

# The Chautauquan Daily



Kayakers make their way along the shore between Sports Club and the Miller Bell Tower Thursday on Chautauqua Lake. SEAN SMITH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

chqdaily.com Chautauqua, New York WEEKEND EDITION, June 29 & 30, 2024 || THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION \$2.25 Volume CXLVII, Issue 7

## Freedom is theme of Moore-Koikoi's sermons for Week 2

MARY LEE TALBOT  
STAFF WRITER

Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, head of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church since 2016, says the work of bishops is to "oversee the work of the church, working prophetically, evangelically and apostolically with all as they cooperate with the grace of God."



MOORE-KOIKOI

She believes a key component of that cooperation is leaving space for the transforming movement of the Holy Spirit, especially at times when the church is divided and people wonder what the future holds.

"That's spiritual work — remembering who God is and who God has called us to be," she said. "We got God, so we got this."

Moore-Koikoi will serve as chaplain-in-residence at Chautauqua for Week Two. She will preach at the 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning worship service in the Amphitheater. Her sermon title is "The Declaration of Independence: We are Free from Grandma's Context."

She will also preach at the 9:15 a.m. worship services Monday through Friday in the Amp. All of her titles are prefaced with the words "Declaration of Independence."

They include: "We are Free from Peer Reviews,"

"We Are Free from Other People's Stuff," "We Are Free from the Errors of Our Religion," "We Are Free to Love" and "We Are Free to Be A New Creation." Moore-Koikoi earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Loyola College in Maryland in 1988, and a masters and advanced certification in school psychology from the University of Maryland in 1992. She worked as a school psychologist for Anne Arundel County Public Schools for 17 years, serving in leadership roles in the church as a layperson before answering her call to the ordained ministry.

She answered that call while a member of Sharp Street Memorial UMC in Baltimore, her great-grandparents' church and the church which sent her father into ministry. Her husband, the Rev. Raphael Koikoi, served as pastor there until February 2017.

Moore-Koikoi is familiar with church life and ministry in rural, urban and suburban settings. Growing up in a preacher's family, when she was in elementary school, her father served a rural hilltop church. Later, they moved to serve a church in suburban Silver Spring, Maryland, where she went to junior high and high school.

See MOORE-KOIKOI, Page A4

## Honoring our Humanity



Rossen Milanov conducts the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony on July 1, 2017. ERIN CLARK / DAILY FILE PHOTO

### In joyous collaboration, Buffalo Philharmonic to join CSO in Beethoven's enduring Ninth

GABRIEL WEBER  
STAFF WRITER

In a year celebrating not just Chautauqua Institution's sesquicentennial, but the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, it's only fitting to showcase the composer's most beloved, enduring work on the Institution's biggest stage.

At 8:15 p.m. Saturday evening in the Amphitheater, the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Principal Symphonic

Conductor and Music Director Rossen Milanov, will be joined by the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus and music director Adam Luebke for Beethoven's "Ode to Joy," offering a sense of hope and unity in a moment of political division.

"Our community is well aware of the divisiveness in the country right now and this (performance) is an invitation into joy," said Senior Vice President and Chief Program Officer Deborah Sunya Moore. "This is uniquely

special at Chautauqua; we can be in the Amphitheater and experience this together, knowing that about 2,000 other people share that experience with us — regardless of position or belief."

In composing this symphony, his longest and his last, Beethoven was inspired by Friedrich Schiller's poem "Ode to Joy." At the heart of that poem are themes of freedom, unity, and justice.

See ODE TO JOY, Page A4

## At CIF's season opener, Humes to talk trash to fix local, planetary ills

DEBORAH TREFTS  
STAFF WRITER

Last summer and fall, 14 elaborate sculpture exhibits representing marine life, built of plastic debris removed from Oregon's coastline, adorned the grounds. Thanks to the support provided by Jane Batten, the installations of "Washed Ashore — Art to Save the Sea" enlightened Chautauquans about the volume and diversity of plastic garbage in American waterways.



HUMES

Remember the "Jelly Bloom" hanging from the Main Gate Welcome Center's ceiling? "Eli the Eel" above the staircase within Smith

Memorial Library? The penguins, Maggie and Charlette, in Odland Plaza? The triggerfish, Rufus, near the Sports Club?

This summer, the Chautauqua Women's Club will be opening its 2024 Contemporary Issues Forum with a surprisingly hopeful talk about trash — plastic and otherwise. It turns out, there's lots we can do to rescue our households, communities, nation, waterways, oceans and planet from this ugly and debilitating global disease.

At 3 p.m. Saturday in the Hall of Philosophy, Edward Humes will explain what actions Chautauquans can take,

on the grounds and everywhere else, during his presentation titled, "Want to Save the World? Start By Being Less Trashy!"

A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Humes is the prolific author of 17 published nonfiction books, including a serial about prosecutorial misconduct that became both a book and an audiobook. As a freelance writer, he has also "kept (his) hand in journalism from time to time," mainly by writing articles for the Los Angeles Times Magazine and other news magazines.

His pioneering long-form writing style and tenacious, groundbreaking investigations — a number of which have put him in harm's way

— have led to eye-opening revelations about crime, the U.S. justice system, science, nature, and sustainability.

"I grew up in Philadelphia," Humes said. "My parents had me late in life. My dad was a World War II veteran. He bought a small home in the city with the G.I. Bill and established a family."

Signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt two weeks after D-Day, the purpose of the federal G.I. Bill was to reintegrate into society the 16 million veterans who were coming home. Humes said that this legislation's creation of "a generation of homeowners" piqued his interest, which culminated in his 2019 book, *Over*

Here: How the G.I. Bill Transformed the American Dream.

Combining credible statistics and the personal stories of 10 returning vets, *Over Here* brings to life the profound effects of turning a generation of renters into homeowners, and of opening up higher education to eight million military personnel, many of whom had never before considered pursuing a college degree.

Humes himself was a first-generation college student at Hampshire College in western Massachusetts.

"I attended a large regional high school. In Philly, high school was just 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. It was immense. (By the end of 11th

grade, I was in a) graduating class of over 1,200 students. It was bigger than all of Hampshire College. In 12th grade, I transferred to the Parkway Program — famous as the 'school-without-walls.' The idea was to use the city as a platform. (My) inaugural graduating class was eight."

Inspired by nature shows on television in the 1970s, including about Jacques Cousteau, Humes said he'd wanted to be a marine biologist. But when he took a Constitutional law class taught by a Philadelphia attorney with the ACLU as part of his Parkway Program curriculum, his interests broadened.

See HUMES, Page A4

### IN TODAY'S DAILY

#### UPDATES ON THE LAKE

Institution hosts fourth annual conference on Chautauqua Lake, with updates on research.

Page A3



#### A CALL FOR MORAL COURAGE

French, newly named Perry Fellow in Democracy, discusses increased presidential power.

Page A8

#### GOD IN THE MACHINE?

In 'Sacred Synthesis' service, Stafford incorporates AI into worship planning.

Page B5



#### MEETING THE MOMENT

Guided by mission, vision, CTC expands, re-focuses new play development work under Carroll.

Page B8

SATURDAY'S WEATHER  
H 76° L 69°  
Rain: 98%  
Sunset: 8:58 p.m.

SUNDAY  
H 71° L 53°  
Rain: 48%  
Sunrise: 5:45 a.m. Sunset: 8:58 p.m.

MONDAY  
H 71° L 54°  
Rain: 6%  
Sunrise: 5:45 a.m. Sunset: 8:57 p.m.

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



## ENTERTAINMENT



## BRIEFLY

NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

The **Briefly** column appears on page 2 daily and is intended to provide space for announcements from institution-related organizations. If a meeting or activity is featured that day in a story, it should not be repeated in the **Briefly** column. Submit information to Maia Caleca in the Daily's editorial office. Please provide the name of the organization, time and place of meeting and one contact person's name with a phone number. Deadline is 5 p.m. four days before publication.

**Chautauqua Women's Club news**

There will be a Contemporary Issues Forum Speaker Reception featuring Edward Humes at 5 p.m. Saturday at the CWC House. Tickets are available at [chautauquawomensclub.org](http://chautauquawomensclub.org).

**Friends of the Chautauqua Writers' Center news**

The Friends of the Chautauqua Writers' Center holds an Open Mic at 5 p.m. Sunday and every Sunday of the season in the Prose Room on the second floor of the Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall. Open to writers and listeners 18 and over. Use the back door if the front door of Alumni Hall is locked.

Enjoy light refreshments and conversation with the Friends of the Chautauqua Writers' Center at 4 p.m. Wednesday on the porch of the Literary Arts at Alumni Hall. RSVP at [friendsofthewriterscenter@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthewriterscenter@gmail.com).

Come to the Authors Among Us Book Fair, from noon to 2 p.m. July 14 on Bestor Plaza. Chautauqua authors will have their books for sale. To sell your book, apply at [www.chq.org/fcwc](http://www.chq.org/fcwc).

The annual Literary Arts Contests are open to writers of all ages. Electronic submissions through the link that can be found at [www.chq.org/fcwc](http://www.chq.org/fcwc).

**Tennis Center news**

The Tennis Center has several weekly clinics available for varying skill levels. Learn a new tennis stroke everyday of the week in the Stroke of the Day Clinic from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For intermediate players or higher, engage in games and drills in the Morning Clinic from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For children, the Beginners Kids Clinic introduces young players to tennis strokes and general rules from 5 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. And for those looking to branch out from tennis, the Pickleball Clinic arranges games and drills from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The tennis center also has several options to play doubles. The Dawn Patrol invites tennis players to join a doubles round robin each weekday from 7 to 9 am at the Tennis Center. Please check in at the Pro Shop. Morning Doubles offers a later option from 10:30 to 12 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please email the tennis center the day before to sign up. All levels welcome for both men and women.

There is Open Pickleball from 8 to 11 a.m. Sunday through Saturday and from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Tennis Center. Sign in at the Pro Shop and play. For more information, call the Tennis Center at 716-357-6276

**Chautauqua Vegan Group news**

The Chautauqua Vegan Group will be holding a potluck from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday on the back porch of the Fowler-Kellogg Art Center, located at 12 Ramble. Please RSVP to [chqvegan@gmail.com](mailto:chqvegan@gmail.com).

**Chautauqua Opera Guild news**

Join us at 5 p.m. Sunday in the Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall for the Opening Night Costume Extravaganza. Over 35 opera costumes designed and made by Chautauqua's own Cristine Patrick and the late Barney Fitzgerald will be on display to learn about while you sip prosecco and enjoy hors d'oeuvres.

**LGBTQ+ and Friends news**

Following the 4 p.m. Saturday showing of Chautauqua Theater Company's New Play Workshop *Tell Me You're Dying* (or the trial of millicent bonhomme), there will be a gathering in the Intermezzo Bar on the St. Elmo Lower Level. We will buy our own tickets to the show and then afterwards gather at the Intermezzo to meet the cast and crew and share food and drink.

**Chautauqua Softball League news**

The Arthritics take on the Slugs at 5 p.m. Saturday at Sharpe Field.

**Smith Memorial Library news**

The Smith Memorial Library hosts "The Art of Investing" community finance discussion with Dennis Galucki at 4 p.m. Monday in the upstairs classroom of the library.

**Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department Chicken BBQ**

At 11:30 a.m. Sunday on at the Firehall on Massey, the Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department holds its first chicken barbecue of the season, which continues until all meals are sold.

## THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up with the 2024 season at *The Chautauquan Daily* in words, photos, audio and video through out social platforms.



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Add your posts to the conversation using #CHQ.

# With Chipper Experience, Lowell brings magic, mayhem to Chautauqua

GABRIEL WEBER  
STAFF WRITER

Chipper Lowell has an explosive performance and some hilarious magic in store for Chautauqua.

In a show perfect for all ages — edgy, yet clean — complete with audience interaction and improvisation, award-winning comedy magician Lowell will bring "The Chipper Experience! Where Comedy & Magic Collide" to the grounds when he performs at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the Amphitheater.

Lowell made his stage debut at 8 years old as part of the touring show "Disney On Parade." He's been in show business almost his entire life, and it runs in the family: His father was a clown and his mother was an aerialist, both with Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus. During his teen years, Lowell got into comedy, and after high school he worked at Disneyland, performing six to eight times a day, he told *VoyageLA*.

After his Disney experience, which he considers a sort of "boot camp," Lowell performed on cruise ships for about 20 years, creating and working on his solo show all around the world. Now, he feels lucky to live in the Los Angeles area, according to *VoyageLA*, as there are plenty of companies needing a solid comedy show, so now he has decades of experience performing for Fortune 500 companies. He has also been fortunate to land high-profile television appearances on "The Tonight



After the laughs have subsided and they're leaving the theater, I want them to think back and say, 'Hey, wait a minute, ... how the heck did he do those tricks?!?'"

—CHIPPER LOWELL

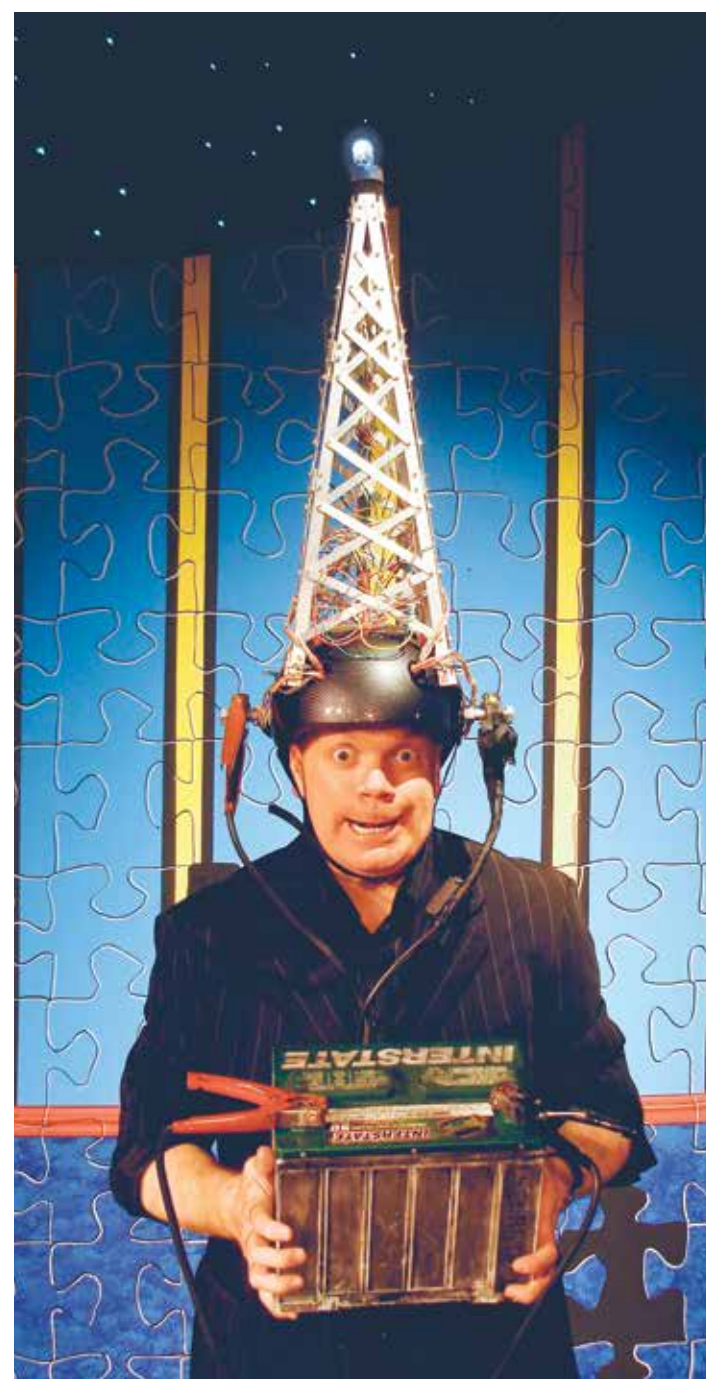
Comedy Magician,  
*The Chipper Experience!*

Show," the Disney Channel, "General Hospital" and "CBS News."

Lowell tries to manage a balance between work and family — which is hard because of touring dates — but being based in Southern California allows for downtime with beaches and great weather. His wife, Lisa, was a Broadway dancer and a Radio City Rockette, and their son has traveled on tour with the family as much as possible.

One of the best parts of performing in front of a live audience, Lowell told *Curtis Theatre Blog* is that he "loves that each and every show is an adventure, in that even though you're delivering a well-thought-out show, there are plenty of opportunities to ad lib and improvise along the way."

He hopes his audience walks away having had "a very fun and memorable evening," he told *Curtis Theatre Blog*, "for the



CHIPPER LOWELL

people to laugh loudly and often, together with their friends and loved ones, and to really connect with each other and the audience as a whole. And after the laughs have subsided and they're leaving the theater, I want them to think back and say, 'Hey, wait a minute, ... how the heck did he do those tricks?!?'"



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## ENVIRONMENT/NEWS

# Water temperature, HABs, insects, Jefferson Project updates all up for discussion at 4th annual conference on Chautauqua Lake health

**JEREMY KOHLER**  
STAFF WRITER

Last Saturday, the Chautauqua Golf Club played host to the fourth annual Chautauqua Lake Conference, featuring four expert presentations about the state of the lake over the past year.

Each presentation highlighted a different research project, either new since last summer or a continuation of existing research, that centered Chautauqua Lake. The presentations covered topics such as water temperature, harmful algal blooms (HABs), aquatic plant species, and insect populations.

One topic that consistently came up during each presentation was the differences between the north and south basins of the lake. Courtney Wigdahl-Perry, a biology professor and lake ecologist at SUNY Fredonia, presented first, dedicating a large portion of her talk to the research she and her students spent the last year conducting at "Bemus Bay."

The bay, which does not officially have a name, is located at the center of Chautauqua Lake, situated right between the north and south basins. Wigdahl-Perry explained that she and her student researchers found that the water trends in Bemus Bay were distinct from both of the other basins. That, she argued, is why it is imperative that the lake is examined in its entirety – each distinct region of the lake is influenced by the other regions

of the lake, and ignoring the other regions would not allow researchers to get the clearest picture of how the lake is changing.

