing is to be able to examine our beliefs, and not just be defined by them.”

At Braver Angels, Guzmán said she is “obsessed” with what it takes to equip people to cross divides in their everyday lives, rather than institutional change within media or politics.

“Everything starts with individual people, with regular people and ordinary interactions,” she said. “I believe that politics and media are mirror institutions. They take their cues from the culture and the only people who can change the culture are all of us.”

This isn’t easy or predictable, she said. Guzmán formerly worked as a journalist because she thought it was a way to help people understand each other.

“Journalism, as an institution, is aimed at creating an informed citizenry by telling stories to the community, among the community,” she said. “Everybody and everything was hunky

““

Our beliefs about the world — about ourselves, about each other, about our relationship to each other — are absolutely critical and often wrong. The most important thing is to be able to examine our beliefs, and not just be defined by them.”

—MÓNICA GUZMÁN

Senior Fellow for Public Practice, Braver Angels

dory on that for years.”

Around eight years ago, Guzmán said she started to realize that to help people understand each other, telling stories within the boundaries of journalism wasn’t working.

“Journalism itself is losing trust,” she said. “There’s so much fracturing of the media space that it’s just not working. It’s not effective. Something has to change underneath it all.”

Before she left daily journalism, she was the vice president of a media startup with seven to eight reporters on the ground in different cities. While she “loved it,” Guzmán said she had to step away and focus

her efforts elsewhere.

She studied how journalists can better meet the needs of a participatory public, and can do so by leading conversations in a more constructive way.

“No conversation is deep and profound,” Guzmán said. “We need to equip people to have conversations across lines of difference. If they’re not equipped to do that, and all we do is tell stories at (specific communities), they’re just going to divide and fracture more.”

On its website, Braver Angels outlines its approach to “building a house united,” and how every citizen can ensure that the American

Experiment can survive and thrive, as was the vision of the Founding Fathers. Those men were “enlightened, inspired thinkers,” Guzmán said. “They were very young. ... Most of the guys were 18 to 22 when they signed the Declaration of Independence. We were founded on ideals.”

Guzmán said it’s “beautiful” that America was founded on something other than ethnicity or geographic convenience.

“The idea is that a government by the people, for the people, works and can’t perish from the Earth,” she said. “Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness can animate a society — and that democracy thrives on

conflict.”

Systems have been built to manage conflict, but they’re currently being tested, she said. The phrase inspiring Guzmán the most is “a more perfect union” — she thinks the founders knew “we would never get there.”

While the current state of America can be seen as “depressing,” Guzmán said there’s a “pretty optimistic” way to put it all into perspective.

“My very strong conviction is that, through all of this, we are learning how to hear each other better,” she said. “Our institutions will be informed by that and we will become more productive.”

ILS

FROM PAGE 1

Bowler wrote the book that inspired the project after being diagnosed with Stage IV cancer, which changed her outlook on faith.

“I started believing in ‘uncomforting beliefs,’ that actually ended up making me feel much less alone,” Bowler said. “It became clear that life is not a series of choices, it is not in my control, and everything does not always

happen for a reason.”

Bowler said faith’s role in her life is “evolved.”

“I wanted to be an earner: someone who earned God’s love and approval,” Bowler said. “I found that I shifted some of the way that I think of God from maybe a contractual one, into one in which I mostly think of God as overwhelming love.”

At Duke, Bowler is an associate professor of American religious history and

Smith is Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives.

“I think of my work as institutional capacity-building and institutional effectiveness,” Smith said. “Most of the work that I do helps to nurture an imagination for the ways that people are formed, and how we are called to help equip and train them.”

Smith said she works “really closely” with Bowler’s project at Duke to “try to imagine what pub-

lic narrations of Christian faith” look like.

Smith said Chautauqua was a “really interesting space” for discussion of this week’s theme.

“It is both a big tent in a really lovely way, and there’s so much honored particularity in the space,” Smith said, “represented in the denominational houses, (which are) the deep roots that have somehow managed to weave together in one tree.”

Today’s afternoon conversation is intended to be personal, Smith said, and focused on what she and Bowler have learned together and “the work” of Bowler’s memoirs.

“It’s going to be set up mostly like a conversation, with a goal of talking more out of our personal experience than that kind of scholarly, academic side,” Smith said.

Smith said one hope she had was for people to walk

away from the talk feeling “a little less alone,” feeling less “isolation” or “guilt” about “circumstances that are totally outside of their control.”

“That’s one hope, and I think the other is that there would be some courage in community, that theme of interdependence,” Smith said, “the thing that can carry us when we are absolutely unable to carry ourselves, would give people a bit more courage to keep going.”

ETHERIDGE

FROM PAGE 1

Her latest album, 2021’s *One Way Out*, looks back on that period of her life with songs originally written in the ’80s and ’90s, but recently recorded.

“A couple of the songs are feminist in nature and very assertive, and I felt a little shy to put those out at the time,” she told *American Songwriter* two years ago. “I was a different human being with a different brain back then.”

After her latest visit to

Chautauqua, the rock star will make her Broadway debut in the fall.

Melissa Etheridge: *My Window* will share tales from the musician’s childhood through her career highlights, performed by the artist herself, and written with the help of her wife Linda Wallem Etheridge.

During 2022 performances off-Broadway, *The New York Times* called the theatrical memoir “honest” and “searing” as Etheridge shares how she finds healing in performance.

“The intimacy of the live

theatrical stage is like no other,” she said in a press statement in June announcing the nine-week run. “It’s a deeply personal experience to be able to tell these stories again, in a fresh and exciting way, and reconnect with my fans and theatergoers.”

In a similar new effort, reflecting on the last 20 years, Etheridge is set to release her second memoir Sept. 5, *Talking to My Angels*.

The book recounts the “euphoric triumphs and the life-altering tragedies” of her life since her first

memoir, *The Truth Is ...: My Life in Love and Music*, was released in 2001, according to publisher HarperCollins.

In that time, she has faced a breast cancer diagnosis and surgery in the early 2000s and her 21-year-old son Beckett’s death from an opioid addiction in May 2020.

“She’s just this creative spirit that continues to build new things,” Moore said. “She’s someone who really speaks to what it is to be human, through her music and through her life.”



