

spirituality & revolution



SKYLAR SEAVEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Music Director Rossen Milanov leads the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra as they perform Holst's "The Planets" Saturday in the Amphitheater.

Milanov to conduct Hovhaness' Symphony No. 2, 'Mysterious Mountain,' Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 12, 'The Year 1917' in CSO debut

ROCCO PRIOLETTI
STAFF WRITER

When Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra Music Director Rossen Milanov received the opportunity to have two rehearsals for tonight's program, a rarity amid the CSO's nonstop schedule, he ventured for repertoire that the orchestra was previously unfamiliar with.

"I personally have never conducted any of these two pieces. I always wanted to program the 'Mysterious Mountain' and it never really materialized, for some reason," Milanov said.

For the first time, Chautauquans will see Milanov guide the CSO through spiritual and political revolu-

“

This is music of living, through the course of this 20-some minutes of music, and feeling that we are spiritually elevated.”

—ROSSEN MILANOV
Music Director,
Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra

tion in Hovhaness' Symphony No. 2, "Mysterious Mountain," and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 12, "The Year 1917," during the 8 p.m. CSO performance tonight in the Amphitheater.

Milanov noted that, despite being written immediately after the end of World War II, the "Mysterious Mountain" Symphony does not embody the overtly avant-garde sensibilities of the period. Instead, the piece harkens back to the Baroque style of Johann Sebastian Bach. Visible even in the piece's title, Hovhaness' interests here lay within the elusive.

See **CSO**, Page 4



WILKINSON

Wilkinson to discuss moving beyond climate fears

GUINEVERE MACLOWRY
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

"Want to help the world. Be connected with the Earth. Change the way I live." These are the words author Katharine Wilkinson scrawled in her journal at the age of sixteen while overlooking a ridge in Pisgah Forest, North Carolina. They are also the words that open the first chapter of her new book, *Climate Wayfinding: Healing Ourselves and the Planet We Call Home*.

Wilkinson is an author and the founding executive director of The All We Can Save project, a nonprofit that facilitates climate learning and leadership development. She will give a lecture on *Climate Wayfinding* at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater.

Wilkinson said she has always had an affinity for the more-than-human world. In high school, she spent a semester at an experiential school called The Outdoor Academy in western North Carolina, nestled in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains. There, she lived in the woods with a handful of teachers and 25 other students — one of whom was Leah Naomi Green, who will present the Interfaith Lecture at 2 p.m. today in the Hall of Philosophy.

See **WILKINSON**, Page 4

Green to provide spiritual, poetic reflection on climate movement



GREEN

LILY RESLINK
STAFF WRITER

Leah Naomi Green sits on the quiet, reflective outskirts of the climate movement with pen, paper and students she hopes to instill with the same sense of thoughtfulness.

Green, an author of environmental poetry, views sitting and thinking as a neglected yet essential part of progressing toward a more environmentally conscious and connected society. She will deliver a lecture at 2 p.m. today in the Hall of Philosophy, which she titled "Don't

Just Do Something, Sit There," after a quote from Zen Master Thích Nhất Hạnh.

She said her lecture will explore that quote through conversations with the writings of Robin Wall Kimmerer, Ross Gay, Wendell Berry, Ada Limón, Nhất Hạnh and herself.

At Katharine Wilkinson's 10:45 a.m. lecture today in the Amphitheater, Green will be giving "a little taste" of her environmental poems, and at her Interfaith Lecture, she will discuss the thought behind them.

Green is the writer-in-res-

idence at Washington and Lee University, where she teaches both English and environmental studies.

"Technically there's no religion in there, but ask anyone who's ever taken my classes — it's definitely part of what we do," Green said.

When Director of Religion Robert Wilson-Black provided the lecture prompt, "spiritual responses to a throwaway world," Green said she immediately thought, "This is the talk I was born to give." She said her lecture will offer her reflections from 20 years

of her thoughts on this topic.

Green's perspective is also shaped by her life as a homesteader. "My family and I grow most of our own food and live in an ecological community where we heat with wood and forage and grow food."

The spiritual perspective she will bring to her Interfaith Lecture reflects a range including Buddhism, Quakerism and Judaism.

Currently, she said Buddhist practice is the faith tradition from which she is learning the most. "My partner and I met at a Buddhist

monastery and have spent the last 20 years living in this homesteading life inflected by that tradition."

Quakerism, she said, preceded her current chapter. "I was lucky enough that my mom taught English at a Quaker school when I was growing up, so I got to go for free." In her 20s, Green said she went to a Quaker college, where she lived in an interfaith house and led backpacking trips for a Quaker program.