Wigdahl-Perry shared news of a project she's undertaking over the next three years. Through the project, called "Thin Ice," she hopes to better understand the relationship between ice cover and algae, driven by the central question: "How does changing ice cover affect freshwater algae communities?" She said the project would consist of monthly water sampling for the next three years, and that researchers would be using the Miller Bell Tower as one of their sampling locations.

Following a short break, Harry Kolar, an IBM fellow, and Allison Hrycik, a researcher at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, presented updates from The Jefferson Project, now in its fourth year at Chautauqua Lake.

Kolar, joining the conference via Zoom, spoke about some of the methods The Jefferson Project uses to monitor water quality in the lake, including brand new tributary monitoring stations, the first wave of which were installed over the past year. The stations allow researchers to measure the impacts that rivers flowing into the lake may have on the lake ecosystem, including things like chemicals, sediment, nutrients, and organisms.

The Jefferson Project is

also monitoring HABs, Hrycik said, which are caused by cyanobacteria in freshwater ecosystems. Cyanobacteria is known for its distinctive blue-green color, and, as such, is often referred to simply as blue-green algae.

"These blooms can be harmful to humans, pets and wildlife," she said. "They contain toxins – including neurotoxins – which go after the brain and nervous system, and hepatotoxins, which affect the liver."

While not all blooms are toxic, she said there was no way to know for certain without testing, so it is important to avoid recreating in areas where blue-green algae is present.

Hrycik also discussed some of the findings that came from the over 1,100 water samples researchers collected from Chautauqua Lake in 2023. One of the key takeaways from that research was that the lake has a very high amount of nutrients like phosphorus, which cyanobacteria need to grow; she said that one of the project's goals for this year is to better understand the source of those nutrients.

Following Kolar and Hrycik's presentation, conference attendees were able to visit booths set up by organizations or entities involved in the conservation of Chautauqua Lake: Chautauqua-Conewango Consortium, Chautauqua County, Chautauqua Lake Association, Chautau-



EMILEE ARNOLD / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chautauquans, regional stakeholders, and lake scientists mingle before the beginning of the fourth annual Chautauqua Lake Conference on June 22 at the Chautauqua Golf Club.

qua Lake Partnership, Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance, and Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy.

The final portion of the conference consisted of two presentations from Claire McMahon and Melanie Rooney, both graduate students at SUNY Oneonta.

McMahon discussed her research on aquatic plants in Chautauqua Lake using the Point Intercept Rake Toss Relative Abundance Method, or PIRTRAM. When utilizing PIRTRAM, researchers toss a rake into the water, then pull it back onto their boat or research station, allowing it to gather aquatic plants at or near the surface of the water. Then, researchers sort the plants by species

and rate their abundance on a scale ranging from "none" to "very dense."

In Chautauqua Lake, McMahon used PIRTRAM to monitor the abundance of Eurasian Water Milfoil, a non-native plant species that can cause serious problems for a lake if its population grows very quickly. She explained that using PIRTRAM allows researchers to better understand trends in the population of Eurasian Water Milfoil in the lake, thus making it easier to quickly identify if the plant will cause serious issues.

Rooney, the conference's final speaker, spoke about her work studying herbivorous insects last year. She focused her research mainly on weevils and caddis flies,

and their relationships with Eurasian Water Milfoil.

Rooney observed a sharp decline over the past year in the amount of milfoil, meaning she was only able to collect 213 out of the normal 375 samples she would collect for this research. Consequently, she also observed declines in the populations of both weevils and caddis flies across all the locations she sampled last year compared to previous years.

Throughout the entire conference, two ideas continued to be repeated: that Chautauquans must continue to be conscious of their impact on local ecosystems, and that Chautauqua Lake is incredibly complex, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach to studying the lake.

# Filmmaker Lee, conservationist Veale to screen 'Last Ranger,' illuminating devastation of South African rhino poaching

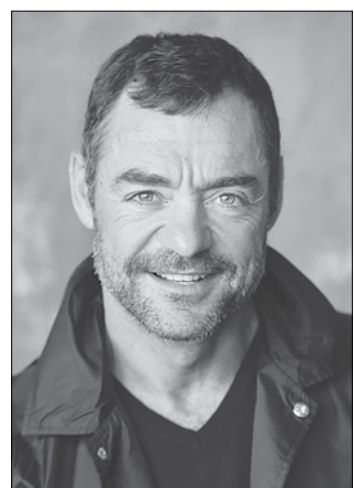
**JEREMY KOHLER**  
STAFF WRITER

David Lee has spent his entire life around movies. His mother was an Emmy-nominated casting director, talent agent and producer. His sister is a film and television director. And he's been acting since he was 19 years old.

At 9:15 p.m. Sunday in Smith Wilkes Hall, the Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative will screen "The Last Ranger," Lee's first foray into writing for the screen, which has a run time of 28 minutes. That's followed by a discussion with Lee and Mike Veale, founder and president of Global Conservation Force.

"The Last Ranger" tells the story of a young girl and her father who find themselves caught in the middle of the rhino poaching epidemic that has eviscerated much of South Africa's rhinoceros population over the past 15 years.

The story is deeply personal to Lee, who grew up in South Africa and currently lives in Los Angeles. In 2018, he was visiting a friend who worked as a wildlife veterinarian in



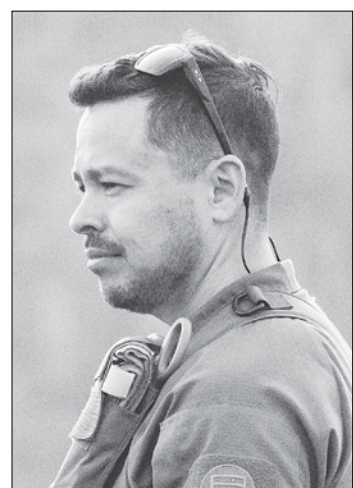
LEE

South Africa. Lee's friend received a call about an injured rhino that had been found at a neighboring farm. The rhino had been poached and its horn had been removed.

"I was just devastated," Lee said. "I'd never sat in an environment like that before."

He asked his friend what he could do, how he could prevent the same demise for other rhinos in his native country.

"His response is always, 'Just get the story out, get people talking,'" Lee said. "Make sure the conversa-



VEALE

tion is had about poaching and the severity of it, and how close these rhinos are going to come to extinction if people don't talk about it and do something about it."

Lee knew the best way for him to spread the word was to stay within the world he had spent over half of his life working in: film.

He had wanted to write a movie for some time by then, and he immediately knew that this story was one that deserved to be turned into a film. Originally, he planned for "The Last Ranger" to be a full length,



action-packed thriller, featuring huge battles between poachers and rangers. Lee compared the early drafts to "Blood Diamond," a film about the violent diamond trade in Sierra Leone at the turn of the 21st century.

The original idea proved to be a massive undertaking, and Lee was struggling to finish the whole screenplay. Then, in 2021, he was approached by a pair of producers hoping to find short stories from different countries around the world.

"I said, 'Well, I don't have

a short, but I can rewrite what I've got,'" Lee recalled saying.

So he transformed the original story into a short film, centering the dynamic of the young girl and her father, and drawing inspiration from a real rhino: Thandi, who survived a brutal poaching attempt and went on to have five calves. The veterinarian that led the effort to save Thandi was the same veterinarian who implored Lee to spread the word about the brutal reality of poaching in South Africa.

The movie was filmed in one week on location in South Africa. Lee recalled partnering with anti-poaching organizations and rangers, including Veale and his Global Conservation Force, to ensure the content of the film was as accurate as possible. The team behind the film even set up ranger training sessions for the actors in the film.

The film began showing at film festivals around the world in 2023, winning multiple awards for

audience favorite and best short film. And in February of this year, "The Last Ranger" won Best Narrative Short at the Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles, qualifying it for consideration at the 2025 Academy Awards.

"Hopefully, if we can get it into a couple of rounds of the Oscars, and into the final round, then it reaches millions of people," Lee said. "And the hope is that it'll get picked up ... and more people will see it, more people talk about it, (and) more people will be aware of the necessity of where we're at with this devastating rhino situation."

After the film was finished, Lee recalled showing it to William Fowlds, his veterinarian friend that inspired Lee to make the movie.

"He said, 'It's amazing, because it means the voice will get out there, and then people talk about it,'" Lee recalled. "And all the rhinos that have died and that have suffered, haven't suffered and died in vain. That's the important thing."

# Chautauqua Cinema work to begin Week 2, last until fall

After sharing the news June 19 that the Chautauqua Cinema would not open for the 2024 season due to the discovery of visible green mold, the Institution shared Friday that crews would begin mold mitigation and ventilation system upgrades next week.

The work is expected to take up to eight weeks, and the Institution plans to re-open the Cinema, housed in the historic Higgins Hall constructed in 1895, for the 2025 season.

An initial building check

in April gave no indication of mold; however, mold was discovered in the building on May 29 during the Town of Chautauqua's Code Enforcement Officer's annual inspection of the building. Buffalo-based Stohl Environmental conducted an initial site visit on June 5, investigating mold growth, scope and strain, and issued a report to the Institution on June 19 to help inform a plan for necessary abatement work.

Billy Schmidt, cinema director, was quoted in Fri-

day's announcement as being "very pleased to see this work happening so quickly, and I will be thrilled to welcome you back to the Chautauqua Cinema next June."

Plans are underway for finding alternative venues for film screenings this summer, according to the Institution's June 19 announcement. Since then, several screenings programmed by the Chautauqua Climate Initiative have been re-located to Smith Wilkes Hall.

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## FROM PAGE ONE

## HUMES

FROM PAGE A1

"From that, I saw value in more experimental approaches," Humes continued. "I entered Hampshire College in the fall of 1975 and was in the fifth graduating class. Ken Burns was in the first. I took courses at Amherst, UMass, and Smith Colleges. ... There I shifted to journalism; journalism of social consciousness, such as the muckrakers of the early 20th century."

As a college student, Humes began working part-time for a newspaper. There his "reporting triumph" was his front page article about a community scandal involving the heating system at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

It wasn't working, and everyone was cold.

Upon investigation, he discovered that the system "was so incompetently constructed that the heating pipes were installed backwards; the conduits all failed because the air was pushing the opposite way."

In 1979, Humes accepted an offer from *The Texas Observer* in Austin, which had been co-founded in 1954 to cover issues that the daily newspapers in Texas had largely been ignoring — primarily racism, class inequity, and working people.

From the *Observer*, he said he made a "big shift" to the "fertile terrain" of *The Pine Bluff Commercial*, Arkansas's second-largest daily paper.

As it happens, this past Tuesday the *Pine Bluff* posted "OPINION | EDITORIAL: Waste Management not managing waste." Of late, Pine Bluff's garbage collector has not been collecting all of the city's garbage.

From Arkansas, Humes moved to Tucson, Arizona, for

a job at *The Tucson Citizen*, the city's afternoon newspaper, and until 2014, the state's oldest continuously published newspaper. There he learned how to cover the courthouse.

After working for three newspapers in 10 years, Humes learned from his predecessor on the citizen's court beat about *The Orange County Register* and moved to southern California. He said that the *Register* had been an unusual, Libertarian-leaning newspaper and was then in competition with the *Los Angeles Times*.

Half of Humes' time at the *Register* was to be spent covering the large defense presence in Orange County, including the U.S. Marine Corps aviation base, large naval and National Guard bases, and aerospace and weapons design. The other half was to be spent on general assignments.

"For his in-depth reporting on the military establishment in Southern California," Humes received the 1989 Pulitzer Prize in Specialized Reporting.

After a private plane and a jet liner collided, Humes "became part of the team that tried to break into the reason why." For a while, he focused on that investigation instead of the military.

When an American — "the nephew of the most senior U.S. Customs official" — was found murdered on the Mexico/Texas border and an international manhunt ensued, a publisher asked Humes to write a book about the crime.

During his year-long leave from the *Register*, he discovered a cult committing human sacrifices to protect drug smuggling in Matamoros. He said that finding that U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency investigations and an inter-agency war impeded

apprehension, was as interesting to him as the murder.

In order to write *Buried Secrets: A True Story of a Serial Murder*, Humes said he "learned a form of very long-form writing," which "at that time, no one was teaching." In part, he studied the works of John McPhee, and to a lesser degree Truman Capote.

Chilling as *Buried Secrets* is, "it worked so well" that his publisher asked him what his next book would be. "My first child was on the way," he said, "and it was very appealing to me to be at home" writing.

Sticking with crime, Humes wrote *Murderer With a Badge: The Secret Life of a Rogue Cop*. It chronicles Bill Leasure — a traffic cop nicknamed Mild Bill, in part for rarely issuing tickets — who became L.A.'s "dirtiest cop" by running highly profitable scams. He stole yachts, collected cars and guns, and established a trigger-for-hire ring, all while bamboozling his wife, an otherwise savvy city prosecutor.

"Eventually he was caught on the deck of one of the stolen boats, with some crew," said Humes. "He said he was duped by them."

After being granted full immunity to become an informant, one of the crew — a school bus driver — said that he had killed three people for Leasure.

"Mild Bill was convicted, and he's never been paroled," Humes said. "You can make a story like that read like crime fiction, which is what people want."

*Mississippi Mud: Southern Justice and the Dixie Mafia* was his third crime book. It is his bestseller, and like *Buried Secrets* and *Murder With a Badge*, the corruption and crimes uncovered, and the networks involved, are astonishing. Read them to believe them.

Having worked and lived in Arkansas, Humes said he felt he had enough knowledge to help the daughter of a couple murdered in Biloxi crack the case. Lynne Sposito's father had been a Mississippi judge, and her mother the leading

candidate for mayor of Biloxi.

Humes said that he phoned Sposito, they spoke for three hours, the next day he traveled cross-country to meet with her, and thereafter he immersed himself in Biloxi, which was "a little scary sometimes, with scary people." A "proper Southern town" on the surface, in reality it was "mired in corruption" — like "midnight in the garden of good and evil." Currently, *Mississippi Mud* is in development for a film.

*The Forever Witness: How DNA and Genealogy Solved a Cold Case Murder*, published in late 2022, is Humes' latest crime book. Currently, it is also in development for a film.

After *Mississippi Mud*, Humes decided to transition to a book requiring a more immersive style of research and investigation. The result was *No Matter How Loud I Shout: A Year in the Life of Juvenile Court*.

"L.A.'s juvenile court was the largest in the U.S. at the time, if not the world," Humes said. "That left me wanting to know the larger story. The presiding judge supervises hundreds of court houses."

After he convinced this judge to give him carte blanche to go anywhere necessary to truly "represent what happens day-to-day," a wise chaplain who had helpfully opened doors for him convinced him to teach a writing course to high risk offenders.

"That changed the whole project," Humes said. "I got to meet offenders. ... Sometimes I would encounter one of their cases in juvenile court. My book has been adopted on campuses ... and is still very much in print. That was a new kind of story; a model I really liked."

*No Matter How Loud I Shout*, published in January 1996, won the PEN Center USA award for research non-fiction, and the Best Book award from Investigative Reporters and Editors Published by Simon and Schuster.

Humes then focused on the prosecutorial misconduct serial and book noted earlier.

## MOORE-KOIKOI

FROM PAGE A1

She attended Wesley Seminary and was appointed as a student pastor to "a small congregation with a proud Evangelical United Brethren heritage in a section of East Baltimore that was experiencing change."

The congregation had to learn how to navigate that change. Later, she was ap-

pointed associate pastor at Calvary UMC, a large congregation in Annapolis. Ordained an elder in 2010, she served on the Conference staff working with churches on discipleship. She later served as district superintendent for the Greater Washington Area, and then as superintendent of the Baltimore Metropolitan District.

In that role, she played a key spiritual role in the city

*Mean Justice: A Town's Terror, A Prosecutor's Power, A Betrayal of Innocence* was honored as a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of 1999.

"I switched gears completely and embedded in a neonatal ER, moving from crime, to children and crime, to children," Humes said. He served as author in residence for a year at a top neonatal intensive care unit. *Baby ER: The Heroic Doctors and Nurses Who Perform Medicine's Tiniest Miracles*, published in January 2000, tells that story.

For his third book of this genre, *School of Dreams: Making the Grade at a Top American High School*, Humes immersed himself in a Los Angeles-area high school where a grassroots revolt led to its transformation from a failing public school to one of the nation's best. The year was 2001, the United States was shaken following Sept. 11, and as it turned out, a high percentage of the students were Muslim.

*School of Dreams* earned Humes a *Washington Post* Book World "Rave," a Booklist Editor's Choice, and an American School Board Journal's "Must Read," published by Harcourt.

The path that led Humes to his books on nature and sustainability began with the environmental writing he had done in Arkansas for *The Pine Bluff Commercial* and to a lesser extent for *Tucson Citizen*.

His first such book was *Eco Barons: The New Heroes of Environmental Activism*, followed by *Force of Nature: The Unlikely Story of Wal-Mart's Green Revolution — How It Could Transform Business and Save the World*.

*Garbology: Our Dirty Love Affair with Trash* came next, in 2012. It led to articles written by Humes for *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes* and *Sierra Magazine*.

On the *Garbology* page of his website, Humes wrote: "What is America's largest export, most prodigious product and greatest legacy — the biggest thing we make? Our

trash. Each of us is on track to toss 102 tons of garbage in a lifetime, 7.1 pounds a day, every day."

It continues: "We roll to the curb our collective body weight each year — eighteen times over. Our disposable plastic alone outweighs the entire U.S. Navy — and it costs us hundreds of billions of dollars."

Published earlier this year, *Total Garbage: How We Can Fix Our Waste and Heal the World*, provides far more than just a *Garbology* update.

In both books, Humes points out the flawed methodology that the Environmental Protection Agency has been using to calculate the average number of pounds of trash that each American throws away every day, in order to make it appear that Americans are far less wasteful than they actually are.