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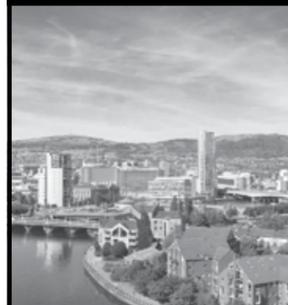
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THE ARTS

Students, faculty aim for personal artistry to shine in piano recital

ZOE KOLENOVSKY
STAFF WRITER

As much as time in a studio or classroom, performing is a form of learning, said Nikki Melville, co-chair of the Piano Program.

A recital at 4 p.m. today in Sherwood-Marsh 101 will facilitate that kind of learning for the program's students, she said.

"This should be a place where they have space to learn new things," said Melville. "We want this, for them, to be a sort of pedagogical space for people to make meaningful change and to learn meaningful things without that constant pressure of judgment. ... We're embracing the idea that there's time and space to do that kind of exploration."

The recital this afternoon is a more informal event than many of the School of Music's other productions. Over the course of the week, students can sign up to perform pieces they are working on in front of an audience with lower stakes than they would face with a larger production.

"This is really the only opportunity the students get to perform solo repertoire other than in guest masterclasses, which is a much more formal occasion," said Nikki Melville,

Melville takes the lead in curating a curriculum for the students, coordinating visits by a series of world-class guest faculty members while also providing instruction herself.

"There are lots of wonderful ways to play the piano, lots of wonderful ways to be a musician, and we're not trying to preach just one," Melville said.



Front row, from left, School of Music Piano Program students Grace Tubbs, HaEun Yang and Peizhang Wu; back row, from left, Sean Yang, Alexander Tsereteli, Eric Yu, Dongwon Shin and Zhenyi Long. Piano students are preparing for a recital at 4 p.m. today in Sherwood-Marsh 101.

HG BIGGS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

She invites her students to "look at all these amazing, wonderful, successful people that come in here," who are "all really different from each other. We talk about that, and we talk with them, and we try to just understand ... finding your individual voice as a musician through these different contexts with all these different faculty."

It is the interactions with these guest faculty members, who are internationally celebrated pianists with impressive accolades to speak to their technical expertise, that Melville believes makes the greatest impact on students as they leave the program.



There are lots of wonderful ways to play the piano, lots of wonderful ways to be a musician, and we're not trying to preach just one."

—NIKKI MELVILLE

Co-Chair, School of Music Piano Program

"They've now got a personal relationship ... with these world famous musicians," she said. "... I think that changes their possibilities as an individual artist to just listen to the stories of these people that come in. ... I think that it has a ripple

effect through their lives." The program for the afternoon includes solo performances by Peizhang Wu, Grace Tubbs, Zhenyi Long, Vanessa Yu, Andrew Chen and Xiaoming Zhang, as well as pieces arranged for two pianos delivered by Dong-

won Shin, HaEun Yang, Eric Yu and Sean Yang.

A quintet rescheduled from last weekend's chamber recitals will also be taking the stage with pianist Alexander Tsereteli joined by string players Jaewon Jun, Noah Arcenas, Ho Fei Ng, and Maria Savarese of the School of Music's Instrumental Program.

In the spirit of true fluidity, students are also given the opportunity to decide to perform on the spot, so Melville anticipates the set list expanding.

"This is a friendly, hopefully supportive environment where you can try a new thing and see how it goes," Melville said. "It's a sort of safe space for them for performing, which I think is really important."

Brantingham to discuss 'emotional link' among senses in flash fiction in Brown Bag

KAITLYN FINCHLER
STAFF WRITER

Prose writer-in-residence John Brantingham describes synesthesia as the blending of different senses.

"Language is really tied to our emotional lives because of (synesthesia)," he said, and writing that considers this can explore the meaning and imagery of words.

Brantingham will discuss these topics in his Brown Bag lecture at 12:15 p.m. today on the porch of the Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall. He will focus on flash fiction, which is defined as any fictional story under 1,500 words. Brantingham, who has 10 Pushcart Prize nominations to his name, and has published more than 20 collections of fiction and poetry, is the co-creator of the San Gabriel Valley Literary Festival.

Brantingham cited a study conducted to figure out what words people would recognize in modern English, he said. As an example, Brantingham said "mama" and "papa" are recognizable in almost every language.

"The emotional link of those sounds are instinctual," he said. "There's a lot you can do with that. Flash



My mission in life, for me and the people I teach and read with, is to open up the concept of radical wonder. Radical wonder is making sure that you're keeping finality out of your life."

—JOHN BRANTINGHAM
Prose Writer-in-Residence,
Chautauqua Writers' Center

fiction very often is about keying into that and having an emotional reaction."

Brantingham said another component is trusting readers to fill in most of the story for the writers.

"I have a friend who, when he talks about poetry, says, 'I can read a novel all day long,' and it affects me but not in the same way," he said. "If I read a poem, I have to take a nap and get a cookie ... because you're doing so much of the work."

He said this is due to the emotional toll it takes on someone while reading, and it's no different with flash fiction.



BRANTINGHAM

"My mission in life, for me and the people I teach and read with, is to open up the concept of radical wonder," Brantingham said. "Radical wonder is making sure that you're keeping finality out of your life."

Viewing anything through an unoriginal lens is dangerous, he said. People start to look around and think, "Oh, it's just this," without holding any meaning.

"The world is exceptional," Brantingham said. "You can

start to see it as precious — that's the center. I view the natural world in that way."

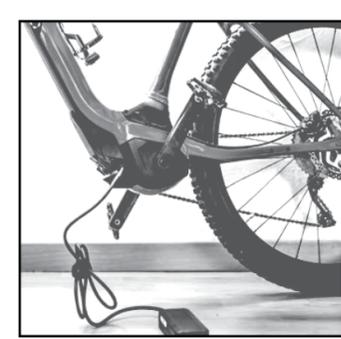
He said he wants to embrace nature in its truest form. For example, he explained his love-hate relationship with mowing the lawn, which stems from his appreciation for nature.

"I've got sections where it's overgrown and I leave them that way because I want the bugs and animals to be there," he said. "We had a whole bunch of bunnies — an army of bunnies — living and trying to stay away from my dog, just trying to live."

Brantingham said he works a lot with ekphrasis, the use of detailed description of a work of visual art as a literary device.