See **GREEN**, Page 4

IN TODAY'S DAILY



A LONG-STANDING TRADITION

Chautauquans of all ages gather to celebrate Smith Memorial Library's 95th year.

Page 2



DIGESTING MICROPLASTICS

Miller discusses marine debris expeditions, explains microplastics' effects.

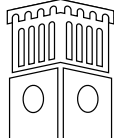
Page 3



'AN AFTERNOON OF SONG'

Chautauqua Opera Company to perform final 'Afternoon of Song' in Fletcher Music Hall.

Page 7



TODAY'S
WEATHER



H 70° L 52°
Rain: 0%
Sunset: 8:47 p.m.

FRIDAY



H 77° L 53°
Rain: 0%
Sunrise: 6:01 a.m. Sunset: 8:47 p.m.

SATURDAY



H 76° L 60°
Rain: 35%
Sunrise: 6:01 a.m. Sunset: 8:46 p.m.

COMMUNITY



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 Gracie Szablewski 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.

Busch to facilitate end-of-week discussion as part of Miami partnership

At 12:30 p.m. Friday in Smith Wilkes Hall, Andrew Busch will facilitate a post-lecture discussion to help attendees unpack Week Four's lectures and programs. Busch is director of Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation at Miami University of Ohio and a 2026 Miami-Chautauqua Faculty Fellow.

Library news

Smith Memorial Library programs Children's Story Time on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Bestor Plaza (rain location in library). At noon today, join Friends of the Chautauqua Writers' Center on the porch for "Locals at The Library!" — this week featuring authors Martha J. Rogus (Quillyshine), Joan Wahl (*Summer Love in Music City*), and Jason Bussman (*Fumble: A Memoir: Just a Dad Trying Not to Drop the Ball*).

David Levy pre-concert lecture

The beginning of David Levy's pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Hultquist Center will feature an interview with CSO violinist Lenelle Morse. Morse has served in the orchestra since 1992.

Tennis tournament

The tennis center will be holding the team tennis tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday. Check in will be at 8:30 a.m. at the pro shop. To receive the team roster and T-shirt, sign up at the Pro Shop or call 716-357-6276 to reserve your spot.

BULLETIN BOARD

The **Bulletin Board** is available to volunteer organizations who are at Chautauqua but are not one of the Institution's official organizations and do not have access to the Institution's usual promotional vehicles. Listing in the community **Bulletin Board** is limited to event (speaker), date, time, location, sponsor and cost, if there is one. The **Bulletin Board** will be published whenever there is a listing. The cost for each listing is \$5, or three listings for \$10. Submissions to the **Bulletin Board** should go to the Daily Business Office in Logan Hall on Bestor Plaza.

EVENT	TITLE / SPEAKER	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SPONSOR
P.E.O. Reunion	BYO Lunch on the porch	Today	Noon	Porch of Sarah Hughes Rice, 27 Ramble	
Free film screening	"No Other Land"	Today	6:30 p.m.	UCC Randell Chapel	Chautauquans Seeking Healing for Palestinians and Israelis



TALLULAH BROWN VAN ZEE / DAILY FILE PHOTO

Chautauquans of all ages gather to celebrate last year's Library Day July 31, 2025 at Smith Memorial Library, discussing their favorite books over coffee and treats.

Smith Memorial Library celebrates its 95th year

NORA SMITH
STAFF WRITER

It's quite a feat to turn 95. Whether as an individual, organization, building or so forth, a landmark birthday warrants a big party — and today is exactly that.

From 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. today, Friends of Smith Memorial Library will host the annual Library Day bash for literary lovers of all types at Smith Memorial Library in celebration of the library's 95th birthday.

"It is a fundraiser for the Friends of Smith Memorial Library who support the library and do special

projects," Scott Ekstrom, director of Smith Memorial Library, said. "So, [attendees] are invited to give at any amount, but even if they don't give, we want them to come and enjoy the time because it is just a celebration for what this library means for the greater Chautauqua community. So, all are welcome."

Library Day is a morning of socializing, refreshments and word games. If the weather permits, the block in front of the library will be closed off so the celebration can take place in front of the library and on the front

steps. If these festivities alone weren't enough, the library will invite attendees to wear their favorite books with pride via the quintessential red "my favorite book" stickers.

"[There's] baked goods from the area and coffee, word games, a chance to get the annual, one day only a year, 'my favorite book' sticker," Ekstrom said.

The sticker is a great ice-breaker for attendees to spark conversations with one another while still preserving the book theme of the event as they write their favorite book title, or what-

ever book they're currently into at the moment, on a sticker and a name tag they place on their shirt.

Ekstrom said part of the Library Day tradition consists of inviting local librarians throughout the region to the grounds to celebrate not only the Smith, but libraries as an institution, and experience a day at Chautauqua.