Based on the measurable data collected and analysis conducted by Columbia University's Earth Engineering Center, Humes states in *Total Garbage* that "EPA's latest trash data is total garbage. ... The real numbers put Americans' trashiness at 8.2 pounds a day for every man, woman, and child."

According to Humes, the EPA officially claims that Americans' personal waste footprint is 4.9 pounds a day.

"The reason that I wanted to write (*Total Garbage*) is that waste is not just what we roll to the curb every week," Humes said. "It's so imbedded and omnipresent we don't notice it anymore. It's one of our biggest problems. But it's hopeful because there are no waste doubters. And it has a household solution, a community solution, a local solution, and a systemic solution for the entire country."

Moreover, "fixing our waste not only helps save the world, but it's the secret sauce that turns helplessness and anxiety into opportunity and unity. When waste is the common enemy, fixing the planet stops being about giving up things we love. Instead, it's about upgrading to stuff we'll love better."



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## THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

## BACK ISSUES OF THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

If you would like any back issues of the newspaper, please stop at the *Daily* Business Office in Logan Hall.

ven chose to include those being "othered" at the time; the "Turkish March," all turca, includes the verse "Be embraced, Millions! This kiss to all the world!"

"(Don't) just recognize the beauty and art — there's a morality lesson," Levy said.

But before "Ode to Joy," Saturday's program opens with Howard Hanson's "Song of Democracy" joining the Beethoven in a celebration of collective, connected humanity.

Hanson composed the "Song of Democracy" in 1957, based on a text by Walt Whitman; Hanson's musical Romanticism and Whitman's optimism hold close the idea of inclusive democracy, based on equal respect and dignity for all individuals. The entirety of Hanson's work reflects a deeply held conviction in spirit.

## THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

## BACK ISSUES OF THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

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in 2015 during the unrest after the death of Freddie Gray in police custody. She helped to organize United Methodist churches to open their doors and minister to children and families whose schools were closed, and to meet other basic needs. She became the face of the United Methodist Church, and church volunteers in red shirts were visible walking through neighborhoods, praying for and

ministering to people.

Moore-Koikoi sees herself as a bridge-builder, clear and confident about what she believes, while respecting others who might not believe the same way.

Her vision is of a diverse church that embraces justice and the life-saving love of Christ. It won't be easy, she said, "but I remind myself, God has got this. God is in control."

Luebke, music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, has experience with both pieces on Saturday's program. He's performed Beethoven's Ninth four times before, and said both works continue to be relevant. To Luebke, Beethoven's Ninth — "the greatest symphony ever written" — is both consistently fresh and known "inside and out."

"(The Ninth) is so frequently performed and beloved, there's a life to it that endures; the universality of Schiller's text and the nature of the melody is uplifting," Luebke said. "This is a testament to the greatness of the music; it continues to be relevant and finds a way to inspire based on its musical construction and the way it uplifts the text."

Coming together through music, and to make music, reminds Luebke that "you're doing something you couldn't do on your own, you need everybody else to be a part of the music. Even for individuals singing the same, everybody's voice is different and it adds to the overall sound."

"Celebrating that we can be together is an important piece of history, especially as it endures today," Luebke said. "(These values) will

always continue to be important to share and give voice to; that's a privilege our singers get to be a part of."

Chautauqua's sesquicentennial celebration programming is not only multidisciplinary, but multigenerational. Moore loves seeing families with young people at the CSO's concerts, and said that with no intermission, Saturday's performance would be a great concert to bring kids to.

"When children engage in music, there's a discipline that's taught through music," she said. "But I also think that music becomes a language with which we can express ourselves, even if you aren't the person making music yourself, the feeling you get allows us to feel more deeply, and ultimately be more human."

In his work, Levy has analyzed Beethoven's Ninth in great detail, focusing on the cultural and musical meanings — but he feels an emotional attachment as well.

"Only the most cynical of listeners can walk away from a performance of the Ninth Symphony without sensing that all could be well with the world, if only the world wished it so," he said.



# NEWS

Welcome to Week Two of our Summer Assembly. Since announcing our 2024 season, there has been one week in particular that has captured the imagination of Chautauquans, and it comes this week with the theme of “The AI Revolution.”

Artificial intelligence has loomed large in cultural consciousness for more than a century, primarily relegated to speculative works of fiction. Technology is now seeing exponential growth and adoption, accelerating the need for answers to questions posed by novelists and scientists — questions of ethics, of law, of nature. With AI no longer niche and imagined, but mainstream and real, what will we do with the tools it offers us for efficiency and creation? How do we balance risk with opportunity? Can artificial intelligence evolve into artificial humanity, or can it allow for humans to be more human?

We wracked our brains on how we could possibly unpack this important topic in five lectures, and, no, we didn't ask ChatGPT to do it for us! We're grateful to our guides this week, who include Joanna Stern, senior personal technology columnist at *The Wall Street Journal*. She opens our week with an up-to-the-minute primer on how artificial intelligence has developed ever-more-rapidly and considers where we may be headed as these remarkable and potentially dangerous technologies continue to evolve. On Tuesday, Conrad Tucker — who serves as both the Arthur Hamerschlag Career Development Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University and commissioner of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce AI Commission on Competitiveness, Inclusion and Innovation — will help us to understand, from an engineer's perspective, the actual mechanics of AI and the large language models that drive it: how they were constructed, how they work, and what their potential is — both good and bad. On Wednesday, two stewards of Hollywood family legacies — Kelly Carlin and Jodely Fisher — will appear together in conversation to discuss how AI is impacting the creative community, the threats posed to artists, their livelihoods and their legacies, and the opportunities presented by ethically incorporating AI into creative work. Carlin is an author and television producer, and Fisher is an actor, director, author, and secretary-treasurer of SAG-AFTRA. Andrew Steer, the president and CEO of the Bezos Earth Fund, joins the Chautauqua Lecture Series on the Fourth of July to share details about the Bezos Earth Fund's newly announced AI for Climate and Nature Grand Challenge, which will award up to \$100 million in grants to explore



## From the President

COLUMN BY MICHAEL E. HILL

how modern AI might help address climate change and nature loss. Andrew will join me and John Kelly, former executive vice president of IBM and the “father of Watson” in a master class on that same day in Norton Hall. We wrap up the week with Jamie Metzl, one of the world's leading technology and healthcare futurists, with a discussion of his latest book: *Superconvergence: How the Genetics, Biotech, and AI Revolutions will Transform Our Lives, Work, and World*.

In our companion Interfaith Lecture Series, we look at “Religion's Intersections: Interdisciplinary Imagination with Science, Technology, and AI.” Leading off this series is Nicholas Carr, author of the Pulitzer Prize-nominated book, *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains*.

We also welcome Margarita Simon Guillory, associate professor of religion and African American studies and inaugural associate director of digital humanities at Boston University; Sigal Samuel, senior reporter for Vox; and Sylvester A. Johnson, associate vice provost for public interest technology and executive director of the Tech for Humanity initiative at Virginia Tech. We conclude the series with Matthew B. Crawford, senior fellow at the University of Virginia's Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture.

We offer a special welcome to the chaplain of the week, Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, resident bishop of the Pittsburgh Episcopal Area and one of the assigned bishops of the Harrisburg Episcopal Area. We look forward to her pastoral presence and her prolific preaching.

We look forward to welcoming our Chautauqua Liter-

ary and Scientific Circle author Martha Brockenbrough for a talk on the week's CLSC selection, *Future Tense: How We Made Artificial Intelligence—and How it Will Change Everything*. That sounds like an excellent primer for the week!

Of course, Week Two brings us Independence Day, and no one does the Fourth of July like Chautauqua. We look forward to the traditional picnic and concert on Bestor Plaza — highlighted by the Children's School Parade, as well as the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra's concert under the baton of Principal Pops Conductor Stuart Chafetz. We also encourage your engagement in the Chautauqua Theater Company New Play Workshop, *Tell Me You're Dying*, the Chautauqua Opera Company performances of *Love and Longing by the Lake*, the opening of our 2024 School of Art Faculty Exhibition and so much more!

As we look at the second week of our 150th anniversary season, I cannot help but express gratitude for the rich experiences of Week One. From the moving words of Fr. Greg Boyle to our lectures on the American presidency and rich performing arts and enriching recreational experiences, the week represented a robust exploration. It was a particular joy to introduce and celebrate our inaugural Chautauqua Perry Fellows in Democracy, Melody Barnes and David French. And wasn't it timely that we conducted this conversation in alignment with the first presidential debate? It's magical when Chautauquans are exploring a topic that is in the headlines in real time.

Thanks, also, to all who helped us celebrate the public launch of Boundless, A Campaign for Chautauqua through a special event on the Amphitheater stage. Chautauquans have been so generous, and it was a joy to lift up so many stories of success.

Welcome to Week Two, Chautauqua. While we are exploring AI this week, I cherish that we do this not in an artificial space, but in an authentic and beautiful community full of humanity.

*Michael E. Hill*



### Week Two Events

**Eventide**

Scott McDonald  
How educators are meeting the challenges of ChatGPT  
Wednesday July 3, 6:30 pm  
Location: Ballroom of Alumni Hall

**Docent Tours - Alumni or Pioneer Halls**

Location: Lobby of Alumni or Pioneer Hall  
1:15 pm - Monday June 24  
1:15 pm - Wednesday June 26

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Week 2: July 1-3, 2024; 3:30-5:00 PM  
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- 3.IDENTIFY THE RESOURCES YOU NEED TO STAY MOTIVATED ON YOUR JOURNEY.

ACCOUNTABILITY EVANGELIST

### A Talk on Christian Science

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We can seem trapped by circumstances— but living a spiritual sense of God-given liberty opens the way to overcome what binds us.

**Sunday, June 30 @ 1:30pm**

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21 Foster Avenue



**Nicole Virgil, CS**  
Christian Science practitioner  
Member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship

716.357.2334  
[www.ChristianScienceChautauqua.com](http://www.ChristianScienceChautauqua.com)

## High Tea

In the Athenaeum Hotel Parlor at 3:30 pm

A program of poetry and music presented by Kaye Lindauer with Arlene Hajinlian, Pianist, and other guests

**Week 2 – Tuesday, July 2  
Hansel and Gretel Tea**

Upcoming Teas: Week 4 – Wednesday, July 17,  
Week 6 – Thursday, August 1, Week 8 – Friday, August 16

Tickets may be purchased by calling the Athenaeum Hotel front desk at (716) 357-4444 or in advance in person at Hotel front desk.

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## Summer Class with Kaye Lindauer

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Classes also zoomed weeks 3,5,7 at 3:30-4:30

**Week 2: July 1 - July 5**

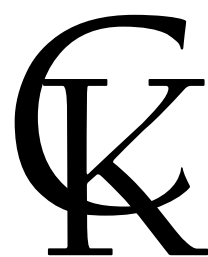
(4 days – No class on July 4)

### Snow White and the Psychology of Envy

The psyche talks about itself in fairy tales of transformation of consciousness and renewal. Explore images in this classic story as metaphors for understanding your own life. Concepts such as the mother archetype and others will be discussed from the perspective of Jungian psychology. Film excerpts included.

To register for in-person class attendance: 1) [learn.chq.org](http://learn.chq.org), listed under General Interest in Special Studies Catalogue; or 2) In person at Hultquist 2nd floor; or 3) Call 716-357-6250.

To register for Zoom class(es): 1) [learn.chq.org/catalog](http://learn.chq.org/catalog); scroll down, Zoom class registration on page 1 or 2) In person at Hultquist 2nd floor; or 3) by calling 716-357-6250



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## NEWS

## From the IDEA Desk

COLUMN BY AMIT TANEJA

To assume good intent  
... or not?

Is it just me, or does the world around us feel tense? We are experiencing great divisions in our society and quickly losing our ability to relate to those who are different from us or those we simply disagree with. Us-versus-them seems to be a standard operating procedure. If we fear the “others,” then we are going to be prone to interpret every action in the most negative light, often to confirm and reinforce our conscious and unconscious biases. This, in turn, creates further division and reinforces our differences in a never-ending cycle. How, then, do we break out of this cycle?

A few years ago, I was working at a Jesuit institution of higher education, and one of the greatest gifts the Jesuits gave to me was the concept of presupposition. It boils down to this: In an ambiguous situation, you are prone to get the best possible outcomes when you choose to interpret or understand the situation in the best possible light. Another way to say it might be to assume good will.

To be honest, I was quite resistant to this idea. It seemed too simple, even unrealistic. I feigned interest in the concept as I was deeply skeptical of it. Thankfully, a very patient Jesuit at my college didn't give up on me, and after some conversations he offered me some feedback. He posited that I was expecting presupposition to happen on its own. Instead, he said that I must make a conscious choice to practice presupposition. A conscious choice? To see most, if not all, situations in the best possible light? I was intrigued, but still skeptical. “What do you have to lose by giving it a shot? The worst thing that might happen is that you find out that presupposition does not work for you,” he said. We made a deal that my New Year's resolution was to consciously choose to practice presupposition.

Fast forward to New Year's morning. Let's just say that I have never caught the worm because I am not an early bird. I might even own a mug that proudly proclaims “Don't talk to me until I have had a cup of coffee.” My husband, on the other hand, is up before sunrise most mornings. We also differ in one other important way. I believe that dirty dishes belong only in the sink or the dishwasher — also known as the correct way. He, on the other hand, views every counter surface as an extension of the sink. If you fall in the latter category, I am sorry to tell you that you are simply wrong.

Back to my story. I wake up on New Year's Day a bit groggy. I have not had my coffee. I wake up to dishes everywhere. And I mean everywhere. My husband had been up for hours, apparently cooking enough to feed a small army. In that moment, all I needed was a bit of space to put down my coffee mug, but no clean, empty counter surface was to be found. My non-cafeinated instinct was to be cranky, my first thought was to say, “Why? Why can't you put the dishes in the sink?” But before I could utter those words that would have started the year off on the wrong foot, my Jesuit friend's voice gently popped into my head. Practice presupposition.

There I stood, still skeptical, and trying to think of a good reason why anyone would leave dishes all over the counter. In the few moments I took to think of a good reason, I walked my husband and said “Happy New Year, honey! I wanted to start the New Year off right, so I have cooked you a surprise breakfast with all your favorites. Oh, and don't worry about the dishes. I knew you were sleeping, so I didn't want to wake you up by making noise. I'll take care of it.”

My friends, my jaw fell to the floor! Just a brief pause — to simply take a breath to understand that situation in the best possible light — completely altered how we started off that New Year. If that was not a divine sign, I don't know what is. You can only imagine my excitement when I scurried back to my Jesuit colleague to recant this story and proclaim “This presupposition thing! It works!” He smiled with a smirk in his eye and simply said, “I know.”

I love this telling this story, even if I don't come off looking great in it. The lesson is more important than the details. What would our relationships, our neighborhoods, and our society look like if we all made a conscious choice to practice presupposition? What would Chautauqua look like if we all decided to extend grace and see the best in others? Will it change the world entirely? Probably not. But I would call it a good start.

Amit Taneja  
Senior Vice President  
Chief Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility Officer



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## 2025 Summer Assembly Themes

A LOOK AT NEXT SEASON'S CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES

**Week One • June 21–28, 2025****Themes of Transformation:****Forces Shaping Our Tomorrow**

We live in a state of flux. Down to our very cells, transformation is constant and unavoidable, and in this anthology week we resist the comfort of stasis to confront the trends, discoveries and challenges that are molding our future landscape. We'll consider our own role in the changes around us: Are we catalysts or mere reactionaries?

- What are the current forces of transformation and change in the summer of 2025? Why do these forces elicit both feelings of cultural instability and loss, as well as the thrill of new opportunities?
- Are we, in fact, living in an era of rapid, unprecedented transformation? What can the bellwethers of the past portend for what is to come?
- As we identify the current forces transforming our lives, how do we then use that insight to confidently navigate the future?

Through insightful, interdisciplinary case studies, Chautauqua will bring together social scientists, economists, changemakers and futurists to examine the impact of transformation on us, our communities and our world.

**Week Two • June 28–July 5, 2025****Comedy Now: A Week Curated with Lewis Black**

In Partnership with the National Comedy Center  
Longtime friend of Chautauqua and National Comedy Center Advisory Board Member Lewis Black, the celebrated comedian known for his trademark acerbic style, helps curate a laugh-inducing and thought-provoking week dedicated to the craft and practice of comedy.

- Comedians are some of our most steadfast defenders of free speech — how does this manifest in an era of “woke” culture? Where is the line, when must it move, and who decides?
- The comedy world is more dynamic than ever before, with new formats, platforms, and voices emerging to speak to audiences with vast and varied perspectives. How have the most innovative, novel artists in this landscape carved out a space for their art, captured an audience, and pushed the craft forward?
- We'll consider how genres, styles and content have been evolved and perfected to meet modern tastes and sensibilities — and what has outright disappeared or been actively rejected. Are these all positive developments?

In a week also featuring a live performance based on Lewis's popular podcast “The Rant is Due,” the sharpest voices across comedy generations come together at Chautauqua to help us explore these critical questions and others — if we can hear them over the laughter.

**Confirmed lecturers:**

- Lewis Black, celebrated standup comedian and actor, “Inside Out 2”

**Week Three • July 5–12, 2025****Art in Action: Building Community Through the Arts**

Chautauqua has long offered a cross-fertilization of art forms, bringing together art makers and art lovers in community — and increasingly it serves as an incubator for new, exciting work, providing a window into the process of creative experimentation and excellence.

- Why do we create, and how is art a part of the everyday?
- What are the dual roles and responsibilities of the artist and the audience, both in the moment and beyond? When is there more to say about a work that has captured our imagination?
- What do works of art tell us about cultural, political, and social ideas and/or ideals?

This week aims to connect impactful artistic experiences with a deeper understanding of artistic meaning and process from the makers themselves.

**Confirmed lecturers:**

- George Saunders, author, *Lincoln in the Bardo*

**Week Four • July 12–19, 2025****The Future of the American Experiment**

A Week in Partnership with American Enterprise Institute and Brookings Institution

Chautauqua brings two of America's most highly regarded think tanks together on its historic lecture platform for a series of discussions on the issues driving the national discourse.