"I love the arts because it's a constant conversation," he said. "It's a 10,000-year-old conversation we're having back and forth about the nature of life and death. We keep getting more and more refined trying to do so."

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LECTURE

Warren, in examining institutional trust, calls for embrace of common good

ALTON NORTHUP
STAFF WRITER

Mending societal divisions requires courage to contribute to the common good, said Setti D. Warren.

Warren, director of the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School, discussed the divisions that threaten American society and how to address them in his lecture, “Building Trust in Our Institutions to Protect Democracy,” at 10:45 a.m. Thursday in the Amphitheater for the penultimate lecture of the Chautauqua Lecture Series Week Four theme, “The State of Believing.”

Public trust in institutions is declining everywhere, he said. According to Gallup, 69% of Americans do not have confidence in the government. In a recent Harvard Youth Poll, 53% of young people said they believe democracy is failing; the same respondents placed the chances of a civil war in their lifetime at 35%.

“The disillusionment (with) our institutions that are supposed to be operating for us is quite saddening,” Warren said.

The current economic and social landscape of the United States only feeds this disillusionment. Contractions in the economy are leading to polarization, he said, as wealth inequality grows. When fewer people have economic mobility, and are instead stuck in poverty with no way out, the erosion of faith in institutions will only continue.

But the institutions are not the only thing at risk; how people view one another is also in danger. As inequality grows and those at the bottom seek an explanation for their position, people often develop a “mindset that the system is being rigged by those in power at the expense of ordinary people.”

The problem with this mindset is “people are often fuzzy on the details,” which opens the door for xenophobic and racist applications, Warren said.

As more Americans get their news from social media following the loss of one-fourth of local newspapers across the country, unregulated algorithms can amplify and spread these harmful beliefs.

“This has created an existential threat to our democracy, posing risk to national sovereignty and democratic processes,” he said. “We have to change the trajectory of information in our society.”

But information is just one



Setti D. Warren, director of the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School, delivers his lecture Thursday in the Amphitheater.

HG BIGGS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



We have a responsibility here to challenge the current orthodoxy, point out that these issues are tough, put forth answers, make sure that we embrace the common good and the public good, and have the courage to lead politically. We owe it to not just the current generation, but the future generations.”

—SETTI D. WARREN
Director, Institute of Politics,
Harvard Kennedy School

spoke in the wheel of polarization. Having spent much of his life in politics, Warren said many in Congress place fundraising as their main priority, resulting in a small number of donors driving political discourse in the country.

These donors tend to have more extreme views than the average voter, he said. On the issue of economics, the gap between Republican Party donors and Republican voters is wider than the gap between Democratic Party voters and Republican voters.

“This makes it increasingly difficult for government to be effective, leading to the erosion of trust,” Warren said.

The division between voters should not be minimized, though. America is more diverse than ever, yet it has also never been more segregated. Forty-eight states now have one-party control of legislatures, showing little room for compromise.

And political debates have become charged, angry and polarizing.

“Republican and Democratic voters don’t believe the opposing party has the best interest of the country in mind, and believe they’re brainwashed or very ill-informed” he said. “This isn’t a policy disagreement.”

This polarization has also seeped into once-apolitical areas of American society; 42% of Republicans say the military is “woke,” and 32% of Democrats are concerned about far-right extremism in the ranks, Warren said.

These changing attitudes are having an impact. Since 2004, public trust of the military has decreased each year. Annual recruitment is down 25%.

“If you believe that the military is central to our national security, our ability to respond around the world to threats, you should pay attention,” he said.

These problems pose the largest threat to American democracy in decades, Warren said. But they are problems that can be solved.

He evoked the words of Robert F. Kennedy: “Some men see things as they are and ask, ‘Why?’ I dream of things that never were and ask, ‘Why not?’”

“What I believe this question really entails is for us to ask not just why not, but why can’t we tackle the difficult problems in our society, ask tough questions and have the courage to offer some bold solutions?” Warren said.

These solutions, he added, need to be interlaced with politics and society alike.



Warren discussed the state of trust and belief in American public institutions — and how that trust might be restored.

HG BIGGS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

When running for statewide office in Massachusetts, Warren campaigned in Winchendon, a town that largely voted for President Donald Trump in 2016.

He said he wanted to understand why the predominantly white town voted the way it did. To help him, a resident juxtaposed the town’s past with the present.

Winchendon was once a booming manufacturing hub producing textiles and computer parts. Now, opioid dealers fill the streets that workers between shifts at the factories once did. The town’s only supermarket shuttered, so residents buy groceries at CVS. The town felt disenfranchised in a society no longer working.

A week later, Warren made a stop to Roxbury, a predominantly Black neighborhood in Boston, where he found the same sentiments. He started his

speech there with a story about Winchendon.

“I tell that story only because we do have to address economic mobility, but we also have to find a way to politically lead and to bring constituencies together that are suffering from many of the same ills,” he said. “Yes, it is different — we know there’s structural racism; we know that’s historic; we know the numbers for people of color are (in much more) dire straits than white people — but we also know there’s a society that is being left behind.”

Investing in spaces that bring people of different backgrounds together should be a priority, he said.

As an Iraq War veteran, he and his comrades were forced to live with, rely on, and even die with men and women of different backgrounds. He said implementing a national service, outside of the military, would help soothe the divisions in the country.

“I do believe that everyone needs to serve our country, and they need to be together with people that

don’t look like them, have the same ideology, have the same background (and) have the same geography,” he said. “They need to humanize the person across from them and learn from them and be a part of a mission that’s greater than them.”

Service to the country is central to Warren’s philosophy; his father and grandfather both served in the military during the time of racial segregation. After returning home from war, his father was arrested three times for defying segregation laws.

His father’s commitment to the country instilled in Warren that if the American experiment was going to work, each person had to play their part.

“We have a responsibility here to challenge the current orthodoxy, point out that these issues are tough, put forth answers, make sure that we embrace the common good and the public good, and have the courage to lead politically,” Warren said. “We owe it to not just the current generation, but the future generations.”



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Simran Jeet Singh shares how lessons from his Sikh faith tradition transformed his life, and how those lessons can help others live loving life in the face of great difficulty, Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy as part of the Week Four Interfaith Lecture Series theme “Religious Faith and Everything Else We Believe In.”