"One thing that we do, a long-standing tradition, is invite area librarians from around the region to come and enjoy Chautauqua for the day," Ekstrom said. "So, I hope to see a lot of them."



THE ANGLICAN REFORMATION

A 16th Century Clash of Religion and Politics in Europe

Chautauqua Special Studies
Week 5, July 27 - 30, 2026
9:15AM Hall of Christ
Presenter: Benjamin Reid
benreid1971@gmail.com

This course surveys English history between the Crownings of Henry VIII and James I. During this ninety-four year period, nearly 1,000 years of Catholicism in England ended. At the same time, Anglicanism was born and fully developed. The course will delve into the underlying historic, political, theological, and social development during the reign of each of the Sovereigns. The international intrigues which resulted from the religious turmoil in England will also be covered.

	Henry VIII 1509: The Tudor Dynasty Begins in a Thorny Bush on Bosworth Field <i>"Divorced, beheaded, died, divorce, beheaded, survived"</i>
	Edward VI 1547: Anglican Theology and Practice take hold Principally by Act of Parliament <i>"The Monstrous Regimen of Women"</i>
	Mary I 1553: Catholicism Comes Roaring Back in all of its Bloody Excesses <i>"The most unhappy and unsuccessful of England's Sovereigns"</i>
	Elizabeth I 1558: Anglicanism Returns with the Elizabethan Settlement <i>"The battle between elevating the Host above or keeping it below the eyes"</i>
	James I 1603: The Church and State in Tandem Become More Centralized and Tyrannical <i>"Opponents of the established will be harried out the land or do worse"</i>



Thursday at the CINEMA

Thursday, July 23

POWER BALLAD - 3:30 & 8:30 When Rick (Paul Rudd), a past-his-prime wedding singer, meets fading boy-band star Danny (Nick Jonas) during a gig, the two bond over music and a late-night jam session. But when Danny turns one of Rick's songs into the hit that reignites his career, Rick sets out to reclaim the recognition he believes he deserves. Writer-director **John Carney** (*Sing Street, Begin Again, Once*) brings us "another catchy valentine to the transcendent properties of music." -*Ian Freer, Empire Magazine* "Utterly, thrillingly satisfying." -*Angie Han, The Hollywood Reporter* (R, 98m)

MARY OLIVER: SAVED BY THE BEAUTY OF THE WORLD - 6:00 If poetry had a pop icon, Mary Oliver would be it. Celebrated best-selling poet, Pulitzer Prize-winner, lover of dogs and long walks in the woods, openly queer but intensely private, Oliver was America's unlikely contemporary mystic, stalking the ponds and forests of Cape Cod for nearly fifty years in order to open herself—and her readers—to the known and unknowable world. (NR, 91m)

THE CHQ 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:
Dave Munch, Interim Managing Editor

dmunch@chq.org

JENNA OUTCALT
STAFF WRITER

A lot can be learned from trash, according to Sherri "Sam" Mason. Trash sorting workshops like the ones she leads can provide valuable information not only for scientists like her, but for the public, too.

"I think the important thing [is] we're there to have fun. We're there to educate, but in a fun way," she said.

Mason is leading a summer camp for high school students that goes to different areas in the Lake Erie coastal zone and explores local ecology with field experience and laboratory analysis. At 12:30 p.m. today at Heinz Beach, the camp will sort trash and discuss the information they learn from the waste.

"A good way to learn about a society is by looking at the trash, the things we throw away, the things that we don't consider important," Mason said.

Mason researches plastic pollution at Gannon University, where she oversees multiple environmental education and conservation initiatives. Mason encouraged Chautauquans to pick

up trash around Chautauqua Institution and join the summer camp for the hands-on workshop.

"Come prepared to get a little bit dirty," she said.

Rachael Zoe Miller, an ocean conservationist and National Geographic Explorer, will join the workshop as well.

"What I'm excited to do with Sam and her students is attach some three-dimensionality to the problem and to do it locally," Miller said.

Miller emphasized it's not just the cleanup that matters, but the information and dialogue that stems from it.

"I think public sorts are one of the most powerful ways to make a beach cleanup have impact," she said. "I'm a fan of cleaning up, obviously, but the way I see it is: Cleanups are good, but data cleanups are what prevent the problem."

Mason explained that many people think plastic is only a pollutant once it is discarded. However, pre-production plastic pellets are one of the most common pollutants in the environment.

"I think it's really important to recognize that plastic



MASON

pollutes at every stage of its life cycle. It's not something that just happens at the end," she said. "It happens from the moment it's extracted as crude oil."