- What is the state of our democratic republic today? What does our history and our present foretell about the future of the American experiment and our standing in the world?
- What now constitutes the “American dream,” and how can we make it accessible to all who wish to achieve it?
- How can Americans find common ground on our most urgent challenges following a bruising national election and continued partisan division? Where are there green shoots of hope?

AEI and Brookings experts show the way, in the Chautauqua tradition of sharing diverse and divergent perspectives in smart, good-faith conversation.

**Confirmed lecturers:**

- Robert Doar, president, American Enterprise Institute
- Cecilia Elena Rouse, president, Brookings Institution

**Week Five • July 19–26, 2025****Innovation in Capitalism:****How to Meet 21st-Century Challenges?**

Twenty-five years into the 21st century — and in light of world-shaking events that define recent history such as Big Tech's emergence as the dominant industry, global conflicts, financial collapses and a deadly pandemic — this week

we put our finger on the pulse of the global economy, and especially the American capitalist system.

- Where are we seeing encouraging trends, persistent challenges, and potential future headwinds and tailwinds?
- What are the best predictions for the fast-approaching seismic impact of artificial intelligence in increasingly capable forms? How are leaders in elected office, business and elsewhere preparing?
- How is the capitalist system in America positioned within the evolving global economy?

Our expert lecturers will use their best assessment of the state of play today, what the next 75 years hold, and how America — and all Americans — can be best positioned to continue to succeed and lead in the 21st century.

**Week Six • July 26–August 2, 2025****The Global Rise of Authoritarianism**

In its 2021 Freedom in the World assessment, the nonprofit Freedom House noted a sharp acceleration the previous year in a global decline of democracy, an effect of what it characterized as decades-long trend of rising authoritarianism. A recent survey by the Pew Research Center found that a median of 31% of respondents across 24 different nations are supportive of military rule or an authoritarian leader; while most still see representative democracy as a good means of governance, authoritarianism has stronger support in middle-income countries the world over.

- In this week, we travel across the globe to nations where authoritarian regimes hold or are gaining power to understand: How? Why?
- How do the systems of authoritarian rule differ? What are the factors in a particular country's demographics or circumstances that determine which system is most effective in building or maintaining power?
- What lessons or preventative measures can be gleaned from countries or regions that have rejected the rise of authoritarianism, or that have emerged into democracy having deposed an established authoritarian regime? In those places, what wounds or scars remain?

**Week Seven • August 2–9, 2025****Kwame Alexander and Friends**

Honoring a shared mission to change the world through the power of storytelling, award-winning author, poet, producer and educator Kwame Alexander returns to the Amphitheater stage to lead a series of heart-to-heart conversations on making a positive difference in our world.

- Across five captivating mornings, the Amphitheater stage transforms into Kwame's “living room,” in a variety of formats where deep and insightful conversations will unfold.
- Together, Kwame and his guests will explore the courage needed to succeed and fail, the role of education, business, and the arts in enhancing societal well-being, and how we build community (and why it matters).

Kwame's 2023 Amphitheater lecture quickly established a connection between the author and the Chautauqua community, leading to his current role as the Michael I. Rudell Artistic Director of Literary Arts and inaugural Writer in Residence — that shared love will be evident throughout this inspiring week at Chautauqua.

**Confirmed lecturers:**

- Kwame Alexander, author, *Why Fathers Cry at Night: A Memoir in Love Poems, Letters, Recipes, and Remembrances*; Michael I. Rudell Artistic Director of Literary Arts and inaugural writer-in-residence, Chautauqua Institution

**Week Eight • August 9–16, 2025****The Middle East: The Gulf States' Emerging Influence**

Building on a decades-long legacy of thoughtful and informative programming focused on the Middle East, Chautauqua in this week focuses specifically on the increasingly influential states that border the Persian Gulf, including members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Iran and Iraq.

- We'll seek to understand the histories, demography and economies of the Gulf states, how they are ruled or governed, and their relationships to each other and the broader Middle East — and especially in the context of ongoing conflicts including Israel-Palestine. How are these nations preparing for a future of declining dependence on oil?
- How and why are the Gulf states exerting political and economic influence in other regions of the world, and especially here at home, including in somewhat surprising spaces such as sports and culture?

**Week Nine • August 16–24, 2025****Past Informs Present: How to Harness History**

We know the saying “those who forget their history are doomed to repeat it,” but what can be said about how history is told (or not told) that informs and influences the present moment for those living it? History is, of course, the past; but it is also the description of that past. History is a story.

- If history is a story, what do those stories mean, and how can those stories be edited or reinterpreted to serve different purposes, even purposes at odds?
- We consider history as science, as art, as philosophy — how do fields including politics, industry and faith impact how we interpret history?
- How does what we know of the past influence the way we draft our own histories for the future?



# VISUAL ARTS

## RED-HOT RAKU



EMILEE ARNOLD / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Top, School of Art residency artists Maurice Carter and Adilene Rosales pick up pieces of pottery cooling in the grass after a Raku firing Friday at the Arts Quad. Left, residency artists Cima Khadeni and Iain Wall work on pieces before firing. While traditional firing can take up to 24 hours in a kiln, the Japanese technique of Raku is quicker, only taking one to two hours.

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**WEEK 6**

ROBERT H. JACKSON CENTER  
*20th Annual*  
**ROBERT H. JACKSON LECTURE**  
**ON THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**  
**KATE SHAW**  
Monday, July 29, 2024 at 3:30pm ET  
Chautauqua Institution - Hall of Philosophy

Penn law professor, legal writer, and host of the *Strict Scrutiny* Podcast, Kate Shaw, will speak at the annual lecture on the trends, cases, and impact of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Shaw previously worked in the Obama White House Counsel's Office and served as law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens.

Her academic work focuses on executive power, the law of democracy, the Supreme Court, and reproductive rights.

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**Sponsored in part by the Arnold and Jill Bellowe Family Foundation**





## LECTURE

# French discusses increased presidential power, need for moral courage in restoring democracy

JULIA WEBER  
STAFF WRITER

David French took the stage at 10:45 a.m. Friday in the Amphitheater to discuss the increased power of the American presidency and the unequal distribution of power among the three branches of the U.S. federal government. In doing so, he closed out the Chautauqua Lecture Series' Week One theme of "The Evolution of the Modern Presidency."

French, who identifies as an evangelical conservative, works as an opinion writer for *The New York Times*, and is a former litigator specializing in constitutional law. French, a U.S. Army veteran and recipient of the Bronze Star, was also recently named an inaugural recipient of the Chautauqua Perry Fellowship in Democracy, along with Thursday's speaker, Melody Barnes.

French's lecture addressed the danger of a president granted too much power in relation to the other two branches of the federal government — the legislative and judicial branches.

French began by explaining that the idea of "co-equal" branches of government is, in reality, untrue and inaccurate. He said that, on paper, Congress is the most powerful branch of the federal government, granted the powers to initiate spending, impeach the president or members of the Supreme Court of the United States, and declare war. According to French, the system is designed this way because Congress is the branch of the federal government that is closest to the people.

"Especially at the opening of the American experiment, this is really the only place where the democratic process was really peeking in at all," French said.

"The presidency originally was going to be selected by an electoral college that was going to be very different from what we think of as the Electoral College today. Senators were selected out of the states, not by popular vote, so the House of Representatives was kind of your shot at democracy," French said. "So: Democracy manifested through Congress. It was democracy that gave the American experiment its power."

In our current system, he said, with the executive holding the most power and Congress holding the least, many Americans' voices are not represented because they do not live in a swing state or a swing district and, therefore, their votes are not always accurately represented. That means "an absolute majority of American citizens genuinely feel as if they don't have



DAVE MUNCH / PHOTO EDITOR

David French, opinion columnist for *The New York Times* and an inaugural recipient of the Chautauqua Perry Fellowship in Democracy, traces the evolution of presidential power during his lecture Friday in the Amphitheater.

a meaningful voice in that selection process."

"You have this presidency where the most powerful person at the head of the most powerful branch of government, it's a practical matter selected only by a small minority of Americans," he said. "Does anyone begin to see why that might be a problem for American public confidence and democracy? That's an immense problem; it's an alienating problem."

French said that in practice, Congress is currently the least powerful branch of government. He posited that the power of the president has increased exponentially in recent history, resulting consequently in a sharp decline in the power of Congress. The executive branch has slowly absorbed powers that were originally granted to the legislative branch, thereby extending that power to the president instead of Congress and upending the power dynamic established in the Constitution.

This is detrimental to the United States, he said, because while the founding fathers accounted for the dangers posed to democracy and the American republic by many factions, they did not

necessarily account for the current scenario in which two primary political parties are pitted against one another and, as a result, loyalty to one's party is stronger than loyalty to the republic.

"The executive branch is now by far the most powerful branch of government. Not only does the executive branch obviously run the executive branch, the executive branch chooses, with the help of a Congress that again has been diminished, chooses one of the other branches of government, the judiciary, and increasingly, the executive branch is adopting to itself legislative traditional congressional powers," French said.

He also posited that the role of the president has morphed into three distinguishable duties: head of the executive branch, head of state, and head of the political party.

The current system of choosing the president is balanced precariously on the idea that whomever is elected demonstrates the virtues that the American public values. A problem arises, though, according to French, if this is not the case.

"Imagine you have some-

body who is actually, genuinely malevolent in many ways, (who) grasps this power or begins to possess this power, and then the preexisting instability, the preexisting danger, can move towards crisis," said French.

French said that this willingness to relinquish power to the president is born, in part, out of fear. As presidents have found ways to bypass Congress in conflict situations throughout history, Congress and the public have gradually accepted this so as to be ready for war, should one arise. The result, according to French, is that peacetime presidents have acquired and even surpassed the power of their wartime predecessors.

He said that the current electoral strategy is based on the idea that in order to defeat the opponent and keep evil in check, one must win. This, he said, is an unsustainable tactic and not a feasible solution.

"At this point, we should all be mature enough to know that the other side is going to win. As much as we don't like it, the other side is going to win. Not every time, maybe not even most of the time, but at the very least, some of the time the other side is going to win," he said. "So, we have to change our mindset from 'The most important thing to deal with presidential power is to make sure that my presi-

dent that I want to win, wins,' to 'Hey, if this power that the president possesses would terrify me if it is in the hands of somebody that I don't support, maybe they shouldn't have that power.'"

French said a change in mindset within the American public is integral to redistributing the power among the branches of government. He believes a way to fix this unsustainable mentality is to limit the power of the president and revitalize the power of Congress to quell the fear that comes with the precarity of election cycles.

"If we begin to think about it systematically, in the sense that says that the power of the president should never be so great that a lost election could put American democracy in mortal danger," he said, "if we take that approach, we can begin to restore balance."

French pointed to a study conducted by The Hidden Tribes of American Project that aimed to understand political engagement and disengagement in the United States. The study found that the "exhausted majority" comprises a large group of people in left, center and right-leaning demographics who are disengaged, unheard and unseen. The "exhausted majority" plays an integral component in restoring democracy and a more equitable distribution of power within the federal govern-

ment in French's opinion.

According to French, if there is any hope of restoring American democracy and the American republic, it will require moral courage. Inspired by a lively conversation with others the night before his lecture — indeed, the night of the first presidential debate this election cycle — French said that restoring American democracy will require this courage from everyone.

"And what is this thing that we have to have in this country if we're going to restore American democracy and the American republic to the kind of functioning republic that the founders, many of them, aspired, but did not actually end up creating in that first iteration? Guys, it's going to require moral courage," French said.

The moral center of the United States must make the conscious decision to hold, he said, and that within his circles, he will continue to foster a "passionate intensity."

To close, French offered the words of Aragorn from J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*.

"I see in your eyes the same fear that would take the heart of me," French quoted. "And there might be a time when the courage of men will fail, when we will forsake our friends and break all bonds of fellowship. But it is not this day. This day we will fight."

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PHOTOS BY SEAN SMITH



Chautauqua Opera Company Young Artists Perri di Christina, right, and Alexander Granito, left, perform during *Love, Loss, and the Century Upon Us* during the world premiere of *Love and Longing by the Lake* Friday on the Athenaeum Hotel Lawn.



Young Artist Öznur Tülüoğlu, in *A.E. Reverie*, sings of her character's dream for the future.



Chautauqua Opera General and Artistic Director Steven Osgood conducts the chamber orchestra.

## Chautauqua Opera opens season, celebrates sesquicentennial with long-awaited world premieres

Chautauqua has been a part of *Love and Longing by the Lake* since the very beginning; indeed, it is the very reason for the new trio of chamber operas' existence. Two of the chamber operas, *A.E. Reverie* and *Love, Loss, and the Century Upon Us*, began with interviews, observations, oral histories and research going back to 2016, when librettist Jerre Dye first began collecting Chautauqua stories for a uniquely Chautauqua opera titled *The Summer Place*, of which *A.E. Reverie* and *Love, Loss, and the Century Upon Us* are a part.

*A.E. Reverie* tells the story of a young woman unable to sleep the night after Amelia Earhart's visit to Chautauqua in 1929, kept awake by dreams of what her life could be. *Love, Loss, and the Century Upon Us* features a pair of young lovers on a stroll beside the Athenaeum Hotel in 1899 as the hotel's electric lights are lit for the first time.

*Pepito*, the third chamber opera in *Love and Longing by the Lake*, features a lonely shelter dog, and a couple grappling with the decision to adopt a pet.

Both world premieres, *A.E. Reverie* and *Love, Loss and the Century Upon Us* were co-commissioned by Chautauqua Opera Company and Opera Memphis, with the support of the Chautauqua Opera Guild, Jeanie Mercer and Breen Bland. The libretto of *The Summer Place* was commissioned in full by the Chautauqua Opera Guild.



The Young Artist casts of the three different chamber operas composing *Love and Longing by the Lake* take a bow following the production's world premiere Friday.



# OPERA

## RETURNING TO THE SUMMER PLACE

PHOTOS BY EMILEE ARNOLD



Watts welcomes members of the Opera Guild back to Chautauqua, and the summer ahead.



Granito lends Carol Rausch a hand as the longtime music administrator and chorus master performs with the Young Artists Thursday outside of Norton Hall.



Chautauqua Opera Company Young Artists Alex Granito, baritone, and soprano Kelsey Watts perform for members of the Chautauqua Opera Guild during the Guild's annual opening picnic Thursday outside of Norton Hall.

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**2 Elm Lane**  
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**Listing Agent: Lynne Gruel**



**16 Wiley Ave**  
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A wonderful opportunity for a buyer wanting a sought-after location and the chance to design/finish the home to their specifications w/o the expense of a full interior demolition.  
**Listing Agent: Karen Goodell**



**20 Maple Ave**  
2BR | 2BA | \$630,000  
This delightful mid-century modern home is all-on-one-level. Winterized with Central AC, Garage, mostly furnished and much more!  
**Listing Agent: Karen Goodell**



**9 North Lake Drive**  
3BR | 4.5BA | \$2,495,000  
A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! This home is located on The Promenade, overlooking the LAKE. Constructed like a luxury vessel, every single inch is utilized and every view is maximized.  
**Listing Agent: Karen Goodell**

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**11 Wiley Ave**  
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**Listing Agent: Debbie Rowe**



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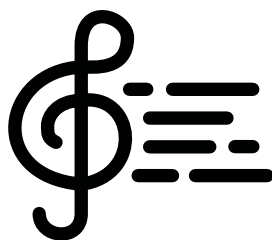
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## MUSIC



## SYMPHONY NOTES

BY DAVID B. LEVY

declarative writing for the chorus and rich orchestral textures and colorful sonorities. At times slow and reflective, at others faster and triumphant, the work exudes a confidence that is much needed, perhaps more than ever in the politically divisive time in which we are currently living. Arguably the most memorable moment of the entire work is the setting of the following:

Sail, Sail thy best, ship of Democracy  
Of value is thy freight, 'tis not the present only  
The Past is also stored in thee.

### Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125 ('Choral')

Ludwig van Beethoven

One of history's pivotal composers, Ludwig van Beethoven was born on Dec. 16 or 17, 1770, in Bonn, and died in Vienna on March 26, 1827. His Ninth Symphony, op. 125, was composed over a period of many years, most intensely between 1822 and 1824, culminating in its premiere in Vienna's Kärntnertortheater on May 7, 1824. It is scored for piccolo, two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, contrabassoon, four horns, two trumpets, three trombones, triangle, bass drum, cymbals, timpani and strings.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony has acquired a status of universal approbation unmatched in the symphonic repertory. The British affectionately call Beethoven's Ninth the "Choral" Symphony, while the Japanese, who each December present well over 100 performances of it, have dubbed the work "Dai-ku" ("Big Nine"). It is a mainstay of concert halls and music festivals throughout the world. Wagner saw fit to conduct a performance of it when he laid the cornerstone of the Bayreuth Festspielhaus in 1872. In the summer of 1989 in China, revolutionary students gathered in Tiananmen Square and played its finale through loudspeakers in order to bolster their spirits. Later the same year, in Berlin, Leonard Bernstein led a ceremonious performance of it on Dec. 25, altering Schiller's "Freude" ("Joy") to "Freiheit" ("Freedom") in symbolic celebration of the razing of the Wall which had divided that city.

The Ninth is, at the same

time, one of Beethoven's most perplexing compositions — a work that remains one of the world's most revered musical masterpieces, but which is not without its problematic side. Its musical syntax is a curious mixture of complexity and simplicity, and over time critics have seen fit to assail it on both counts, although virtually no composer after Beethoven could escape the Ninth's immense shadow. Stemming as it did from a particular time and circumstance — Vienna during the age of Metternich — with all the musical, social and cultural associations of that period, the Ninth Symphony has emerged as ceremonial piece par excellence, befitting artistic and political summitry, as well as populist symbol for freedom-loving citizens from Beijing to Berlin. The Ninth Symphony is much more than a monument of Western music: It is a cultural icon. UNESCO declared it to be the first musical composition to be entered into the Memory of the World Register in 2001.