Singh shares stories of facing discrimination with lessons from faith

ARDEN RYAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Having grown up in Texas, Simran Jeet Singh said he’s no stranger to discrimination.

On Wednesday, Singh shared his perspective on how to overcome that discrimination with grace – by allowing others to care and finding agency in community strength.

Singh is an educator, social activist and author of *The Light We Give: How Sikh Wisdom Can Transform Your Life*. At 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy as part of the Interfaith Lecture Series theme, “Religious Faith and Everything Else We Believe In,” Singh shared lessons gathered from navigating the “daily racism” he experiences in America, drawing on learning from his own tradition and life.

“We all face our own challenges, adversity comes, life is hard. How do we make a choice in each of those moments so that we walk away feeling proud?” Singh said.

As a Sikh living in a region of America where almost no one looked like him, the first instance of blatant racism, and the first time he was called a terrorist, came at a soccer match when he was 10 years old.

The experience left him angry at himself and like he had lost his dignity. His soccer coach was checking the team’s equipment and asked to search Singh’s turban, assuming he might be hiding weapons in his Sikh headwear. Not knowing what to do, Singh obliged, bowing his head to the coach’s hands.

The decision tormented



There’s another way of engaging, one where we don’t get sucked into the anger, the hatred, or the toxicity being directed at us, but also one that is not limited to running away, escaping, pretending like these issues aren’t there.”

Singh. He had never known an authority figure to violate his privacy like that. Plagued with regret and anger, he vowed to stand up for himself the next time.

“It took me some time to forgive myself,” Singh said. He told himself he would never again be passive against discrimination.

The second instance of racism Singh remembers came a short time later, not from a person of power but from a friend. In the locker room after basketball practice, a teammate made a racist comment to Singh, who “flashed back to the promise (he) had made to stand up for (himself) the next time” he was the victim of racism, and so did.

The two fought and left each other bloody, and Singh felt no better afterward. Violence had brought him no more relief than silence.

These instances in his life, Singh said, have been more numerous than he can count. Just last week, he said, he experienced racism.

From these instances and many others, Singh learned, moments of racism have no perfect solution. What, then, is one to do?

The answer, Singh said,

is to look beyond “fight or flight,” the basic human impulses that give us no long-term satisfaction. Instead, take “what our spiritual traditions might call a middle path,” he said.

“There’s another way of engaging, one where we don’t get sucked into the anger, the hatred, or the toxicity being directed at us, but also one that is not limited to running away, escaping, pretending like these issues aren’t there,” Singh said – what Americans are “so wont to do, individually and culturally.”

Instead of postponing challenges, he said, deal with them now. “Find those moments of difficulty when they come ... embrace them, and at the same time, find agency within them” by sharing struggles with others, Singh said. Drawing on others for support can “transform the darkness into light.”

One poignant experience Singh still remembers taught him the third option in the face of discrimination, the middle road to walk away from racism feeling proud. It was at a roller rink birthday party, where the manager saw the turban

Singh was wearing and approached, yelling, “Get out of here with those damn rags on your head.”

He didn’t know how to respond. The experience wasn’t new to him, but it was the first time his family wasn’t able to resolve the situation. He felt the instinct to leave the rink and avoid the confrontation. But instead of leaving, or fighting for hours with the manager, his mother had shared the experience with the parents at the party, who all organized a walkout of the rink.

Singh said he had looked up into his mother’s eyes and seen her crying, thinking it was because of the racism. Instead, his mother said she was crying because of how lucky they were.

His mother had shared with the teachers and parents what was happening, inviting her community into their struggles, and allowed them to care. Sharing vulnerabilities had given others the chance to come to their aid. Singh remembers the feeling of that support and can still feel it 30 years later.

“It was the first time in my life where I felt like the people around me really

cared about me,” so much they were willing to give up something of their own, he said. “To understand that and to feel that was a powerful experience for me, and something that I wanted to continue doing for myself and for other people.”

From his mother that day, he learned the importance of taking the initial step into vulnerability, to being open and sharing challenges with others. His mother had “zero power” in the situation, Singh said, and couldn’t do anything to change the rules or convince the manager, but “figured out how to create power in that moment” and “find her agency.”

“Maintain your principles,” Singh said, and don’t waver from them. When leaving is the easy option, one should connect with others over common bonds of vulnerability.

“Empathy is built,” Singh said, through “a point of connection, through storytelling and openness.”

Singh recalled a shameful experience for him, but one from which he learned a valuable lesson. Once at a grocery store, his mother caught him trying to steal a candy bar.

At home, his mother asked him if he knew why he wore a turban, then she told him, “If you’re going to be doing stuff like that, then maybe you shouldn’t be wearing one.”

He had always been told never to listen to those who insulted his turban, to honor his heritage, but here his mother was, suggesting he might not deserve one. That experience “opened up a new perspective” for Singh, piquing his interest to explore his Sikh faith.

The turban, as he reflected on it, should be a daily reminder of the difference between “what we practice and what we preach.” He said he reflects on his values every day while tying it, and holds himself accountable to his morals while he wears it in the world.

For Sikhs, he explained, the turban is a symbol of equality, something that connects one to the greater community, but is also a personal connection to one’s faith. When the turban is disturbed, Singh said, it feels like a personal offense toward that faith.

After his experience with the candy bar and his mother in the store, Singh said he became more intentional about his values in public, and his turban represented a regular adherence to discipline. The daily practice of moral strength can help prepare for tough moments, he said, to have a strong “technology of the self,” quoting Michel Foucault.

The things we believe are “embodied” by what we do every day, Singh said. “Belief doesn’t matter if practice doesn’t follow.”