Mason said disposability and plastic go hand-in-hand, and they disrupt the cyclical systems of the natural environment.

"Disposability is a linear process ... what that means is that you're taking valuable resources and you're constantly turning them into trash, to invaluable resources," she said.

According to Mason, having a society based on a linear process is a danger to



MILLER

humans as a species.

"Every time we buy something that is disposable, we are voting for a disposable world and a disposable people, a disposable species, because in the end the planet will continue on without us," Mason said.

However, Mason said society can move more toward the natural order.

"I really want us to be thinking much more circular. That's what moving beyond the era of disposability is," she said. "It's thinking about how we can operate more in line with nature. You have to work on cycles."

LECTURE

Miller discusses marine debris expeditions, explains microplastics’ effects

ARIANNA NEVAREZ
STAFF WRITER

At 10:15 a.m. Tuesday, Rachael Zoe Miller, an ocean conservationist, author and National Geographic Explorer, was told she was going to be on the Amphitheater stage at 10:45 a.m. the following day. She said this was the biggest “put me in, coach” moment, but it was also a “it takes a village” moment to help “upgrade her informal wardrobe to reach the magnitude of this stage.”

At 10:45 a.m. Wednesday in the Amp, Miller took the stage with a discussion focused on her marine debris expeditions and microplastics in the ocean.

Miller is a co-founder of the Rozalia Project for a Clean Ocean, which is “dedicated to protecting the ocean, lakes and rivers” and “conserving a healthy, thriving marine ecosystem.” She said the team works on a marine debris model and uses “data cleanups” to understand specific microdebris in different areas.

“We are optimistic in the face of an overwhelming problem at beaches ...,” Miller said. “We remain optimistic because we recognize that the collective ‘we’ got us into this literal and figurative mess, and we believe that the collective ‘we’ can ultimately get us out of it.”

To contextualize the projects she works on, Miller highlighted her work on the Gulf of Maine. In a collaborative program, the Rozalia Project collected 100,000 pounds of waste. They also took note of the pieces of fishing gear they collected to understand how it got there and thus prevent it from re-entering the ocean.

Miller cited “the generation of plastic waste” as a starting point to locate her work in sustainability and

oceanic conservation. She said marine debris or trash is often transported to the sea from rivers, whose routes are determined by winds and currents. She said locations of waste accumulations like the Great Pacific Garbage Patch were portrayed in a hyperbolic manner. More realistically, Miller said, there is a “microplastic soup” at the center of ocean gyres.

“You can sail across the ocean and see some big fishing gear, but mostly, what you’ll see is a big, beautiful ocean,” Miller said. “But if you dip a net with fine mesh in there, you will come up with handfuls of microplastics. Then, moving to understanding the exact location of all of this microplastic, what we find is that the science is still a little wide. It’s still a little new.”

As more microplastics show up in the ocean, they affect marine life, according to Miller. She said about 1,300 species have microplastics in their body. Not only does this affect the creatures underwater, but the issue also transfers to humans. She said, “Microplastics and hydrofiber have been found in foods — alarmingly, in foods that are just grown with relatively limited handling.”

Besides food, Miller said microplastics are found in tap water, and even higher numbers of these plastic fibers are found in water bottles. At a microplastic summit a few years back, she said she sat next to a researcher who studied bottled water and microplastics; she brought up the high number of microplastics in such a small amount of water to him, and he replied by saying, “After doing the study, I don’t let anyone I love drink from a

plastic water bottle.”

“Can’t get more powerful than that,” Miller said.

Miller went on a National Geographic-Lindblad Expedition Cruise to sample air and water, during which she sought out and investigated microplastics and microfibers. She specifically looked for hotspots of microplastic or microfiber in the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Because the Arctic city of Svalbard, Norway, had one of the lowest populations in the region, it was an “unexpected” hotspot. With further research, the team found that the high microplastic concentration was due to currents. In the Antarctic region, Marguerite Bay had currents that brought microparticles from North America — specifically, microfibers from textiles.

“[Antarctica is] such a precious place that we want to make sure that our data are as specific as possible, so that we can communicate with ships and their passengers and how they organize field staff ...,” Miller said. “We need to know who to talk to, and so part of our data collection is to identify the source of these microparticles.”

Miller visited landfills in Jakarta, Indonesia, on another marine debris expedition. There were mountains of consumer debris “not really breaking down, but just hanging out,” including clothing, home textiles and plastic bags.

While Miller was visiting, she said trucks kept bringing more and more trash. As this was happening, she observed people with baskets going through the landfills in hopes of finding something of value. She said there were “so many people involved in this exchange that there’s a guy selling snacks up there



SAM HUFFMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ocean conservationist, author and National Geographic Explorer Rachael Zoe Miller shows photographs of waste sites located in Jakarta during her morning lecture Wednesday in the Amphitheater.

halfway up the mountain.”