Beethoven's last symphony represents the culmination of two discrete projects. The first was the fulfillment of a commission for a new symphony tendered by the Philharmonic Society of London in 1822, itself the partial satisfaction of an earlier request from the society for two new symphonies. The other project dates back to 1792, the year in which we have the first evidence of Beethoven's interest in setting Friedrich Schiller's 1785 poem, "An die Freude" ("Ode to Joy"), to music. The joining of these separate enterprises into the Ninth Symphony did not occur until relatively late in the symphony's evolution. First performed in Vienna on May 7, 1824, the Ninth Symphony immediately made a tremendous impact, despite its faulty execution.

Indeed, the work itself

section, only to thwart our expectation with an abrupt ending — a gesture that he used in the scherzo of his Seventh Symphony (1812).

The Adagio molto e cantabile third movement dwells in the realm of pure melody and dance. Aestheticians in the 18th and 19th centuries were fond of making a distinction between the "sublime" (lofty) and the "beautiful" in art. If the first two movements are representative of the former, the third movement of the Ninth Symphony surely is an exemplar of the latter. The movement is cast as a rondo with varied reprises for each of its two themes. A distinguishing characteristic of the first theme is the woodwind echo that occurs at the end of each phrase of the hymn-like theme played by the strings, a feature that is retained in each of its returns. The second theme is a contrasting Andante moderato in triple meter. The literal midpoint of the movement (and, in fact, the entire symphony) is its ethereally calm development section, where the color of woodwinds (Harmoniemusik) dominates its landscape. The fourth horn emerges out of this heavenly serenity in a celebrated passage which culminates in an unaccompanied scale. Listeners should attend to how this instrument continues to play a prominent, and often virtuosic, role throughout the remainder of the movement.

The onset of the finale rudely shatters the calm with a glancing dissonance and a passage that Wagner dubbed the "horror fanfare" (Schreckensfanfare). Evidence from Beethoven's sketches reveal that Beethoven had considerable difficulty effecting a transition from the purely instrumental opening movements to the choral part of the finale. How, after all, does one introduce an element that never before had belonged to a genre? Using every bit of his ingenuity, and bringing his experience gained from previous works to bear (the "Choral" Fantasy and several piano sonatas), Beethoven hit upon the idea of using instrumental recitative — played here by the cellos and contrabasses — as a conduit from the world of purely instrumental music to that of

instrumental/vocal.

The instrumental recitative is a superbly effective device, used as a link between fragmented reminiscences from the previous movements. The reason for these thematic recollections has been interpreted by analysts in various ways. Most writers suggest that the recitative serves as a rebuff of the spirit of these earlier movements, each of which in turn is spurned by the cellos and basses until the famous "Joy" melody is presented. But there is another possible reason why Beethoven elected to bring back these themes, a purpose that is as much prospective as it is retrospective. The elaborate multi-sectional finale plays out as an entire four-movement symphonic structure in miniature. Viewed from this perspective, the episode of recitative and recollection is an introductory prefiguration of the landscape of the entire finale.

The presentation of the "Joy" theme in variations (both instrumental and vocal) comprises the gesture of a first "movement." The portions of Schiller's "An die Freude" used in this part are the ones that are most overtly profane or pagan in spirit. This is followed by the "Turkish" music that acts as a kind of scherzo, which in turn yields to a solemn slow "movement" (Seid umschlungen, Millionen). This third section devotes itself to the most overtly sacred parts of Schiller's poem. The re-entry of the "Turkish" percussion movements marks the onset of the "finale," where Beethoven joins together the profane and the sacred in a symbolic marriage of Athens and Jerusalem. Joy, then, serves as the agent through which "all men become brothers."

David B. Levy is professor emeritus of music at Wake Forest University. He holds a doctorate in musicology from the University of Rochester and remains actively involved in scholarly pursuits. His primary focus has been on the music of Ludwig van Beethoven, about which he has published numerous articles and a book, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, published by Yale University Press. He will give a Pre-Concert Lecture at 6:45 p.m. Saturday in Hultquist 101.

## Bayberry String Quartet, with SoM faculty Pacht on 1st violin, to open resident chamber series with Saturday program of Mozart, Zwillich, Dvorak

The Bayberry String Quartet is making waves in the concert scene, with recent performances at prestigious venues like Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society's CMS Kids and new concert series in Pelham, New York. In just their sixth season, they've already enjoyed residencies across the country and have pioneered innovative virtual chamber music approaches, impacting mu-

sicians worldwide. And the quartet's first violinist is one of Chautauqua's own.

This weekend, opening the Chautauqua Chamber Music Resident Artist Series for the 2024 season, the Bayberry String Quartet will perform at 4:15 p.m. Saturday in Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall. The quartet is comprised of first violinist Nurit Pacht — faculty with the School of Music — second violin-

ist Steffani Kitayama, violist Gabe Bolkosky and cellist Laura Usiskin.

On the program for Saturday's recital is Mozart's String Quartet No. 6 in B-flat major, K.159, followed by Ellen Taaffe Zwillich's "Voyage." "Voyage" was commissioned by the descendants of the Galimir String Quartet to honor the centenary of the Galimir musicians' birth. Zwillich, the first female

composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music, created a one-movement piece blending her experiences as a professional violinist herself, her own composition style, and glimpses of Viennese waltzes.

The program wraps with Dvorak's String Quartet No. 12 in F major, Op. 96, "American" — one of the most popular in chamber music repertoire.



BAYBERRY STRING QUARTET



On Instagram: @chqdaily

## The Humanist Community of Chautauqua Presents a Seminar on Humanism

Monday @ 3:30 at the UU Denominational House

For more information on the Humanist Community at Chautauqua contact

John Hooper at johnbhooper@comcast.net

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MON - THU July 8 - 11

TIME 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM



JACK N. ALPERN

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## RELIGION



## INTERFAITH NEWS

COMPILED BY STAFF

**Baptist House**

Clergy couple Suzi Harriff, pastoral partner at Mission Hope Community, and Jim Harriff, pastor at New Hartford Baptist Church will lead the 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship at the Baptist House worship. Their sermon, "Kintsukuroi: The Gold of God's Grace," draws on 2 Corinthians 4:5-15.

**Blessing and Healing Daily Service**

The Service of Blessing and Healing takes place at 10:15 a.m. weekdays in the Randall Chapel of the United Church of Christ Headquarters located on Odland Plaza. This is an opportunity for quiet in our very busy schedule here at Chautauqua.

**Chabad Jewish House**

Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin will lead the Shabbat Service at 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Join us for a free lunch at our Lunch'n'Learn: Ethics of Our Fathers at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in the Zigdon Chabad Jewish House, led by Rabbi Zalman and Esther Vilenkin.

**Chautauqua Catholic Community**

Weekend Masses are at 5 p.m. Saturday and at 12:15 p.m. Sunday in the Hall of Philosophy. There will be a special blessing of bicycles and bicycle helmets just before the start of Mass on Saturday and Sunday this weekend only. All children and adults are welcome whether or not staying for Mass. Daily Mass is celebrated at 8:45 a.m. weekdays in the Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd. This week, Deacon Jerry and Eileen Hodson of East Aurora, New York, are hosts of Catholic House on the corner of Palestine and the Brick Walk.

**Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program**

Carol McKiernan will lead a Centering Prayer at 7:15 a.m. Saturday morning at the Hall of Philosophy.

Monte Thompson will lead Movement and Meditation from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. Monday in the Hall of Philosophy Grove.

Suzanne Watters will lead Sound Meditation from 4:45 to 5:15 p.m. Monday in the Hurlbut Sanctuary.

Our guest teacher this week is Bhante Chipamong Chowdhury, specializing in Theravada Buddhism and Mindfulness Meditation, and will lead our Meditation Sessions from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. weekdays at the Presbyterian House Chapel.

**Chautauqua Prays for Peace Through Compassion**

Chautauqua Prays for Peace Through Compassion is a communal gathering which takes place from 8:55 to 9 a.m. weekdays around the Peace Pole in the Hall of Missions Grove. The all-faith prayer is led by a different denomination each week, and prayer handouts are distributed daily. All are welcome.

**Christian Science House**

Our Sunday Church Service is at 9:30 a.m. in the Christian Science Chapel.

**Disciples of Christ**

The Rev. Beau Underwood, the senior minister of Allisonville Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indianapolis, presides at the weekly Communion Service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the Disciples of Christ Headquarters House, 32 Clark at Janes. This week's Communion Meditation, "Faithful to Both Church & State," is based on Matthew 22:15-22. In preparing to celebrate the Fourth of July, we have an opportunity to reflect on how church and state should (and should not) go together.

All are invited to Christ's Welcome Table to share in the Sacred Feast, as together we encounter the Spirit of the Living Christ amid this grace-filled and welcoming community of faith.

**Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua**

Our Midday Talk for Week Two is "Painting Vividly with Words to Convey Visual Content: Live Audio Description as Art Form, Access Strategy, and Cultural Education Practice" at 12:15 p.m. Monday in Randall Chapel, opposite the ECOC. Ermyrn King will lead an exploration of how to partake in and apply principles of live audio description (LAD) — artfully using words to impart visual imagery verbally — to enhance access, equity, and quality of experience for all (including people who are blind, low-visioned, neurodiverse, and others). LAD for the visual and performing arts will be showcased.

**Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd**

The Rev. Molly Finlay presides at services of Holy Communion at 7:45 and 9 a.m. Sunday in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. Finlay is the incumbent of St. John the Baptist, Norway (in Toronto, Ontario). Before her call to ordination, she enjoyed a career in television

journalism later serving as a senior adviser to both cabinet ministers and the premier of Ontario.

Anyone wishing to visit Jared Jacobsen's final resting place in the columbarium is welcome to stop by the chapel during the day.

Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 7:45 a.m. weekdays in the chapel.

**Everett Jewish Life Center in Chautauqua**

This week's Jewish Film Series will screen "Call Me Dancer" at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in the Everett Jewish Life Center, where executive producer Ori Soltes will be present for a Q-and-A.

Dr. Xavier Amador will give the lecture "I am Not Sick, I Don't Need Help! Understanding the Cause of the Problems and How we can Help" at 3:30 p.m. Monday in the EJLCC.

**Food Pantry Donations**

Hurlbut Church is accepting nonperishable food items for the Asheville Food Pantry. Donations may be dropped off any time at the Scott entrance of Hurlbut Church.

**Hebrew Congregation**

Do you want to learn about the Hebrew Congregation of Chautauqua's Holocaust and Social Justice Program? Leigh-Anne Hendrick, program director of the Hebrew Congregation of Chautauqua's Holocaust and Social Justice Program, and Emily Dorman, Holocaust and Social Justice educators at Chautauqua Lake Central School, will discuss their teaching experiences and the impact it has had on area students. Their lecture, "Remembering the Past and Shaping the Future through Interactive Education," is at 7 p.m. Sunday in Smith Wilkes Hall and is part of the Shirley Lazarus Speaker Series.

**Hurlbut Memorial Community Church**

A service of prayer, song and Holy Communion is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Sunday in the Hurlbut Sanctuary. Our new pastor, the Rev. Rachel Stuart, will lead worship and offer reflections. Wendy Marlinksi leads the music. The service is gentle, casual

and interactive. Please join us! The sanctuary is wheelchair-accessible through the doors on Scott. If you're looking for a quiet and lovely place to rest, pray or ponder, we invite you to come and sit in the Sanctuary. It can be accessed through the door on Scott from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you're thirsty or have an empty water bottle, Hurlbut Community Church and the Hebrew Congregation offer a bottle-filling fountain just inside the "long-walk" door off Pratt. Enjoy.

**Hurlbut Church Meal Ministry**

Hurlbut Church is cooking, and everyone is invited. The church serves lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. weekdays at Hurlbut Church. We will not be serving lunch or dinner on the Fourth of July. All proceeds benefit the mission and ministries of the Hurlbut Church. Meals are eat-in or takeout.

**International Order of The King's Daughters and Sons**

The Ida A. Vanderbeck Chapel on Pratt is open to all for prayer and meditation from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Please stop in and sign the register.

**Labyrinth**

Chautauquans and friends can learn about and walk the labyrinth during the 2024 season. The Chautauqua Labyrinth, which is open at any time, is located next to Turner Community Center. There is an evening walk at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, where a brief history of the labyrinth, uses of the labyrinth and an invitation to walk the labyrinth are concluded in time to attend the evening's Amphitheater program. It is accessible through the Turner building, or through the Turner parking lot, if arriving via Route 394. Bus and tram services are available to Turner. Remember your gate pass.

**Lutheran House**

The Rev. Libby Baker-Mikesell of St. James Lutheran in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, presides at a service of Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the Lutheran House. Kurt Johnson of

Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, will serve as accompanist. Communion is served in individual sealed cups. The Lutheran House is located on the brick walk at the corner of Peck and Clark, near the Hall of Philosophy.

**Palestine Park Tours**

Palestine Park Tours occur at 7 p.m. Sundays and Mondays in Palestine Park.

**Presbyterian House**

The Rev. D. Mark Davis, pastor and head of staff of St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach, California, presides at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday service in the Presbyterian House Chapel. His sermon, "Privilege and Patience," is based on Mark 5:21-43. He earned degrees from Emmanuel College School of Christian Ministry, Union Presbyterian Seminary and University of Iowa. Davis is the author of two books, *Talking about Evangelism* and *Left Behind and Loving It*, and is an amateur jazz saxophonist with a church-based group called Synerjazz. Lynn Silver provides music.

Presbyterian House invites all Chautauquans for coffee on the porch following the weekday morning worship service and preceding the 10:45 a.m. lecture. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and lemonade are available. The house porch overlooking the Amphitheater provides a good place to find old friends and make new ones.

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**

Join us for our Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the Quaker House, 28 Ames. Our Church of the Wild is held at 4 p.m. Sunday in the Burgeson Nature Classroom. Kriss Miller, Friend in Residence, will host "Knitting Us Together: Creating Resilient Communities" at 5 p.m. Monday in the Quaker House.

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Chautauqua**

Join us for our Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday in the Hall of Philosophy. The Rev. Dara Olandt will give the sermon "Love, Possibility, and Peril in the Brave New World."

Join us at 9:15 a.m. Monday in the U.U. House for the Minister's Feedback Discussion, and 3:30 p.m. Monday in the U.U. House for our Seminar on Humanism.

The Cultural Ethics Series this week features Rick Swegan, co-author of *The Practice of Ethical Leadership*, speaking on "Courage

under Fire: The Thin Line Between Right and Wrong" at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy.

**United Church of Christ**

Our chaplain of the week, the Rev. Elizabeth Parker Horton of First Reformed United Church of Christ in Lexington, North Carolina, will deliver the sermon "Transform and Renew" at our 9 a.m. worship Sunday in Randall Chapel. With so much information and technology at our fingertips, it is easy to feel both excited and overwhelmed as we think of the possibilities for AI. Although first-century Christians didn't wrestle with the ethics of the AI revolution, followers of Jesus still faced the challenge of remaining grounded in their faith as they navigated in the world.

This sermon will explore the Apostle Paul's word for us to be "transformed by the renewing of our mind."

**United Methodist**

Our pastor this week, the Rev. Lynette Moran, serves as a deacon in Western Pennsylvania to build bridges between daily life, the church and community. She previously served as a hospital chaplain and in social services. A teaching fellow and Ph.D. candidate (ABD) in sociology at the University of Pittsburgh, Moran studies grief, social change, and how we utilize narrative to make meaning as individuals and together.

Join us for free coffee on the porch between morning worship and the 10:45 a.m. Amphitheater lecture, Monday through Friday.

**Unity of Chautauqua**

Unity of Chautauqua welcomes the Rev. Linda McLeod, who will lead the 9:30 a.m. Sunday service in the Hall of Missions. Her message, "Who is My Brother/Sister?" is about learning to love and accept our differences.

Unity holds a Daily Word meditation from 8 to 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday in the Hall of Missions. At 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Turner Community Center, McLeod will present a Positive Path for Spiritual Living lecture on "The Collective," learning our stories can make us more loving and accepting. Chautauqua residents bring gate pass.

McLeod is an ordained Unity Minister, founding minister for Unity On The Path Retreat Ministry, created to help others learn and live a spiritual holistic life.

For details, visit [www.unitychq.org](http://www.unitychq.org).

## Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Chautauqua Sunday Service

9:30 AM - Hall of Philosophy

### Rev. Dara Olandt

# "Love, Possibility, and Peril in the Brave New World"

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK****Sunday 12:00 - 1:30**

See Us At The Community Fair on Bestor Plaza

Monday - 9:15 - UU House

*Minister's Feedback Discussion*

Monday - 3:30 - UU House

*Seminar on Humanism*

Tuesday - 3:15 - UU House

*Hospitality Hour - All Are Welcome*

Friday - 3:30 - UU House

*Chautauqua Dialogues**From the Golden State to the Empire State. We are better together.*

## Practitioner Virgil to give lecture on Christian Science healing Sunday

Nicole Virgil, practitioner of Christian Science healing and public speaker, will present her talk, "Be set free," at 1:30 p.m. Sunday in Smith Wilkes Hall, programmed by the Christian Science House and First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Jamestown, New York.

The talk will focus on universal healing precepts found in the Holy Bible, especially in Christ Jesus' life and teachings, showing how they are available for anyone to understand and experience through the lens of Christian Science.

"Circumstances often

present what appear to be significant obstacles to living freely, something that everyone wants to do," Virgil said. "In this talk, we will examine liberty from a Biblical perspective; and see how real people today find their freedom from all kinds of physical, emotional and circumstantial restrictions that seem clearly beyond their control."

Sharing examples of healing from her own life and professional practice of Christian Science, Virgil will explain why Christian Science is both Christian and scientific, meaning that

people can prove its effectiveness for themselves, as fully described in the book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, written by the founder of the Christian Science movement, Mary Baker Eddy. Eddy herself said she was especially inspired by Jesus' demand, "He that believes on me, the works that I do will he do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go unto my Father." (John 14:12)

For over 150 years, people around the world have worked to follow Christ Jesus in this practice of Christianity, experiencing healings of physical ills and personal difficulties.