—SIMRAN JEET SINGH

Author

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Brunch Buffet \$15.95 "ALL
YOU CARE TO ENJOY" Salad,
Complementary Dessert



Planning your visit to CHQ for the summer season or in the Fall/Winter/Spring for a wedding, fall colors, skiing, holidays, etc.? Consider the Piper Cottage at 19 Whittier. South end cottage with lake views, covered front porch, rear deck, private yard, 5 bedrooms and two full baths. See this property at reservations.chq.org/rentals/piper-cottage

NOTICES

394 STORAGE (716) 665-9794
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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

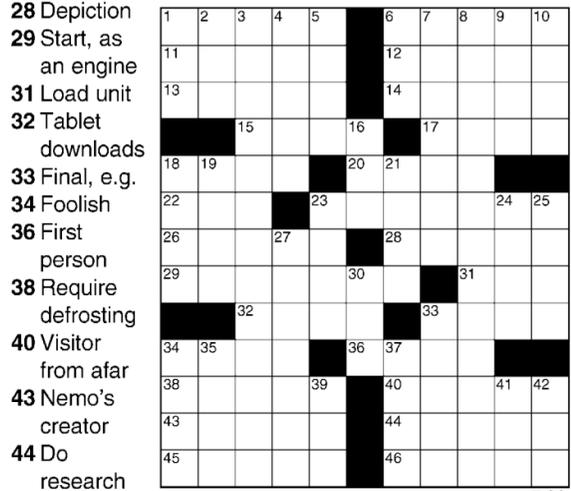
- 1 Talked madly
- 6 Spiny plants
- 11 Spiny plant
- 12 Detest
- 13 Musical sounds
- 14 Small stream
- 15 Printer's supplies
- 17 Play parts
- 18 Sentry's cry
- 20 Canyon sound
- 22 Wing
- 23 Breathes out
- 26 Yoga position
- 28 Depiction
- 29 Start, as an engine
- 31 Load unit
- 32 Tablet downloads
- 33 Final, e.g.
- 34 Foolish
- 36 First person
- 38 Require defrosting
- 40 Visitor from afar
- 43 Nemo's creator
- 44 Do research

DOWN

- 45 Useful skill
- 46 Crooked
- 1 Squealer
- 2 Before today
- 3 Sweet cookies
- 4 Bit of history
- 5 Cubicle fixture
- 6 Fare carrier
- 7 Isaac's father
- 8 Kid's quaff name
- 9 Horn sound
- 10 Bothers
- 16 Kinsey subject
- 18 Crumbling car
- 19 In addition
- 21 China flaw
- 23 Tombstone
- 24 They may clash
- 25 Posted
- 27 Triton circles it
- 30 Mex. neighbor
- 33 Stories
- 34 High-maintenance
- 35 Good pair
- 37 Arp's art
- 39 Sulky state
- 41 Second person
- 42 Modern



Yesterday's answer



CHAUTAUQUA WOMEN'S CLUB TUESDAY AFTERNOON BRIDGE SCORES

JULY 18, 2023

SECTION A

North/South

1st	Steven Allen - Ellen Waldman	54.25%
2nd	Michael Beldon - Louise Beldon	52.63%
3rd	Abigail Nichols - Carl Nelson	62.35%

East/West

1st	Melissa Denton - Peter Harris	55.32%
2nd	Jonathan Tramer - Leslie Tramer	59.39%
3rd	Darlene Johnston - Mary Khosh	55.61%

Please come enjoy our friendly, non-intimidating games.
12:45 p.m. Tuesdays the Chautauqua Women's Club

Bank Lectureship provides support for Guzmán's CLS talk

The Helen S. and Merrill L. Bank Lectureship provides support for the lecture by Mónica Guzmán at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater.

Helen and Merrill Bank first came to Chautauqua for just one week. They came to play golf and hear music. Their visits began in the early 1960s and, as time went on, Helen and some of her close friends began to take greater advantage of the programs that were offered. For the last 20 years

of Helen's life, her daughter would join her at Chautauqua. Their time together on the grounds became a highly anticipated annual event for them.

In 2012, the Helen S. and Merrill L. Bank Lectureship was established by their daughter and grandson to honor the memory of Helen and Merrill. This lectureship helps to support morning lectures on topics regarding the environment or the arts - areas which held great interest for them.

Presbyterian Association Fund supports Smith, Bowler lecture

The Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua Religious Lectureship Fund provides support for the Interfaith Lecture by Katherine Smith and Kate Bowler at 2 p.m. today in the Hall of Philosophy.

The lectureship was established in 1989 through gifts made by members and friends of the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua in recognition of the association's 100th anniversary. The

Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua was incorporated on Aug. 27, 1889, with the immediate purpose of selecting and purchasing a site for the construction of a Presbyterian headquarters on the grounds. The headquarters, located at the south end of the Amphitheater, was the first brick building constructed at Chautauqua and was first fully occupied for use during the 1891 season.

Chautauqua Institution Corporation Meeting Set For August 12, 2023

The annual meeting of the members of the Chautauqua Corporation will be held Saturday, August 12, 2023, beginning at 12:00 p.m., at the Hall of Philosophy, Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York. At that time, the Corporation will review the Institution's financial statements and elect an individual to serve as a Class B Trustee on the Board of Trustees pursuant to the Institution's by-laws. Chautauqua Institution's audited financial statements may be found at <https://chq.org/about/board-of-trustees/>

Class B Trustee Nominations

Any member of the Corporation is eligible to be nominated for election as a Class B Trustee. Nominations for Class B Trustee must be submitted by a member of the Corporation.

All nominees for the position of Class B Trustee shall be identified in writing to the Secretary of the Chautauqua Institution not more than thirty (30) (July 12, 2023) and not less than fifteen (15) (July 28, 2023) days in advance of the scheduled date (i.e., the annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation) for their election to provide the Secretary with sufficient time to ensure that each such nominee is eligible for election as a Class B Trustee under Section 5 of the Charter, to ensure the compliance by the nominee(s), prior to election, with the requirements of the Corporation's Conflict of Interest Policy as required by New York State Not-for Profit Corporation Law, and to make adequate arrangements for the time-consuming logistics associated with presentation of multiple nominees for the position of Class B Trustee at the annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation. In order to be placed on the ballot for election, each nominee for the position of Class B Trustee must submit to the Corporate Secretary by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the third (3rd) business day after a request by the Corporate Secretary, any and all documents and related information reasonably requested by the Corporate Secretary to verify the nominee's eligibility as a Class B Trustee. For purposes of the election of any Class B Trustee, the Members of the Corporation entitled to vote at any annual meeting (and their voting designees or holders of proxies) shall be as reflected on the books and records of the Chautauqua Institution on and as of a record date that is fifteen (15) (July 28, 2023) days prior to the date of the annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation.