“This, to me, is a system that isn’t working,” Miller said. “It is a study in inefficiency.”

However, there is good news about people trying to find balance, Miller said. At the bottom of the mountains, multiple initiatives are trying to reduce the waste, from machines picking out the plastic bags people send with compost to Waste4Change, an ethical trash-sorting company.

“David Wallace-Wells used the term ‘small numbers in the big world.’ The way I say it is, ‘lots of little things make a big,’ and this is a great example,” Miller said. “It is overwhelming to look at those trash mountains, but then think, ‘What if there was one of these (initiatives) in pretty much every neighborhood hiring people that needed to work and diverting all of that trash?’”

Miller discussed sustainability solutions targeting waste around the world. Alternative materials in the textile industry can create more sustainable fashion,



What we’re here to do this week, and what we’re talking about — whether it’s with clothes or microplastics or air pollution, or whatever it is — ultimately, is to preserve the opportunity, the option to be able to see ice as far as the eye can see for your kids, your grandkids and your great grandkids.”

—RACHAEL ZOE MILLER

Ocean Conservationist, Author, National Geographic Explorer

she said. Some examples she used included a green tea-based leather alternative and a company in Finland that creates regenerated cotton.

Miller said one way to advocate and support conservation efforts is to support policies requiring microfiber filters in washing machines. Countries have begun creating laws toward change on this issue. She said education can happen in many ways, like through art and books. Miller said “interdisciplinarity is a solution,” and “bringing

together different people from different areas makes for better action.”

“What we’re here to do this week, and what we’re talking about — whether it’s with clothes or microplastics or air pollution, or whatever it is — ultimately, is to preserve the opportunity, the option to be able to see ice as far as the eye can see for your kids, your grandkids and your great grandkids,” Miller said. “If anyone can make a big ripple effect, I know that it’s here.”

Brock says rise of empire stripped humanity’s pursuit of paradise on earth

LILY RESLINK
STAFF WRITER

Rita Nakashima Brock explained that humans have existed for 300,000 years and were largely hunter-gatherers until the Ice Age ended only 10,000 years ago. Then, about 5,000 years ago, Brock said, empires began. The scholar, editor and writer spoke at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy about “empire and paradise.”

Brock looked beyond the origins of empire to reflect on what it means for humans to only see “paradise” — in accordance with widespread Abrahamic religions — as something impossible to pursue until the afterlife.

She said empire and its inherently unequal distribution of resources contrasts ancient religious texts and foundational theological beliefs.

Brock explained that humanity’s pursuit of paradise on Earth is contingent on the mindset of not extracting more resources than is necessary to sustain life. The power structures that uphold empire, she explained, take advantage of religious understandings of the afterlife to make people perceive paradise as something they cannot pursue while they’re alive.

This shift in core beliefs, she argued, damaged humanity’s innate understanding of how to live in unity with nature and finite resources. She said the desire for more power and resources stemmed from empire, in which a select few grow in power when people are obedient at their own expense.

In contrast to pre-empire norms of redistribution, wherein no one person or group sought to accumulate exorbitant wealth, she said

empires rely on “massive resource extraction” that is accumulated “in pockets of a few people.”

Brock shared her experiences visiting the Arctic, which she described as transplanting her into a way of life she said represented the 300,000-year-old human lifestyle of only taking necessities from the Earth.

“For most of our existence as a species, humans lived as arctic peoples in tribal units with seasonal migrations that followed food sources,” Brock said. In hunter-gatherer societies, she explained, “excess surplus is a liability because it takes more calories to carry it than redistribute it.”

She said that before the development of empires, societies were naturally reliant on redistribution as a survival strategy. “Sharing is a central value. If you have too much, give it away.”

Traditional Indigenous feasts called “potlatches,” marked by times of celebration like weddings, reflected this norm. In these feasts, leaders signified their status by giving away possessions and valuables. Brock said the U.S. and Canada banned these “because they don’t fit the good capitalist values.”

Referencing the work of scholar and author Luke Kemp, Brock named the “dark triad of traits” that characterize empire: sociopathy, narcissism and Machiavellianism. Brock continued, saying Kemp said the collapse of empires is inevitable.

Brock also named several of the reasons that Kemp listed for empire’s collapse: decisions from the lower class to return to hunting-gathering, pandemic, internal revolt, invasion from other empires, climate change, massive in-

equality from bloat at the top and “feckless, incompetent rulers.”

“Of course, we can see some common current applications of this,” Brock said.