Virgil has been a Christian Science practitioner for many years, helping people on a daily basis through this scientific approach to prayer. She travels from her home base near Chicago, Illinois, to speak to audiences as a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

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## RELIGION

## WELCOMING HOMIES BACK TO THEIR HOME-AWAY-FROM-HOME



SEAN SMITH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Homies from Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J.'s Homeboy Industries speak Friday to a standing-room-only Smith Wilkes Hall. Sponsored by Quaker House and the African American Heritage House, the event was originally scheduled to be at the AAHH, but demand prompted the venue shift. Homies have been visiting Chautauqua for weeklong stays for more than 10 years, always drawing crowds with their powerful stories.

## With Sacred Synthesis, Stafford incorporates AI into worship planning

MARY LEE TALBOT  
STAFF WRITER

Joshua Stafford, director of sacred music and Jared Jacobsen Chair for the Organist, is responsible for developing each Sacred Song Service for Sunday evenings. He is often inspired by the themes for the week for the Chautauqua Lecture Series or the Interfaith Lecture Series.

This week's service, "Sacred Synthesis," is at 8 p.m. Sunday in the Amphitheater. Stafford was inspired by the

themes for Week Two: "The AI Revolution" and "Religion's Intersections: Interdisciplinary Imagination with Science, Technology and AI." The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, senior pastor for Chautauqua, will preside. Annie Leech, student minister for the 2024 season, will be the reader. Sonya Subbaya Sutton will provide piano accompaniment. Stafford will direct the Chautauqua Choir.

And for Stafford's other

contributions to the service?

In the fall of 2023, he wondered, "How can I incorporate AI in worship?" So, he started a conversation with ChatGPT.

"The results I got were OK, but not stellar," he said. "As I tried again a few months later, I wrote at least part of the service with (the more advanced) ChatGPT 4, and there was a notable improvement."

Stafford tried to get ChatGPT to write a hymn for the 150th anniversary of Chautauqua, but again, the

results were ... fine.

"I fed it a simple tune and it did pretty well. I still had to swap a few words to make the song work metrically," he said. "I was able to give it information to relate to Chautauqua and I was surprised at how much relevant information it could draw. That is when I decided to do a whole service."

Stafford shared some of the usual Sacred Song Service formats with the artificial intelligence chatbot,

and engaged in some dialogues with it.

"I would ask it for hymn suggestions, and then I would ask why it thought they were fitting for the service," he said.

Stafford found ChatGPT most helpful in how quickly it could pull relevant and appropriate quotes from authors and scripture. It was most frustrating to try to create something with a meter that was singable. But, "I expect that will come soon,"

he said.

His goal for the service?

"I hope it sparks conversation," he said. "The content might not be quite as good as usual, but there are ways it can be useful without putting our complete reliance on it."

The printed programs for the service will include the questions Stafford put to ChatGPT. Did he give his AI assistant a name?

"No," he said with a smile, "but I tried to be polite."

## Choose to cherish; it is love with its sleeves rolled up, says Boyle

Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J., received a standing ovation when he was introduced at the 9:15 a.m. Friday morning worship service in the Amphitheater. When he finished preaching, he received another standing ovation.

In between, he told the congregation that although in the gospel reading, Jesus asking Peter, "Who do you say I am?" is important, for Boyle the question is, "How do you say it?"

Boyle's sermon title was "Visible Entirely," and the scripture reading was Matthew 16:13-19.

Homeboy Louie burst into Boyle's office one day and said, "G, I need your divided attention." Boyle replied, "You are in luck because that is exactly what you will get."

The poet Mary Oliver said there were three important things to living life: pay attention, be astonished and share that astonishment. Boyle quoted her: "That God is invisible is quite understandable, but holiness is visible entirely."

"Our astonished, attentive hearts are awakened to the God in ourself," Boyle said. "It is not who (we say it about) but how we say it."

At the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books one year, Boyle was on a panel talking about the philosophy of Homeboy Industries: "We believe that everybody is unshakably good, no exceptions. We belong to each other, no exceptions."

An audience member asked Boyle if he thought all the world's complex problems would disappear if everyone practiced these two beliefs. "Yes, I do," he answered. There was a lot of laughter.

"I was startled and I said again, 'Yes, I do,'" Boyle said. "It is not who, but how."

When you can see the Christ in you, you can see the Christ in another person.

"We have to live as though the truth is the truth, put first things first and live with kinship, connection and belonging," he said.

Boyle was invited to speak in Sacramento and he brought Robert and Carlos — called chamuco, or devil in Spanish — with him. Carlos was called that because he had two devil's horns tattooed on his forehead.

When they arrived they got on the shuttle to go from the airport to the rental car site, Carlos decided to sit in the very back of the shuttle, right in the middle. Everyone did a foxtrot of avoidance to not sit with him, but finally the seats on either side of him were occupied.

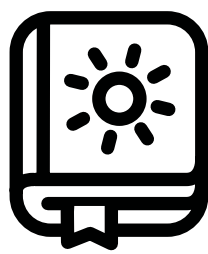
The road from the airport to the rental site ran through a dark wooded area. In the middle of it, the shuttle stopped running. No one said a word while the driver tried to get it going again.

Suddenly from the back of the bus, a voice said, "I saw this in a movie once. ... It does not end well." Everyone burst out laughing.

"In a divided country represented by the bus, everyone bursts into laughter," Boyle said. "We are unanimous in saying how Jesus is, leading to our more perfect union."

Indian author Arundhati Roy, Booker Prize winner for fiction in 1997 for her book *The God of Small Things*, wrote: "Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing."

"We don't save our soul, we spend it. We choose to cherish. That is love with its sleeves rolled up," Boyle said. "We may be less delightful, but never delights in us less. To cherish is not about being less sinful, but about being more joyful."



## MORNING WORSHIP

COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

Often invited to speak at universities which "force their students to read my books," Boyle was invited to his alma mater, Gonzaga University in Spokane, to talk to the incoming class, which had to read his book.

"I went even though they always ruin my bracket in March," he said.

He always picks homies to go with him, usually from rival gangs. "I mess with them by making them share a hotel room. Many have never flown before and are in a panic," Boyle said.

One homie said to Boyle, "We're flying Virgin Airlines because it's our first time, right?" Boyle replied, "Yes, it is a requirement. We are coming home on American."

At Hollywood Burbank Airport on the flight to Spokane, Boyle spotted two flight attendants going up the stairs to the plane with cups of Starbucks in their hands. Larry and Mario were flying with him and Mario was actually hyperventilating over it. He asked Boyle, "When can we board?" Boyle replied, "As soon as they sober up the pilots."

Mario has the most tattoos of anyone at Homeboy, even on his eyelids. The ones on his eyelids, Boyle quipped, are "The End," so everyone will have proof when he lays in his coffin."

He continued, "It is only the soul that hyperventilates who fills the world with tenderness, and the changes are proof of how you say it."

At Gonzaga, they were asked to not only do the large convocation, but meet with many smaller classes. Boyle would sit in the back and let Larry and Mario tell their stories.

"If stories were flames, you would have had to keep

your distance," Boyle said.

At the convocation they told their stories and then there was time for questions. The first one was for Mario. A woman asked, "You say you are a father to a son and daughter. What wisdom do you want to impart to them?"

Mario held tightly to the microphone and closed his eyes. "I just ..." he began.

As he fought his tears, he finally said, "I just don't want my kids to turn out like me."

The woman, who was crying too, responded, "Why not? You are loving, kind, gentle and wise. I hope your kids grow up to be just like you."

The whole convocation gave Mario a standing ovation.

"Mario was overwhelmed," Boyle said. "They returned him to himself. They returned themselves to themselves."

How do we say who Jesus is? Boyle summed up his week of preaching.

"We are good, we belong to each other, our holiness is visible entirely," he said. "God is rooting for us and longing we become reservoirs of joy for each other. We are walking each other home. We have perfect union on earth as in heaven. A new world is not only possible, she is on her way. I can hear her breathing. Thank you for this week."

The Rev. Natalie Hanson, liturgy creator extraordinaire and retiring pastor (almost) of Hurlbut Memorial Community United Methodist Church, presided. Ted First, a year-round Chautauquan who has been active in Quaker peace activities in the Middle East for over 30 years and was instrumental in bringing the Homeboys to Chautauqua, read the scripture. Organ scholar Rees Roberts played "Andante tranquillo," by Felix Mendelssohn, for the prelude on the Massey Memorial Organ. The Motet Choir, under the direction of Joshua Stafford, director of sacred music and Jared Jacobsen Chair for the Organist, sang "Unless the Lord build this house," music by Al Fedak and words from Psalms 127, 118 and Matthew 21. Roberts accompanied the choir on the Massey. Stafford played "Toccata," from Symphony No. 5, by Charles-Marie Widor on the Massey. The support for this week's chaplaincy and preaching was provided by the Edmund E. Robb-Walter C. Shaw Fund and the Lois Raynow Department of Religion Fund.



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# STORYCORPS

## FROM THE BOOTH

### Dispatches from StoryCorps on Chautauqua's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Oral History

To celebrate Chautauqua Institution's 150th Anniversary and to preserve and share a rich history from the minds and hearts of people who love Chautauqua, we partner with StoryCorps to record and preserve stories of lifelong learning, community, family, change, and friendship. "From the Booth" highlights conversations contributed to Chautauqua's StoryCorps archive, housed in the Library of Congress. StoryCorps is the largest collection of human voices ever gathered.

In this week's featured conversation, sisters Deb Hall Sandler and Welling Hall relate still-vivid memories of their many summers with both older and younger generations of family. Welling recalls the headiness she felt in her first walk alone from the Mayflower to Children's School while still a preschooler. Deb details her adventures (and minor misadventures) in a series of summer jobs on the grounds.

Both describe a strong connection to Chautauqua's traditions, especially singing together in the choir at the Sacred Song Service and listening to Josh Stafford play his inspired rendition of Handel's *Largo*. Together, they reflect on the many subtle ways that Chautauqua influenced their love for music, the outdoors, their professional trajectories, and their spiritual development.

You can listen to Deb and Welling on the StoryCorps Archive; just search "StoryCorps Chautauqua" in your favorite browser.

Everyone is invited to contribute to the Chautauqua StoryCorps Archive during the sesquicentennial season. Follow instructions and tips on how to record and submit your story on the StoryCorps website (search "StoryCorps Chautauqua") or schedule a facilitated recording session via the QR code here:



— Nancy Stanley,  
Chautauqua's StoryCorps  
Ambassador

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Intro to QiGong and Tai Chi  
M,T,W,Th,F 12:30 pm-1:30pm  
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Instructor:  
Dr. Bob  
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Weeks 4 & 5 ~  
7/14-7/19 & 7/21-7/26  
Intro to QiGong and Tai Chi  
M,T,W,Th,F 7:45 am-8:45am  
Heinz Fitness 2

Week 8 ~ 8/11-8/16  
Meditation & Health  
M,T,W,Th,F 1 pm-2:pm  
Hurlbut Marion Lawrence Room

Week 6 ~  
7/28-8/2  
Intro to QiGong and Tai Chi  
M,T,W,Th,F 7:45 am-8:45am  
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Week 9 ~ 8/18-8/23  
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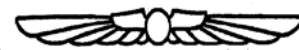
Details at [www.UnityCHQ.org](http://www.UnityCHQ.org)

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### ON THE GROUNDS

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~ Ellie Castle, age 96



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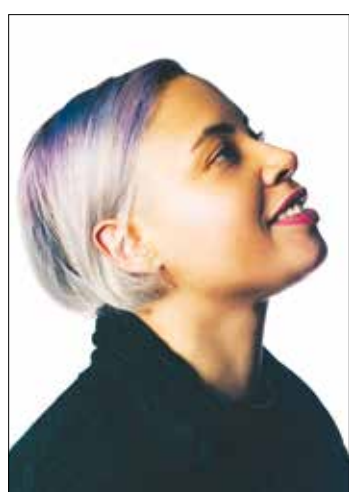
## LITERARY ARTS

## Bertram, Caldwell to lead workshops, readings to unlock creative flow

SABINE OBERMOLLER  
STAFF WRITER

Lillian-Yvonne Bertram and Chloé Caldwell are joining the Chautauqua Writers' Center for Week Two, and will start their residencies with a Writers' Center Reading at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in the Hall of Philosophy.

Bertram is the former director of the Chautauqua Writers' Festival and previous poet-in-residence for the Writers' Center. The author of several prose and poetry books, they direct the University of Maryland's MFA in creative writing program. For Sunday's reading, Bertram will read from their most recent poetry collection, *Negative Money*. Some of the poems in the book are



BERTRAM

written in collaboration with artificial intelligence, which fits in line with the week's theme of "The AI Revolution."

"Since it's AI week, I will probably read some of those



CALDWELL

poems and just talk a little bit about the process of working with artificial intelligence and language models and writing," said Bertram.

Bertram is also the au-

thor of *Travesty Generator*, which won the 2018 Noemi Press Poetry Prize and was finalist for the National Poetry Series, and received the 2020 Poetry Society of America Anna Rabinowitz Prize for "interdisciplinary and venturesome work."

Throughout the week, Bertram will be teaching a workshop called "Getting Unstuck" through Special Studies. The workshop is on mechanical interventions writers can use to move their poems from one place to another when they are feeling stuck — "things that don't necessarily involve just kind of sitting and thinking and looking at the poem and hoping that it kind of figures itself out, but actual mechanical ways of

forcing yourself to rethink the poem," said Bertram.

This way, they said, workshop attendees will learn useful strategies they can use next time they have writers' block.

Prose writer-in-residence Caldwell will also lead a workshop — titled "Making meaning while Writing from Life" — this week, focused on generating new work.

Caldwell is the author of four books, and an upcoming fifth, *Trying*, that will be published by Graywolf Press in 2025. She is the co-founder of Scrapy Literary with author Alex Alberto, which aims to help writers find unconventional approaches they can implement into their work.

She said she'll start her

workshop with an exercise related to being in Chautauqua, and seeing how students' work develops by the end of the week.

She wants to use it as an "opportunity to generate stuff that they wouldn't if they were just home."

Caldwell hopes students walk away from the workshop more confident in their writing abilities, and for them to know that they don't need to have an extreme or dramatic story in order to write.

"Everyday life can be enough, and it is usually the seed for writing about larger universal themes," said Caldwell. "I think the job of a writer is to take something mundane and make it meaningful."

## THE FIRST LADIES OF FRIENDSHIP



Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray, authors of the Week One Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle selection *The First Ladies: A Novel* spoke Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy about writing, history and friendship.

*The First Ladies* — their second novel together — is based on the true story of the unlikely friendship between early civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Murray and Benedict discussed the remarkable woman Bethune was and all she did; Benedict thinks they are "some of the only people who have ever really written about (Bethune and this friendship) in any great detail; we felt like we had sort of come home."

Murray and Benedict's friendship stemmed from their co-writing projects; they drew on their own friendship to inform and imagine the one between Bethune and Roosevelt.

"You will see conversations between Eleanor and Mary that are torn from the pages of (our) own experiences and own lives," Benedict said.

In their novel, they wanted to show a relationship between a Black woman and a white woman, in which the two could come together and talk about race honestly.

"I think their friendship became deeper because they saw beyond each other," said Murray. "That is one of the reasons Marie and I are such good friends. ... We're willing to share hearts, minds, thoughts and be honest." — Sabine Obermoller

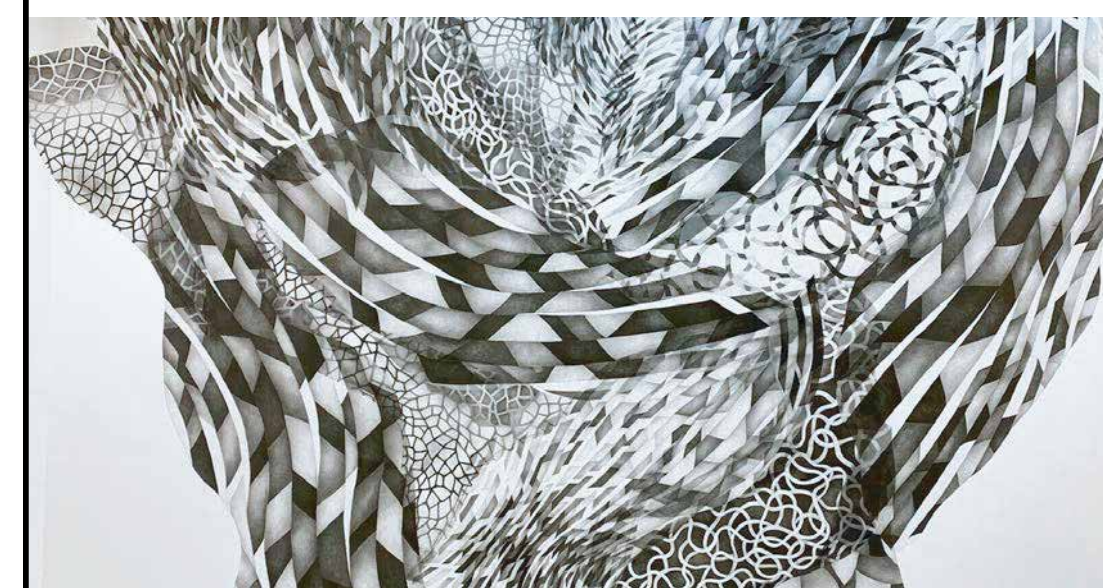
DAVE MUNCH / PHOTO EDITOR

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July 25th, 5pm, Athenaeum

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## THEATER

## MEETING THE MOMENT

Guided by mission, vision, CTC expands, re-focuses new play development work under Carroll

ADEN GRAVES  
STAFF WRITER

Since 2005, Chautauqua Theater Company has endeavored to develop and produce new work; at the center of that endeavor are the New Play Workshops. At CTC's first Theater Chat of the season Thursday in Smith Wilkes Hall, Producing Artistic Director Jade King Carroll pulled the curtain back on the work going on behind-the-scenes, both with CTC's first NPW of 2024, *Tell Me You're Dying*, and with the broader mission to develop new plays and offer growth opportunities for playwrights and directors.