Voter Designations

Members who are not the sole individual owner of their property and who wish to cast a ballot for the election of Class B Trustee at the Saturday, August 12, 2023, Annual Corporation meeting must assign and complete the voter designation form which must be received and filed with the secretary of the Corporation no later than 15 days (July 28, 2023) prior to the Corporation meeting.

Proxy Voting

If you wish to assign a proxy for your vote, please contact the Corporate Secretary, Rindy Barmore, at rbarmore@chq.org. Voters wishing to assign a proxy must do so no later than July 28, 2023.

Note: All proxy, nomination, and voter designation forms must be issued by the Corporate Secretary in order to be eligible. Please contact the Corporate Secretary, Rindy Barmore at rbarmore@chq.org if you wish to receive forms or require further information.

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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.

7-21 CRYPTOQUOTE

LNJDC UNNSHF HVGNU LF
OVTNVDN CJGNO FVB
OPENDCPY, ZYJHN HVGJDC
OVTNVDN UNNSHF CJGNO FVB

KVBEQCN. — HQV PMB
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: EVERYTHING GOOD, EVERYTHING MAGICAL HAPPENS BETWEEN THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND AUGUST. — JENNY HAN

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

			9				5	
4	8				6			
		5	8	2				
	3		2		5	4		
2		9				5	1	
8				3				2
	1	2	3					6
			3	6	8			
		8		4			7	5

Difficulty: ★★★★★

7/21

9	6	7	5	3	8	2	4	1
8	3	5	2	4	1	7	6	9
2	4	1	6	7	9	8	3	5
4	1	9	3	6	2	5	8	7
3	8	2	9	5	7	6	1	4
7	5	6	1	8	4	9	2	3
5	2	3	7	1	6	4	9	8
6	7	8	4	9	3	1	5	2
1	9	4	8	2	5	3	7	6

Difficulty: ★★★

7/20

Me & My Shadow Pop-Up Boutique

After scouring the markets, Gail Gagnon presents an eclectic collection of jackets, dresses and pullovers at Gretchen's Gallery, this weekend. Gail's goal is to offer exceptional styles so that you love your style.

Friday-Sunday 10-4
Inquiries, (724) 799-1309

VISUAL ARTS

At Strohl, ‘Sense of Place’ pushes viewers to critically examine landscapes

JULIA WEBER
STAFF WRITER

Strohl Art Center’s first-floor exhibition isn’t the most traditional landscape collection.

“Sense of Place” is a collection of pieces spanning different mediums that explore landscape as a broader idea compared to a specific image.

On view at Strohl through this weekend, “Sense of Place” is curated by Assistant Director of Chautauqua Visual Arts Galleries Erika Diamond.

The idea of quintessential landscape paintings can bring to mind a number of art movements: From Chinese shan shui or the Hudson River School and the Romanticism movement, to the impressionist and post-impressionist idealized and abstracted works of artists like Claude Monet and Vincent Van Gogh.

This exhibition, though, toes a line between traditional landscape paintings and conceptual art. Many of the pieces are heavily abstracted, questioning what the boundaries of landscape are, and how we relate to the landscapes that surround us.

“Sense of Place” challenges viewers to consider their relation to landscape and to question what a landscape can be. The exhibition combines mediums like photography, painting, video and textile. At the center of the exhibition is Mika Obayashi’s “Gospel of Three Dimensions.” The massive installation of dyed paper strung from the ceiling by cord evokes a feeling of awe from viewers through its massive scale and detail.

Obayashi said she hopes people find beauty through the exhibition.

“I hope they might bring

their own ideas of gospel and spirituality and how an aesthetic experience can become transcendental,” she said. “I also hope people might think about their position to and within nature.”

Nearby is Obayashi’s “Repeating the Truth,” equally as intricate, but smaller in size.

Obayashi cites nature as a main source of inspiration, but said she is particularly inspired by intangible aspects of nature like balance, liminality and ephemerality.

Situated throughout the gallery space are heavily abstracted, pigmented pieces created by Liz Nielsen. She uses a distinctive process, often creating works without a camera which she describes on her website as “light paintings.” These paintings are made by manipulating light-sensitive paper in a darkroom.

“My photograms reflect a fascination with light as a tangible, yet ethereal phenomenon,” according to Nielsen in a description of her piece “Friends” on her website. “My work is about harnessing its incredible power to shape space and eclipse/collapse time, merging a multiplicity of realities into a finite yet dynamic form.”

Contrasting with the abstract, vibrant pieces of soothing skies and seascapes, Samantha Fields’ blurred landscape paintings depict dark and stormy skies, leaving viewers with an impression that the end is near. Her pieces are out of focus, evoking uncertainty about what’s to come.

Fields writes in the description of her work that it explores severe weather imagery, which is often widely disseminated in the media, as it relates to her own lived experiences.

“The slow apocalypse of climate change is with us every day; from heat waves, wildfires, grid failures and floods, to storms rolling across the roads we travel with our beloveds. I’m interested in the daily, ongoing signs that are screaming at us, like the cursed Cassandra, that the end is surely near,” she said in the description. “But this world has a skin that looks the same as it ever was, and even shared moments of alarm recede into the bread and circuses that fill our days and our feeds, and we march one step closer to our assured end.”

For Lien Truong and Hong An Truong, “Sense of Place” is a vessel for investigating the intersection of nature and politics. “The Sky is Not Sacred” is a two-part piece comprising a video component and a painting. The piece critically examines the relationship between the environment, politics and how climate has been weaponized.

“Together, image and text concede in admiration and awe, to the sky’s stature as a sublime, horrifying space. ‘The Sky Is Not Sacred’ suggests the tension between the aesthetic and the political, and asserts the way in which Western ideologies have violently impacted the Vietnamese landscape, and more broadly, how they have shaped our cultural and emotional relationship to landscape as an imaginary space,” according to the description.

Also adorning the walls are a number of skies and seascapes containing deep, rich blue hues. From afar, they’re seemingly straightforward and simple. Up close, though, the extent of detail in the pieces starts to emerge.

The landscapes, created by Maria Fernanda Barrero,



DAVE MUNCH / PHOTO EDITOR

Mika Obayashi’s “Repeating the Truth,” with “Gospel of Three Dimensions” in the foreground, on display at Strohl Art Center.