Empires, according to the patterns analyzed by Kemp, collapse after 400 years. She said Kemp warned that if the cycle through various forms of empire continues, humans will face extinction in the next 500 years. According to Brock, Kemp sees democracy as the alternative to empire; it is “fragile” but “perhaps, our best hope.”

Brock used history and modernity to explore the question of whether religion can help save society from the resource drainage and inequality she argued are the result of imperial mindsets.

“What if a core problem is the very idea of power and authority itself that is carried forward in imperial religions and orients people to obedience to an invisible ruler?” Brock asked.

She pointed to the role of religious texts in reinforcing empire.

“We tend to separate out these ideological elements of religion and human rulers as political, but gods parallel the hierarchical imperial systems they endorse ...” Brock said.

She said constructs within empires have enabled monotheism to support unquestioned obedience in ways that perpetuate the maintenance of power at the top of an empire. Pointing to examples from Judaism, Brock said it is positive for faith practices to encourage questioning and interrogation. In her perspective, the mindset of unquestioning loyalty is contrasted by faith practices — also in ancient texts — that are rooted in stability and cooperation



GABRIEL MILBY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Theologian, moral injury expert and co-author of “Saving Paradise” Rita Nakashima Brock speaks Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy.

with the natural world rather than at its expense.

In association of Abrahamic religions with “ethical monotheism,” she spoke about how ancient religious texts applied moral laws equally to all people.

Feeding the hungry, healing the sick and questioning theology, according to Brock, are teachings that support sustainable human practices in conjunction with the pursuit of paradise on earth.

“It was only in college that Christianity began to make sense to me in an Old Testament class, which taught me to see Jesus in the long prophetic trajectory of resistance to oppressive power and a commitment to justice and human flourishing,” Brock said.

These biblical teachings, she said, are a guide to fighting empire.

“I confess, I was a rebellious child,” she said. “I didn’t like to be ordered to do things, and I questioned authority — which pre-

pared me to be a feminist but not a faithful person in an empire.”

She said ancient texts describe the mission of the church as being “paradise in this world so that human life could flourish.” According to Brock, literature about paradise is concentrated on ancient texts, which holds implications about the dilution of this mission when it does not benefit empire. She named several descriptions of and terms for paradise from different traditions.

“We can see these stories and descriptions of paradise as nostalgia for a lost world,

perhaps. But we might also hold them as a vision for creating communities of resistance against survival as we struggle through the many years ahead.”

Brock concluded with an excerpt from her book with Rebecca Ann Parker, *Saving Paradise: How Christianity Traded Love of This World for Crucifixion and Empire* that called for people to be “more responsive to and responsible for life in this world.”

“All is not lost,” Brock said. “There is still beauty and life here. Let us save it.”



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FROM PAGE ONE

WILKINSON

FROM PAGE 1

During her four months at The Outdoor Academy, Wilkinson's perspective on nature shifted from adoration to activism. Her time in the Blue Ridge Mountains allowed her to live an ecologically conscious lifestyle for the first time, which she said she loved, but she also encountered the ecological wounds of the Southern Appalachians — including clear-cutting in the Pisgah National Forest. After relishing in nature and living “in the flow” of their surroundings for weeks, Wilkinson's literature and environmental studies teacher took the students on a pivotal hike through the Pisgah National Forest.

“Unbeknownst to us, we were going to arrive out at the top of this ridge onto a fresh clear-cut, and I think that was a moment of my heart really breaking,” Wilkinson said. “I

think when our hearts don't just break, but they break open, those can be really compass-setting moments, moments of conviction.”

As she reckoned with her own climate awakening, Wilkinson said she found herself the same questions: “What does this information mean? What do I do with it? Where do I go from here? How do I hold all of this?” Wilkinson found a plethora of helpful scientific resources, but none that helped her navigate how to answer these questions; then, she began her work at The All We Can Save Project.

Climate Wayfinding first existed as an experiential learning program before it became a book. The All We Can Save Project has been training educators across the U.S. and Canada to facilitate *Climate Wayfinding* with their students, with the program now active on 50 college and university campuses. “But even

with that facilitator network, we weren't coming anywhere close to meeting the scale of the need,” Wilkinson said.

Thus, the book version was born. This work “ultimately makes *Climate Wayfinding* accessible and available much more widely, aspirationally to anybody with internet access and a library card,” Wilkinson said. “There's so much information, but we are often lacking support for orientation.”

In the first chapter of her book, Wilkinson outlined the three core practices of *Climate Wayfinding* that readers can use as guides on their own journey: looking inward with care, looking outward with curiosity and looking forward with courage.