Carroll sat down with *Tell Me You're Dying's* playwright C.A. Johnson, the play's dramaturg, Otis Ramsey-Zoe, and Britt Berke, a directing fellow collaborating on the workshop, and explored the play's development process, explained the importance of audience feedback, and

answered questions from Chautauquans. There will be a Theater Chat at 12:15 p.m. every Thursday at Smith Wilkes Hall.

When Carroll was appointed head of CTC following the 2022 season, a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts provided a chance for CTC to commission a playwright, and she immediately thought of Johnson. A Brooklyn-based playwright originally from Louisiana, Johnson spent several days on the grounds last season writing her play and finished it after six months.

Her play is the first of three New Play Workshops this season; the remaining performances are at 4 p.m. Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in Bratton Theater.

"This season and next season really gives the audiences a treat of a sneak peek, and it gives the playwright something that's so necessary in being able to



DAVE MUNCH / PHOTO EDITOR

Chautauqua Theater Company Producing Artistic Director Jade King Carroll, left, works with *Tell Me You're Dying* (or the trial of *millicent bonhomme*) playwright C.A. Johnson during a table read Thursday in Turner Community Center.

play with how it's staged, how it looks, and how some of it might be designed before committing to what that full production is," said Carroll, who is also directing *Tell Me You're Dying*.

This season, CTC is also partnering with The Drama League, a theater company based in New York City focused on training rising theater professionals, and allowing three directing fellows and four design fellows to experience hands-on training in a professional theater setting.

"We're really meeting plays at every stage of their life cycle, and I just think that is thrilling," Carroll said. "So many companies have shuttered in the past few years since the pandemic, from The Lark, to Sundance's playwriting, to Humana, to more recently SPACE on Ryder Farm. So many others across the country are getting rid of or scaling back their new play development. It is an honor, and I think a necessity, that we fill what is becoming a void in new play development."

In past years, NPWs were staged, produced with design and technical support. With Carroll, CTC is using a more fluid, less-produced model, focusing more on the text and the needs of each playwright and project.

Johnson, who feels privileged to work directly with CTC guest and conservatory actors to workshop her play, said the best part about the development stage of a work is letting the audience in.

"I think that when you're in that developmental stage, when you're trying to figure out what the work is, the best audience is always the audience of people who want to be a part of it, and want to be able to ask questions of it and help me move it, and so I'm really excited," Johnson said.

She first met Ramsey-Zoe, a dramaturg and theater arts educator, while working on a project at Sundance Institute in Morocco, and the two have collaborated on *Tell Me You're Dying* throughout

the writing, rehearsal, and workshop process.

For Ramsey-Zoe, the continual workshopping process has been rewarding; though he said a script is never fully "done."

"What excites me about dramaturgy is that it is always an opportunity to inquire and an opportunity to collect information," he said. "Then, the sort of unfinished or undoneness of that play is information, and then that information, even if you never get to come back to that play, goes into the next one."

In the past two years, CTC has started running preview performances for each mainstage production, like many regional and professional theaters, to allow audiences to respond and give feedback at the end of the show. Carroll said including audiences in the conversation is crucial to theater development, and she has put a rehearsal in between each NPW performance so the cast can adjust to the audience's reaction.

"What you see on Friday

very well might be different than what you see on Sunday because we'll learn something from where you laugh, where you don't laugh, where the audience starts shifting, where they lean back or lean in," Carroll said. "We're watching (the audience) in relationships and listening to you in relationships, and I think it is an integral part of the process."

This work, as NPWs have been for years, is possible through support from the Roe Green Foundation — and in order to expand new play development even further, the Roe Green Foundation has made a \$4.5 million commitment for a new, centralized, and state-of-the-art CTC facility. As the theater season continues on with its workshop and mainstage productions, Carroll said she is honored to bring the community together with new plays.

"It is a year of returning and community, and I think it definitely feels good and I think it's meeting the moment," Carroll said.

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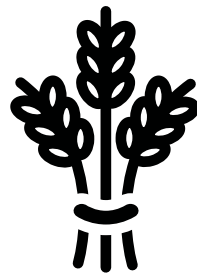
SEAN SMITH/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# THE BIG SHOT

Chautauquans gather Thursday in the Athenaeum Hotel Lobby Lounge to watch President Joe Biden and former President Donald J. Trump square off in their first debate of the 2024 election season. Heirloom Restaurant was packed with people watching on a projector screen; more spilled out into the lobby. In a week on "The Evolution of the Modern Presidency," the debate was a topic on nearly everyone's lips — speakers and Chautauquans alike.



## COMMUNITY



## MILESTONES

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All who knew Jane are encouraged to share memories and upload pictures to her unique remembrance page at [www.thompson-miller.com](http://www.thompson-miller.com).

## BEVERLY DAME ESCH

Beverly Dame Esch, of Chautauqua, New York, passed away on Dec. 30, 2023, in Erie, Pennsylvania at the age of 98. She was born April 5, 1925, in Pittsburgh, the daughter of Donald and Irene Dame. Growing up in Cleveland, Beverly had a passion for music and pursued her love for singing by studying voice in Cleveland and New York City. She had the opportunity to showcase her talents as a lyric soprano and actress by performing with The Cleveland Playhouse, Cain Park, Chautauqua Opera Company, Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, and as a member of the cast of the Broadway, film, and live television productions of Menotti's *The Medium*.

While she was growing up during the Great Depression as the daughter of a young widow, Cleveland benefactors ensured that Beverly never had to pay for a voice lesson. In return, Beverly spent much of her adult life giving back to young musicians as a founding member of the Chautauqua Opera Guild and through her years of work as chair of the Chautauqua Women's Club Scholarship Committee.

In 1954, she married Robert J. Esch and they lived in Cleveland and Chautauqua. After the loss of her husband, Beverly spent over three decades living fiercely independently as a year-round resident of Chautauqua Institution. She was an avid reader who volunteered to record audio



ESCH

versions of many books and textbooks for the Cleveland Society for the Blind. She was able to enjoy reading until her final illness, thanks to three anonymous cornea donors. She strived to maintain a keen awareness about current events and politics through her reading. Beverly was known to frequently offer her sage advice to family and friends by reminding them to "Be good! But not too good!"

Beverly is survived by her loving daughter, Barbara Stolar, and her husband, John (Harborcreek, Pennsylvania), as well as her granddaughter, Kimberly Stolar (Erie), and grandson, Eric Stolar (Meadville, Pennsylvania). In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Donald Dame, as well as her sisters, Virginia Poelking Murray, and Barbara Carson.

Private services were held for Beverly; a memorial planned for this summer in Chautauqua. In memory of Beverly, contributions can be made to the Cole Eye Institute of the Cleveland Clinic, The Chautauqua Opera Guild, or the Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department. The family would also like to acknowledge those special caregivers who helped Beverly and her loved ones through this journey.

**WILLIAM "BILL" F. HILL II**  
Longtime Chautauquan Bill Hill passed away on Feb. 25, 2024, a few days after celebrating his 90th birthday. He had been in the hospital for several weeks, mostly in the ICU, struggling with determination and spirit to stay alive and claim that very special free Chautauqua gate ticket! Unfortunately, his body was not able to continue the good fight.

Bill will be buried in the Chautauqua Cemetery in a private family service on Friday, July 5. Family and friends are invited for a drop in luncheon gathering to share memories of Bill from noon to 2 p.m. Friday, July 5, in the Athenaeum Hotel Parlor.

Learning to love Chautauqua was essentially a prerequisite for Bill's marriage to Dorothy Jean Sample, who had spent her first birthday here in 1933 and never missed a summer (at least a day) from then on. She and Bill were blessed to have three children, David (Nina), Paul (Nancy), and Cathy (Bob Jahrling) and eight grandchildren, all of them enthusiastic, lifelong Chautauquans.

Bill, a graduate of Pittsburgh's ShadySide Academy and The Cornell School of Mechanical Engineering, worked his entire ca-



HILL

reer with the Aluminum Company of America, enjoying lifelong friendships from both work and school. He and Dorothy traveled to an amazing variety of interesting places, such as Alaska, Sierra Leone, West Africa, the Himalayas of Nepal, and a homestay with a communist family in the Soviet Republic of Georgia as part of Chautauqua's five-year conferencing with the Soviet Union in the 1980s. They also took regular exciting trips with their children and grandchildren. An enthusiastic lover of God's creation in all of its wonder and beauty, Bill shared this enthusiasm with everyone he knew, but most especially with his family – fly fishing, sailing, hiking, ski-

ing, playing golf or tennis, cheering on community softball games, gardening, or just sitting on the porch and sharing ideas. And maybe a drink or two with family and friends.

Bill also participated in some fascinating volunteer activities both in Pittsburgh and in Chautauqua, as varied as teaching inner-city youth how to fly fish on the one hand; on the other hand, working for many years as a member of the Chautauqua Foundation, and as its chairman during some very challenging and equally rewarding times.

Bill had a keen mind, an unbelievably impressive memory and a great sense of humor. He was honest to the core and could always be trusted. He listened to people and he responded to what they were saying. He was an excellent bridge player, a voracious reader (especially of history) and a very good friend to many, including his wife, his kids, his grandkids, his dogs and the birds he so faithfully fed. He loved to dance, to sing, to laugh, to grow his garden, to watch his various sports on TV and to thoroughly enjoy his nightly martini. He was a really good man, at heart a gentle man, and perhaps above all, an absolutely great fisherman!

Hope you will join us – his huge extended family – for lunch at the Athenaeum on July 5!

## JANE WALKER

Elizabeth Jane Walker, 78, of Butler, Pennsylvania, passed away on Sept. 28, 2023, at her residence. Born on Aug. 21, 1945, in Butler, she was the daughter of the late James E. Walker and the late Bernice (Blair) Walker.

Jane graduated from Westminster College with a B.S. in education in 1967. She then went on to get a Masters degree as a Reading Specialist from Slippery Rock University in 1971. Jane taught reading at Seneca Valley School District for 30 years, retiring in 1997. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Butler, and was a member of the Literary Club of Butler. Jane loved listening to music, reading, studying history and spending her summers in Chautauqua, New York. She also enjoyed bird watching, fly fishing, observing nature, especially flowers.

She is survived by two sisters, Linda Storey of Kingwood, Texas, and Mary Lou Dickson of Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and a number of nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one sister, Dixie Ann Humphrey.

A funeral service to celebrate Jane's life was held on Oct. 7, 2023, at the First United Methodist Church in Butler, with the Rev. Sang Hak Lee officiating.

A private burial took place at Bear Creek Cemetery in

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# ADVOCATES FOR BALANCE AT CHAUTAUQUA INC.

## Presents



### Week 3 – Monday, July 8th, 4PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Riley Gaines

Riley Gaines is an athlete, advocate, woman and author. "America's most sought-after voice in the fight to save female sports"...USA TODAY. Riley's just published book, "SWIMMING Against the CURRENT: Fighting for COMMON SENSE in a WORLD that's LOST ITS MIND", is available at the Chautauqua Bookstore. "THE DISMANTLING OF TITLE IX"



### Week 4 – Monday, July 15th, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Dr. Scott W. Atlas

Scott W. Atlas MD is the Robert Wesson Senior Fellow in health policy at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and Former Advisor to the President and Member, White House Coronavirus Task Force and also co-director of Global Liberty Institute whose goal is to restore liberty and the free exchange of ideas, specifically targeting the World Economic Forum. Dr. Atlas is a prominent national TV commentator on serious health related issues including concerns expressed on COVID. "Restoring Trust After COVID"



### Week 5 – Sunday, July 21st, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Jimmy Failla

Jimmy Failla, a comedian hosting a FoxNews talk show every Saturday night filled with wit and wisdom featuring political and news satire. Failla's first book, "CANCEL CULTURE DICTIONARY: An A to Z Guide to Winning the War on Fun", is available at CHQ Bookstore. No lecture, just laughter on a Sunday afternoon.



### Week 6 – Monday, July 29th, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### General David Rodriguez

Retired Four Star Army General, David Rodriguez presents expert analysis of the U.S. military's readiness in light of the looming international threats of China, Russia and the Middle East. "Is the United States Ready for War"



### Week 7 – Monday, August 5th, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Byron York

Byron York, is an opinion columnist at the Washington Examiner, an author, and the chief political correspondent at FoxNews. His columns have appeared in the WSJ, Washington Post, National Review, Foreign Affairs and the New Republic. York has covered every presidential campaign since 2000. His book "Obsession" is available at Chautauqua bookstore. "The 2024 Election"



### Week 2 – Monday, July 1st, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### John Abbott

John Abbott is an IBM executive, Chautauquan and an ABC Board Member. John will explain the complications and Implications of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and how to use it.

"Everything You Wanted to Know About AI, But Don't Know to Ask"



### Week 8 – Monday, August 12, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Paul Mauro

Paul Mauro is a retired NYPD official, attorney and frequent national TV news contributor on the issue of the burgeoning crime wave across the country and what to do about it.

"The Crisis of Lawlessness in the Country"



### Week 9 – Monday, August 19th, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Mark Twain (Mike Randall)

Mark Twain as played by Mike Randall presents the most sage observer of our American scene. Randall has been portraying Mark Twain for over 50 years to much acclaim. Mark Twain's books are available everywhere. Enjoy!



### Monday, June 24th, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Gregg Jarrett

Gregg Jarrett is an attorney, and NYT best selling author. Jarrett is the chief legal contributor providing legal analysis on Fox News Channel. His national TV legal commentary spans over 28 years and includes MSNBC and CourtTV. In his book, "The CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES and Other Patriotic Documents", Jarrett explains their importance in today's world. His most recent book, "The Trial of the Century", presents a history of Clarence Darrow's Scopes Monkey Trial. Both are available at Chautauqua Bookstore. Book signing follows his lecture.

"LAWFARE: The Weaponization of the U.S. Legal System How & Why"



### Week 1 – Friday, June 28th, 3PM (Athenaeum Parlor)

#### Amity Shlaes

Amity Shlaes, American conservative columnist, author and writer. Shlaes authored five books including three New York Times bestsellers. "GREAT SOCIETY" and her most recent book "CALVIN COOLIDGE" are both available at a discount at the Chautauqua Bookstore. Book signing follows her lecture.

"Student Protests, Unions, and Building a Great Society: The 1960s and Today"

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Advocates for Balance at Chautauqua, Inc. is not affiliated with Chautauqua Institution.





# COMMUNITY



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CORRESPONDENCE FROM OUR READERS

### TO THE EDITOR:

With the opening of the sesquicentennial, let's have some fun and turn back the clocks to see what happened at Chautauqua during the 1974 season. For starters, the U.S. Postal Service designed a commemorative stamp honoring the Chautauqua movement (for 10 cents, ha-ha); the Institution issued a 50-page Souvenir Program and awarded Certificates of Recognition for employees; and Bellinger Hall, Chautauqua Institution's new dormitory, opened (with no A/C, ugh).

In the arts, a remarkable season filled Norton Hall in terms of quantity and quality. For opera, 16 total performances, including two nights each for *La Traviata* and *Don Giovanni*, and two nights and a matinee for *La Boheme* and *West Side Story* (yes, musicals existed at Chautauqua!); for theater, 16 total performances, including works by Noel Coward, Eugene O'Neill, Garson Kanin and John Osborne. And at the Chautauqua Cinema, a full season of films (second-to-none) were shown under the guidance of the Robert Schmidt family (and with A/C).

In the Amphitheater, world-renowned artist Victor Borge opened the season with "Comedy in Music" followed by Richard Tucker and Robert Merrill, Chet Atkins, Melba Moore, and Ferrante & Teicher, whose concert was paused so the audience could watch the resignation speech of President Richard Nixon (now, that's a historic event).

And the 10:45 a.m. lecture series presented Dr. John G. Stoessinger, director of Political Affairs for the United Nations; Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP; and long-time Chautauquan Dr. Carl S. Winters.

And, week after week, first-class artists performed with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra including Peter Nero, Jacques d'Amboise, Marilyn Horne (of nearby Bradford, Pennsylvania), Skitch Henderson, Patricia McBride and Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and George Shearing. And let's not forget the coveted Wednesday night "Pop Concerts" showcasing Broadway's best shows like *Oliver!*, *Anything Goes*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Porgy and Bess*, and *Candide*.

The Chautauqua Centennial was "a really big show"! And, remarkably, all of the above took place within a three-day pre-season and eight weeks from Thursday, June 27, to Sunday, Aug. 25!

JOHN KEATING  
MAYVILLE, NY

### TO THE EDITOR:

During our opening worship service, I was appalled to see older Chautauquans struggle with the phone to find the hymns so they could sing because the ushers ran out of bulletins. I have been coming to Chautauqua for four decades and I have never seen this before. What arrogance on the part of the Institution staff to believe we should "economize" on the first church service where we know the numbers will be greatest because of Three Taps of the Gavel. Just how much money did we save? And was it worth degrading the experience of people who came from far and wide to hear Fr. Greg Boyle's wonderful preaching and hear our glorious choir sing? I am heartsick.

DENNIS C. WILDER  
9 SOUTH TERRACE

### TO THE EDITOR:

As we commemorate 150 years of Chautauqua, it's crucial to recognize the traditions that have sustained this community. While these traditions may not seem financially significant to the current leadership, their value will become evident in the future if neglected. Activities such as Boys' and Girls' Club, Youth Activities Center dances, at Heinz/Baby Beach, and Lincoln Park whiffle ball games, including the Fourth of July Children's School parade, are more than just events; they foster nostalgia and encourage families to return generation after generation. Witnessing my children create the same cherished memories reaffirms the importance of these experiences, which is why many of us return annually. The infusion of young families is vital for Chautauqua's longevity, and financially supporting these experiences is a strategic investment in its future sustainability, rather than short-term money grabs or restrictive government grants. Reducing the budget for these unique experiences, while simultaneously spending on non-essential items like bloated Colonnade staff, paver sidewalks, and personal chefs, will jeopardize the future of Chautauqua. It's the families who remain that will bear the financial burden long after leaders like President Michael Hill have jumped off this stepping stone.