When you start talking more about it, then it seems that all of us, like human beings, tend to agree that we need more of that,”

—MARIA FERNANDA BARRERO

Exhibiting Artist, “Sense of Place”

are entirely embroidered and reveal complex designs within the pieces. Barrero uses these pieces as a way to explore the ways in which we are bound to nature.

Part of what Barrero wants people to understand through her art is the importance of caring for our environment. She compared our earth and ecosystem to a home.

“How will you damage your house, how will you

keep your bedroom filthy, or your kitchen filthy if you are eating from it, or if you are living from it? We wouldn’t do it,” Barrero said.

Tending to and caring for the environment is a common thread throughout the diverse collection of artworks in the exhibition. “Sense of Place” challenges viewers to not only appreciate the landscapes surrounding them, but to go a step beyond and con-

sider their connections to the environment and their responsibility to their surroundings.

Barrero said this exhibit may evoke a sense of soothing and connectedness that allows for more open-minded discussion.

“When you start talking more about it, then it seems that all of us, like human beings, tend to agree that we need more of that,” Barrero said.



Understanding Gender: Medical and personal perspectives on Identity, Expression, & Transitioning

Wednesday, August 2, 2023
12:15pm-1:15pm – Smith Wilkes Hall

What does it mean to be transgender? Are non-binary people transgender? Are transgender people gay? Is someone transgender if they don’t transition? And what about pronouns?

If you’re confused, you’re not alone, and we hope this panel discussion will clear up some of that confusion.

It is our hope that we can come together to discuss and understand gender identity and gender expression so, together, we can foster an atmosphere of safety and security that honors the dignity of all humans.

Panelists



Michelle “MJ” Johnston
MJ is a non-binary spiritual director and life coach for the queer community and a member/resident of the Chautauqua community. They combine their love of learning, spirituality, and helping others into a unique coaching experience that draws on their training in coaching, spiritual direction, clinical pastoral education, IFS, and The Compassion Practice. Compassion, inclusion, and joy are three of their most important values.



Dr. Alejandro Diaz, MD
Dr. Alejandro Diaz graduated from La Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia and was trained in general pediatrics at Miami Children’s Hospital. He completed his specialization in Pediatric Endocrinology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical College where he was faculty for 2 years. He joined Miami/Nicklaus Children’s Hospital as a pediatric endocrinologist in 2009. Currently, he is the chief of the pediatric endocrinology division, director of the thyroid cancer program, and he was the leader of the gender program until it was closed in early 2023. Dr. Diaz has a special interest on the management of disorders of sex development and congenital adrenal hyperplasia.



Makayla Watson
Makayla is a trans woman that recently moved to Jamestown from Central Florida. She holds a BS in Public Relations and Mass Communications as well as an MBA with a focus in Marketing. She has a passion for education and helping people grow, and spends the bulk of her free time sharing lived experiences to help people gain a base understanding of the transgender experience.



Laura Currie
Laura is a Chautauqua County native, and a life-long Chautauquan who resides in Nashville, TN in the off season. Laura and her husband, Brad, are proud parents of two married adult children, a cisgendered daughter and a trans femme daughter.



Drag Lecture: Why Is Drag So Controversial Today?

Wednesday, August 16, 2023
12:15pm-1:15pm Smith Wilkes Hall

Ms. Gloria Swansong will once again grace Chautauqua with a lecture entitled, “Why is Drag so Controversial Today?”. Ms. Swansong is a professional Drag Queen and acclaimed Judy Garland impersonator as well as the reigning Miss Hell’s Kitchen performer and recipient of the prestigious Pierre Cardin Award for the Princess Grace Foundation. Additionally, Ms. Swansong is a renowned costume designer, winning numerous awards and teaches at NYC’s Tisch School for the Arts. She holds an MFA in Costume Design from Carnegie Mellon University.

Our MC for this event is none other than the fabulous Mama Shirley Naytch. Last year, Mama Shirley Naytch was crowned Drag Queen of Chautauqua at the Norton Hall performance of, “From Mama With Love,” which she produced and performed in, along with several other queens and one king, all of whom dazzled and entertained a sold-out crowd. Ms. Naytch is a professional Drag Queen from D.C. who performs regularly at Drag Shows, Drag Dinners and even Drag Bingo on the grounds of Chautauqua.

This event is free to everyone at Chautauqua as we hope to further the understanding of the controversial issues surrounding Drag, gender identity, and gender expression.

LGBTQ+ and Friends is an all-volunteer community group and we appreciate your donations to help us offset the cost of our programming.

PROGRAM

F

FRIDAY
JULY 21

Tennis Center.) Email tennis@chq.org the day before to secure your spot. Chautauqua Tennis Center

- 10:45 CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES.** **Mónica Guzmán**, senior fellow for public practice, Braver Angels. Amphitheater
- 11:00 (11-5) **Gallery Exhibitions Open.** Fowler-Kellogg Art Center and Strohl Art Center
- 12:00 (12-2) **Flea Boutique.** (Programmed by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) Behind Colonnade
- 12:15 **CLSC Seven Seals Brown Bag.** *The Great Circle* by Maggie Shipstead. Presented by Jack McCredie. Kate Kimball at Alumni Hall
- 12:15 **Prose Writer-in-Residence Brown Bag Lecture.** (Programmed by the Chautauqua Writers' Center.) **John Brantingham**. Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall Porch
- 12:15 **Challah Baking Class.** (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 12:15 **Twelve Step Meeting.** Marion Lawrence Room, Hurlbut Church
- 12:30 **Chautauqua Dialogues.** (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office.) Disciples of Christ Graybiel House
- 12:30 **Chautauqua Dialogues.** (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office.) Everett Jewish Life Center
- 12:30 **Chautauqua Dialogues.** (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office.) Lutheran House
- 12:30 **Jumu'ah Muslim Prayer.** Hall of Christ Sanctuary
- 12:30 **Garden Walk & Talk.** (Programmed by the Bird, Tree & Garden Club.) Betsy Burgeson, supervisor of garden and landscapes, Chautauqua Institution. Miller Park
- 12:45 **Catholic Speaker Series.** "The Impact of Pope Francis on Church and World." The Rev. Bob Bonnot, retired pastor, Christ Our Savior Parish, Struthers, Ohio. Methodist House Chapel
- 1:00 **Stroke of the Day.** Learn a new tennis stroke. Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 1:00 **English Lawn Bowling.** 20-minute free instruction, then opt to play a game for fee. Bowling Green
- 1:30 **Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds.** Fee. (Purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is handicap accessible.) Leave from Main Gate Welcome Center