“If your heart is breaking about what's happening to the planet, where do you go with that?” Wilkinson asked. “Who do you talk to? Where do you cry? I think so many people feel deeply isolated

in their sadness, their fear, their anger. And those emotions can be such powerful fuel, but not if we just start in the fetal position, holding them alone.”

This, she said, is where *Climate Wayfinding* seeks to bridge a gap. There is no single intended audience; the book is designed to serve unfamiliar readers and lifelong climate activists alike. An interactive book that asks audiences to pause, reflect, analyze their feelings and gather with others to discuss them, it features essays to provide structure for the lessons, poems and playlists to further highlight the emotions that may arise while reading and includes journaling and group discussion prompts to further the reader's journey of self-discovery.

The *Climate Wayfinding* lecture will act as a taste of the book at large, according to Wilkinson. Following a week of impactful climate

“

If your heart is breaking about what's happening to the planet, where do you go with that? Who do you talk to? Where do you cry? I think so many people feel deeply isolated in their sadness, their fear, their anger.”

—KATHARINE WILKINSON
Author, Climate Wayfinding

lectures, Wilkinson said she presumes many listeners may be grappling with the same questions she had before writing the book. She said she hopes audiences will take what resonates and leave what doesn't, while still maintaining an open mind as “deeper moments of discovery or illumination come where we least expect them,” Wilkinson said.

Wilkinson dedicated the book to the “persistent shimmer of life.” Gratitude sits at the center of

all of Wilkinson's work, she said, and she is constantly “moved by the wow of it all.”

For her, the fact that life has existed for more than 3.8 billion years is a marvel against great odds. And nobody is severed from that history.

“When you have a sense that you are entangled with and a part of all of the rest of life, I think it creates a pull and a sense of calling to be the most generous and generative node of that web that you possibly can be,” Wilkinson said.

CSO

FROM PAGE 1

“The ‘Mysterious Mountain’ is different because it's not about a mountain that exists somewhere geographically. It's about the idea of climbing our own spiritual mountain,” Milanov remarked. “... Contrary to Shostakovich, this is not music based on conflict. This is music of living, through the course of this 20-some minutes of music, and feeling that we are spiritually elevated.”

In past seasons, the CSO ventured into the world

of Shostakovich primarily through the lens of the symphonies he wrote during World War II. However, Milanov wanted something different and more “enigmatic” for tonight's program.

Continuing from where Shostakovich's Symphony No. 11, “The Year 1905,” left off — which the CSO performed in 2025 — “The Year 1917” Symphony unfolds the events of the October Revolution in a particularly “cinematographic” fashion.

Although the piece is rooted in the onset of social-

ism under Vladimir Lenin, Shostakovich's symphony is defiant against one singular musical, narrative or philosophical interpretation.

“But, for people that know the music of Shostakovich, there is always a meaning that is somewhat under the surface. In this particular piece, one could read a lot of things that were, probably, more current to the time when it was written in the 1960s,” Milanov said.

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 12 can be viewed retrospectively, detailing how,

as oppression then circumvented the initial freedoms that originally attracted so many to the revolution, idealistic societal depictions of Lenin were corrupted under Joseph Stalin's leadership. This is an aspect that Shostakovich has embraced throughout his life in music.

“In that particular piece by Shostakovich, one could sense that repression, that repressive, repetitive music — the usage of genres that always feel almost as a musical abuse on the ears of the audience,” Milanov said. “...

He does side from [the] grotesque. He does not side from a musical caricature. And, he does not side from presenting the negative and the violent force[s] as something that we could physically live through as part of the performance.”

For Milanov, it's important for audiences to know the symphony is not only a celebration of an important historical moment at large, but also Shostakovich's “response, as an artist, to what he was [experiencing] as a human being and what many of his friends and compatriots were

going through at the time.”

This evening concert follows in Milanov's season-long mission to bring American music to Chautauquans in celebration of 250 years of the United States. Tonight's repertoire specifically highlights longer, underrepresented pieces.

“The idea was to present some of the bigger works, which will continue throughout the season,” Milanov said. “I think it will culminate with the ‘Jeremiah’ Symphony by Leonard Bernstein [at] our last concert.”



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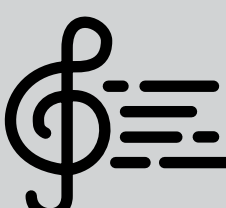
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Your gifts make our mission possible. giving.chq.org

GREEN

FROM PAGE 1



READ SYMPHONY NOTES ONLINE

BY DAVID B. LEVY

David B. Levy is the author of *Symphony Notes*, an in-depth exploration of each Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra performance program. 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.

Levy will give a pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m. tonight in Hultquist 101.



You can read Levy's full analysis of and expertise on tonight's program at chqdaily.com or by scanning this QR code.