MIKE AUGHENBAUGH  
48 JANES

### TO THE EDITOR:

What a pleasure it is to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones, all while exercising patience — in the ticket line. Soon, AI is sure to come and enrich the experience. I can hardly wait.

JOE LEWIS  
36 MASSEY

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### TO THE EDITOR:

For as long as I've been coming to Chautauqua (since 1981), I've wondered about the flags adorning the high space above the stage in the Amphitheater.

There are 30 in all; 15 to one side of the Massey Memorial Organ's pipes, 15 on the other. The iconic organ itself was dedicated August 1907, just 33 years after Chautauqua Institution was established.

The U.S. flag and United Nations banner, bigger than the 28 others, serve as bookends for the collection. Several can be identified with the unaided eye. In addition to the Stars and Stripes — by far the largest on display — are the national pennants of the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and Israel, among others.

Archivist Jon Schmitz is asked about the flags frequently but has no official list of current banners. He opines the decision to hoist them came after World War II — perhaps as late as the 1950s. Theories have been advanced about why those 30 are the ones on display, but Schmitz has seen no evidence to back up those notions.

One hypothesis is the flags represent countries from which Chautauqua historically has drawn Amp speakers.

"This is probably not true," offered Schmitz, adding whatever reason there was to spotlight the flags "may be lost to the sands of time."

Scott Ekstrom, director of the Smith, advanced the following: "There appears to be no reason. They are flags we have on hand. There have been many theories. Some have wondered if these are the original countries of the U.N. or of NATO. No. Some have wondered if they are the flags of countries with CLSC circles. No. Some have wondered if they are the flags of the countries whose heads of state have spoken here. No. Instead, it appears they are simply flags that have been donated and accumulated over the years. Buildings & Grounds then puts up as many as will fit each year."

Perhaps a longtime Chautauquan possesses another perspective. If so, I'd be interested. In any event, I suspect the topic is worthy of an academic dissertation for someone interested enough to pursue the idea.

JEFF LONG  
13 AMES

### TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you, Chautauqua, for the Pride Anthems concert, which told the history of the LGBTQ+ community's struggle for basic human rights through a musical journey since the Stonewall rebellion. Monday, June 24, was the first time an LGBTQ+ focused event was on the main stage of the Amphitheater. Without a doubt there will be some backlash simply because some people still think LGBTQ+ people and our history should be put back in the closet, if not completely eliminated. The attacks on our community, from book bannings to denying medical care to passing laws making it OK to fire people just because they are LGBTQ+, have increased over the last few years. It was pure joy for my family and my community to feel validated and safe for 90 minutes. I applaud Vice President of Performing and Visual Arts Laura Savia and the Chautauqua staff members who made this happen.

If we want more young people and more people of color here, we need to tell the history of people who have been othered. It's not "political correctness" to do so. Rather, it's the right thing to do.

BARBARA BRITTON  
19 PALESTINE

### TO THE EDITOR:

Last year I wrote, and the Daily published, a letter suggesting the difference between a Chautauqua 10:45 a.m. lecture and a TED Talk is the Q-and-A after the lecture.

As we wrap up Week One, the 10:45 a.m. is looking more like a TED Talk. Not wanting just to throw darts, I have a solution. We are spending almost 10 minutes with announcements and introductions prior to the speaker uttering their first word.

Let's use the technology I know we have, as I hear the rings throughout the lecture. Use those three huge screens hanging in the Amphitheater to post donor names, sponsors, facts about the speaker, and a link to whatever you are spending 10 minutes sharing. Cut that 10 minutes to two or three minutes, and you almost double the Q-and-A time. Let's get back to what makes Chautauqua a special place.

LARRY WOLF  
33 LONGFELLOW, 1H

## 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: **Sara Toth, editor**  
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By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Toll growths
  - 5 Fable feature
  - 10 Wing it
  - 12 Maxim
  - 13 King or czar
  - 14 Horse's cousin
  - 15 Ft. Worth sch.
  - 16 Wisdom bringer
  - 18 Garden section
  - 19 Belgrade setting
  - 21 Flamenco cries
  - 22 Spots with no bars
  - 24 Designer Geoffrey
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  - 39 Start a set
  - 40 Speedy
- DOWN**
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  - 4 Golf position
  - 5 Puzzle book feature
  - 6 Horace creation
  - 7 Unruly crowd
  - 8 Concur
  - 9 Main roles
  - 11 Like some rugs
  - 17 Garden pavilions
  - 20 Elephant of stories
  - 21 Without letup
  - 23 Switch choice
  - 25 Physician name
  - 26 Pal of Pooh
  - 27 Aerie youngster
  - 28 Lisa, to Bart
  - 29 Wild party
  - 31 Mean-spirited
  - 33 Calls on name
  - 36 Garden
  - 38 Yale student

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Yesterday's answer

## Johnson Memorial Trust provides for Chipper Experience

The John Alfred and Oscar Johnson Memorial Trust will support the performance by The Chipper Experience! Where Comedy & Magic Collide! at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the Amphitheater. The fund will also provide support for the afternoon performance by Sonia De Los Santos on July 28.

Johnson Foundation has generously provided support to help underwrite quality programming on Sundays, which are free admission days at the Institution. The Johnson Foundation's annual support of the Sunday concert series was secured in perpetuity with its establishment of an endowment fund, the John Alfred and Oscar Johnson

Memorial Trust, which will underwrite performances for families to enjoy — at no cost — for years to come. The Johnson Foundation was founded in memory of John Alfred Johnson, a Swedish man who settled as a young boy in Jamestown, and his brother, Oscar. Prior to John's passing, Johnson worked with his attorney,

John Sellstrom, to leave his estate to organizations that would benefit the Jamestown community and surrounding area. Much of the Johnson Foundation's outreach has supported civic groups of Swedish and Scandinavian origin, educational institutions and religious organizations throughout Chautauqua County.

## Lenna Fund provides for Bayberry String Quartet

The Lenna Fund for the Performing Arts provides support for the Bayberry String Quartet performance at 4:15 p.m. Saturday in Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall.

New York, Jamestown. In 1976, he was knighted by the King of Sweden, Royal Order of the North Star, and received an honorary doctorate in 1981 from St. Bonaventure University. He received a 1975 Brotherhood Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was active in several local organizations, including the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County, the United Jewish Appeal and the Jamestown YMCA. He was a former trustee of St. Bonaventure University and a director of the Lenna Foundation.

tauqua Institution Board of Trustees. As a trustee, she was chair of the nominating and finance committees and a member of the planning and executive committees and the extended programming task force. After her service on the board ended, Betty Lenna continued to serve Chautauqua as a community member of the Development Council. She was a director of the Lenna Foundation and of the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation and trustee of the T. James and Hazel C. Clarke Trust. She was a director of Blackstone Corporation and a member of the advisory board for

Marine Midland Bank. Betty Lenna was a president of The Creche of Jamestown and a member of the WCA Hospital board of directors in Jamestown. She was on the board and a major benefactor of the Robert H. Jackson Center in Jamestown. Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall, Chautauqua's renowned recital and rehearsal hall, was a gift from the Lennas, who provided sole funding for the facility and its ongoing maintenance needs. Lenna Hall was completed in 1993 and dedicated in July of that year. The Lennas also provided a generous donation in 1988 to create the Main Gate Welcome Center.

## Reading/Miller, Wilder funds provide for CSO

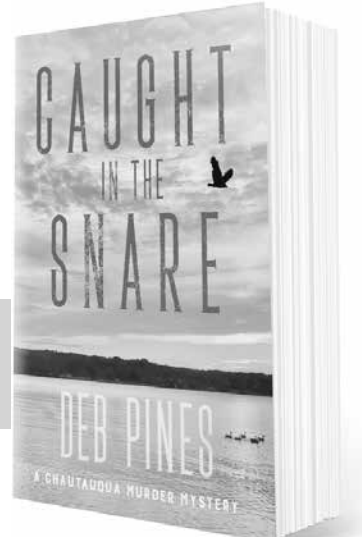
The Miriam S. Reading/Richard H. Miller Fund and the Wilder Family Fund for the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra support the concert at 8:15 p.m. Saturday in the Amphitheater.

2021, longtime Chautauquans, and each of them participated actively in the life and governance of the community. Miriam and Dick married in 1973 and their combined family of eight children and 17 grandchildren have actively participated in the life of the Institution. Miriam is the daughter of Paul and Helen Sample, each of whom served as a trustee of the Institution. Dick is a great-grandson of Lewis Miller, a cofounder of Chautauqua Institution. He was the former chair of the board of trustees of the Institution and former president of the Chautauqua Foundation. Miriam has also served as both a trustee of the Institution and as a director of the Foundation.

Both were active in Chautauqua's development campaigns, from the Second Century Campaign in 1979 through the Idea Campaign in 2007, and each has held numerous other positions of leadership and responsibility on behalf of Chautauqua.

The Wilder Family Fund was established by Robert Wilder and recognizes the family's long involvement in the Chautauqua community. Robert Wilder, a native of Warren, Pennsylvania, served as a trustee of Chautauqua from 1976 to 1988. Wilder worked at National Forge for his entire professional career, including serving as president and chairman of the company. His wife, Anne Wilder, was chairwoman of Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan's prominent nonprofit developmental theater. Their children Rachel, Clint and Robert continue to enjoy Chautauqua.

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In many areas, if you call an ambulance, you receive a bill afterwards. New York State under the EMS Cost Recovery Act allows volunteer fire departments to bill for emergency medical services. The Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department and Chautauqua Fire District #1 Board of Fire Commissioners have now approved a billing process that has taken effect June 1, 2024. We are working with Medex Billing, Inc. to ensure full compliance with billing service regulations. Under this new billing process, we will collect health insurance data and send your health insurance company a bill based on the emergency service required. Many times, we can collect this data from the hospital. The insurance company would then reimburse the volunteer fire department. This works with Medicare and Medicaid also. Should the individual not have health insurance, then no claim will be pursued. At no time will the collection of this health insurance data impede any emergency service needed! Ambulance service will be provided regardless of ability to collect insurance revenue. The EMS Cost Recovery Act requires that all revenue received be used toward emergency service costs. This will improve the department's ability to provide necessary supplies, equipment, training, and paramedic personnel to enhance service to those with emergency needs.

## McElree Fund provides for Moore-Koikoi Chaplaincy

The Geraldine M. and Frank E. McElree, Jr. Chaplaincy Fund provides funding for this week's chaplain, Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi.

McElree served on the Chautauqua Institution Board of Trustees and the Chautauqua Foundation Board of Directors. He was one of a small group of trustees who first hired Tom Becker in 1984. He was an active fundraiser for the Chautauqua Challenge Campaign and the Chautauqua Fund. Frank also served on the board of the Presbyterian House and was trustee emeritus of Allegheny College. Frank passed away in 2013.

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.

6-29 CRYPTOQUOTE

M S F F L V Q M R I L J P P S J Z

O L V F Q M M Q N P M Z Q O R N W L

Z J K B . R N X N P N R I Q P Y J P X

I J E L Q R D N S P R T N V

M N F L R I Q P Y . — V L Y Q P J W V L R R

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: NORMAL IS NOTHING MORE THAN A CYCLE ON A WASHING MACHINE. — WHOOP! GOLDBERG

## SUDOKU

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 6/29

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 6/28

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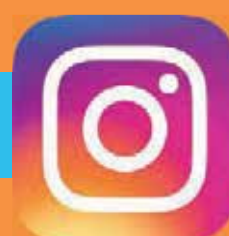


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# PROGRAM

## Sa

SATURDAY  
JUNE 29

- 9:45 Torah Study. "Today's Torah for Today's Times." Hurlbut Church Marion Lawrence Room
- 10:15 Hebrew Congregation Sabbath Service. 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.** Fee. (Purchase ticket at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is not wheelchair accessible.) Leave from Main Gate Welcome Center
- 3:00 **Contemporary Issues Forum.** (Programmed by Chautauqua Women's Club.) **Edward Humes**, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist; author. Hall of Philosophy
- 4:00 **THEATER. New Play Workshop.** *Tell Me You're Dying (or the trial of millicent bonhomme)* by C.A.

- Johnson. (Reserved seating; purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center or Visitors Center ticket offices and one hour before curtain at Bratton kiosk.) Talkback follows with **Jade King Carroll**, producing artistic director. Followed by LGBTQ+ and Friends reception. Bratton Theater
- 4:15 **Chautauqua Chamber Music Resident Artist Series. Bayberry String Quartet.** Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall
- 5:00 Catholic Mass. Hall of Philosophy
- 6:00 LGBTQ+ and Friends' *Tell Me You're Dying* Reception. Cash bar. Intermezzo in the St. Elmo
- 6:45 **Pre-Concert Lecture. David B. Levy.** Hultquist Center 101
- 8:15 **CHAUTAUQUA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.** "Beethoven's Ode to Joy." **Rossen Milanov**, conductor. **Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, Adam Luebke**, music director.
  - Howard Hanson: Song of Democracy (13')
  - Ludwig van Beethoven: Symphony No. 9 in D minor, op. 125, "Choral" (65')
 Allegro ma non troppo, un poco

- maestoso
- Scherzo: Molto vivace—Presto
- Adagio molto e cantabile
- Presto
- 10:00 **Bratton Late Night.** (Programmed by Chautauqua Theater Company.) Featuring members of the **2024 Chautauqua Theater Company Conservatory.** Bratton Theater

- 9:00 United Church of Christ Worship Service. UCC Randell Chapel
- 9:00 Episcopal Holy Eucharist. Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 9:30 Christian Science Service. Christian Science Chapel
- 9:30 Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Service. Quaker House, 28 Ames
- 9:30 Services in Denominational Houses
- 9:30 Unitarian Universalist Service. Hall of Philosophy
- 9:30 Unity Service. Hall of Missions
- 10:15 **Sunday School.** Ages 3-11. Children's School
- 10:45 **ECUMENICAL SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND SERMON.** "Declaration of Independence: We Are Free from Grandma's Context." **Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi**, bishop, Western Pennsylvania Conference, United Methodist Church. Amphitheater and CHQ Assembly
- 11:30 (11:30 until sold out) Chicken BBQ. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department.) Fee. Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department Firehall on Massey
- 12:00 (12-1:30) **Community Activity Fair & Meet and Greet.** Bestor Plaza
- 12:00 **Play CHQ: Games.** Bestor Plaza
- 12:15 Catholic Mass. Hall of Philosophy
- 1:00 (1-5) **Gallery Exhibitions Open.** Fowler-Kellogg Art Center and Strohl Art Center
- 1:00 **Open Play and Location Tours.** Children's School, Group One, and Boys' and Girls' Club.
- 1:00 Porch Chat. (Programmed by the African American Heritage House.) Athenaeum Hotel Porch
- 1:30 **Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds.** Fee. (Purchase ticket at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is not wheelchair accessible.) Leave from Main Gate Welcome Center

- 1:30 Christian Science Lecture. "Be Set Free." Nicole Virgil, practitioner of Christian Science Healing. Smith Wilkes Hall
- 2:30 **FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT SERIES. The Chipper Experience! Where Comedy & Magic Collide!** Amphitheater
- 2:30 **Chautauqua Theater Company. New Play Workshop.** *Tell Me You're Dying (or the trial of millicent bonhomme)* by C.A. Johnson. (Reserved seating; purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center or Visitors Center ticket offices and one hour before curtain at Bratton kiosk.) Talkback follows with **Jade King Carroll**, producing artistic director. Bratton Theater
- 3:30 Jewish Film Series. (Sponsored by the Everett Jewish Life Center) "Call Me Dancer" Everett Jewish Life Center
- 3:30 **LITERARY ARTS.** Writers' Center Reading. **Lillian Yvonne-Bertram** (poetry) and **Chloe Caldwell** (prose). Hall of Philosophy
- 4:00 Church of the Wild. (Programmed by Quaker House) Burgeson Nature Classroom
- 4:00 **Orientation for New Chautauquans.** Hultquist Center
- 5:00 Open Mic. (Programmed by the Friends of the Chautauqua Writers' Center.) Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall Prose Room
- 6:00 (6-7:30) Chautauqua Vegan Group Potluck. (RSVP to chvqevan@gmail.com.) Fowler-Kellogg Art Center back porch
- 6:30 LGBTQ and Friends Meet and Greet. Athenaeum Hotel porch
- 7:00 **Palestine Park Tour.** "A Journey Through the Holy Land in the Times of Jesus." Palestine Park
- 7:15 Shirley Lazarus Speaker Series. (Programmed by the Hebrew Congregation) "Remembering the Past and Shaping the Future through Interactive Education." Leigh-Anne Hendrick, Program Director, Hebrew Congregation of Chautauqua's Holocaust and Social Justice Education Program. Smith Wilkes Hall
- 8:00 **SACRED SONG SERVICE.** "Sacred Synthesis." Amphitheater
- 9:15 **Film and Filmmaker Talk.** (Sponsored by the Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative.) "The Last Ranger." David Lee, filmmaker, Mike Veale, founder of Global Conservation Force. Smith Wilkes Hall

## Su

SUNDAY  
JUNE 23

- 7:45 Episcopal Holy Eucharist. Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 8:00 (8-10:30) **Open Pickleball.** No registration required. Fee. Pickleball courts at Tennis Center
- 8:30 Songs, Prayers, Communion & Meditation. Hurlbut Church


- 7:15 Chautauqua Farmers Market. Massey and Miller
- 7:15 **Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program.** Leader: **Carol McKiernan** (Centering Prayer.) Hall of Philosophy
- 8:00 (8-10:30) **Open Pickleball.** No registration required. Fee. Pickleball courts at Tennis Center
- 9:30 Chabad Jewish House Community Shabbat Service. Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House

**For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it produce and sprout, And providing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;**

**So will My word be which goes out of My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the purpose for which I sent it.**

**For you will go out with joy And be led in peace; The mountains and the hills will break into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.**

*Isaiah 55: 10-12*



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Opening day: Friday, July 5th 12-2pm

Season's Greetings (Member Reception)

Wednesday, July 10th 4:30-6:30pm (CWC Tent)

Visit CWC Website for 2024 Schedule

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