- 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
- 7:00 (7-11) **Chautauqua Farmers Market.** Massey and Miller
- 7:00 (7-9) **"Dawn Patrol" Round Robin Doubles.** (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 7:00 (7-11) **Open Pickleball.** No registration required, check in at Pro Shop before you play. Sports Club
- 7:45 **Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program.** Leader: **John Pulleyn** (Japanese Zen Buddhism.) Presbyterian House Chapel
- 7:45 **Episcopal Holy Eucharist.** Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 8:00 **Daily Word Meditation.** (Programmed by Unity of Chautauqua.) Hall of Missions
- 8:15 (8:15-8:45) **Chautauqua Mystic Heart.** Leader: **Monte Thompson** (Movement and Meditation.) Hall of Philosophy Grove
- 8:45 **Catholic Mass.** Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 8:55 (8:55-9) **Chautauqua Prays For 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.** **The Rev. M. Craig Barnes**, president emeritus, Princeton Theological Seminary. Amphitheater
- 9:15 **Jewish Discussions.** (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) "Kabbalah on Meditation and Song." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 10:00 **Opera Conservatory Performance Class.** **Dominic Armstrong**. McKnight Hall
- 10:15 **Service of Blessing and Healing.** UCC Randell Chapel
- 10:30 (10:30-12) **Morning Doubles.** (Programmed by the Chautauqua

OH, GLORY



BRETT PHELPS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Grammy Award-winning vocal ensemble Chanticleer performs "I'll Fly Away," by Albert E. Brumley, Dean Webb and Mitch Jayne, arranged by Tim Keeler, Wednesday evening in the Amphitheater.

- 2:00 **Operalogue.** (Programmed by Chautauqua Opera Company.) *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.* Norton Hall
- 2:00 **Violin Masterclass.** Ilya Kaler. Fletcher Music Hall
- 2:00 INTERFAITH LECTURE SERIES.** **Katherine Smith**, associate dean, Duke Divinity School. **Kate Bowler**. Hall of Philosophy
- 2:30 **Mah Jongg.** (Programmed by 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. Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 3:30 **Maureen Rovegno Retirement Celebration.** (Programmed by the Department of Religion.) Hall of Philosophy
- 3:30 **Islam 101.** "Islam in America." Khalid and Sabeeha Rehman. Hurlbut Church
- 3:30 **Chautauqua Dialogues.** (Sponsored by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office.) Smith Wilkes Hall
- 3:30 **Chautauqua Dialogues.** (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office.) UU House
- 3:30 **Chautauqua Dialogues.**
- 4:00 **OPERA. Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.** (Reserved seating; purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center or Visitors Center ticket offices and one hour before curtain at Norton kiosk.) Norton Hall
- 4:00 **School of Music Piano Program Student Recital.** Donations accepted by the Women's Club to support the School of Music Scholarship Fund. Sherwood-Marsh
- 4:30 **Duff's Famous Chicken Wing Dinner Takeout.** (Programmed by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) CWC House
- 5:00 **Hebrew Congregation Evening Service.** "Kabbalat Shabbat." Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Susan Goldberg Schwartz, cantorial soloist. Shabbat'zza – Post-Service Pizza Picnic in the Park. Bring your own beverage, salad or dessert to share. If rain, service at Smith Wilkes Hall and no Shabbat'zza. Miller Park
- 5:00 (5-6) **Kids Clinic.** (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 5:30 (5:30-7:30) **Open Pickleball.** No registration required, check in at Pro Shop Sports Club
- 6:00 **Cinema Film Screening.** "Blue Jean." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
- 8:15 AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL.** **Melissa Etheridge 2023 Tour.** Amphitheater
- 8:45 **Cinema Film Screening.** "Pretty Problems." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

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BLUE JEAN
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Friday 7/21 8:45

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Sa

SATURDAY
JULY 22

- 7:00 (7-11) **Chautauqua Farmers Market.** Massey and Miller
- 7:15 **Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program.** Leader: **Carol McKiernan** (Silent Meditation/Centering Prayer.) Hall of Philosophy
- 8:00 (8-11) **Open Pickleball.** No registration required, check in at Pro Shop before you play. Tennis Center
- 9:30 **Chabad Jewish House Community Shabbat Service.** Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 9:45 **Hebrew Congregation Sabbath Morning Interfaith Outreach Worship.** Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Susan Goldberg Schwartz, cantorial soloist. Kiddush lunch to follow. Hurlbut Church Sanctuary
- 12:30 **Chabad Jewish House Lunch n' Learn.** "Ethics of our Fathers." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 1:00 (1-5) **Gallery Exhibitions Open.** Fowler-Kellogg Art Center and Strohl Art Center
- 1:30 **Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds.**
- 3:00 **Contemporary Issues Forum.** Gretchen Morgenson, Senior Financial Reporter, NBC News Investigations. Hall of Philosophy
- 4:00 THEATER. Pride and Prejudice** (Reserved seating; purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center or Visitors Center ticket offices and one hour before curtain at Bratton kiosk.) Bratton Theater
- 4:15 **Chautauqua Dialogues.** (Sponsored by the Department of Religion.) Focus on preceding Contemporary Issues Forum. Chautauqua Women's Club at Hall of Missions
- 4:15 **Chautauqua Chamber Music Resident Artist Series. Chautauqua Piano Quartet.** Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall
- 5:00 **Catholic Mass.** Hall of Philosophy
- 5:00 **Contemporary Issues Forum Reception.** Deeper Dialogue with Gretchen Morgenson, Senior Financial Reporter, NBC News Investigations. CWC House
- 5:30 (5:30-7:30) **Open Pickleball.** No registration required, check in at Pro Shop before you play. Sports Club
- 6:00 **Cinema Film Screening.** "Blue Jean." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
- 7:30 CHAUTAUQUA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.** "The Princess Bride" In Concert. **Lawrence Loh**, conductor. Amphitheater
- 8:45 **Cinema Film Screening.** "Pretty Problems." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

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The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
Psalm 23

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