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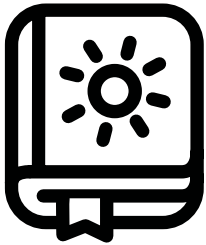
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RELIGION

Brodsky explains Biblical roots of Zionism, Jewish identity



MORNING WORSHIP

COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

At the 9:15 a.m. Wednesday morning worship service in the Amphitheater, Cantor Olivia Brodsky again opened her sermon with a solo, “Yerushalayim Shel Zahav.” She was accompanied by Sonya Subbayya Sutton on the Steinway piano.

“I am going to begin with an easy topic today,” Brodsky said with a smile. “I just sang ‘Jerusalem of Gold,’ the unofficial Israeli second national anthem. It perfectly captures the centuries of Jewish longing for Jerusalem as an anthem of return.” Brodsky’s sermon title was “The Biblical Origins of Zionism,” and the Scripture reading was Ezekiel 37: 21–28.

The anthem, “Jerusalem of Gold,” was written in 1967 by Naomi Shemer. The longing for Jerusalem in the song came from Psalm 137: 5: “If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!” Brodsky said, “The melody is modern, but the longing is ancient.”

She asked, “Why does that one place — Zion, Jerusalem, the land of Israel — loom so large in Jewish life? How does it relate to political Zionism?”

Homeland is another dimension of Jewish identity. Brodsky visited Israel for the first time when she was 15. Before that, in her mind, from reading Biblical stories, Israel was like Narnia. “I truly came to appreciate it as the birthplace of Jewish civilization and the place where that people, my people, continue to live today.”

Brodsky told the congregation that Zionism is a very misunderstood term. She said that people think they know what it means, but she believes a definition is needed before discussing the idea. “Zionism is the political movement for the Jewish’s people’s right to self-determination and their ancestral homeland. It is thought to establish a secure, recognized haven for the Jewish dispersed population to escape persecution.”

Originally, Zion referred to the fortress captured by King David, but over time it became the Bible’s name for Jerusalem and the term for the land of Israel more broadly, she told the congregation. “Modern Zionism is merely the latest chapter of a story that has been unfolding for nearly 3,000 years.”

God made a covenant with Abraham in Canaan, and the land was not incidental to the covenant, Brodsky said. “The land of Israel did not begin in 1948 but 3,000 years ago. Jacob took the people to Egypt to avoid a famine, but a place of refuge became a place of oppression.”

When the Jewish people left Egypt, they were not invading an unfamiliar land but going back to ancestral land. Jerusalem had a central role when David established the united monarchy there. Solomon built the temple and Jerusalem became the spiritual center. “Jerusalem became the spiritual center of Jewish life where worship and national identity converged,” Brodsky said.

The enduring problem for the Jewish people was to maintain sovereignty over the land. In 536 B.C.E., Babylon conquered Israel by destroying Solomon’s temple and taking the people into exile.

“Removed from their homeland, Jerusalem was trans-



SAM HUFFMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cantor Olivia Brodsky preaches during Morning Worship Sunday in the Amphitheater.

formed from being the center of Jewish life to the object of spiritual Jewish longing,” Brodsky said. “For many civilizations, exile marks the beginning of cultural collapse; but for the Jewish people, it became a new chapter, one in which ritual evolved to sustain memory. Speaking for the Jews in exile, the prophet Ezekiel declared, ‘for Zion’s sake I will not keep silent and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest.’”

Memory is also an act of resistance, Brodsky told the congregation. By carrying their homeland with the Jewish people and centering the longing for it in ritual, exile did not become amnesia. When the people were permitted to return and to rebuild the temple, “This first return to Zion, as it is called, became the pattern through which later generations imagined other returns.”

In 70 C.E., the Romans destroyed the second temple and renamed the area Palestine, after the ancient enemy, the Philistines. Palestine became the standard name, used for almost two millennia.

The Jewish community never completely disappeared from the area, Brodsky said. The prophets, like Ezekiel, said God would take the people from the nations, gather them and make them one nation. “Jewish liturgy ensured that this vision would be remembered.”

The anthem for the morning, “R’tzei,” is a prayer that is repeated three times a day by Jews. Brodsky said, “What began as prophecy became prayer. It asks God to accept our prayers and to restore worship. It concludes, ‘may our eyes behold your return to Zion in mercy.’ The language echoes the vision that Jerusalem and its temple would one day be restored.”

These visions by the prophets, whether taken literally, historically or in a messianic context, predate modern Zionism. The ancient longing for Jerusalem remains part of Jewish ritual. The longing for Zion is not new.

What changed in the 19th century was the realization

that the safety of the Jewish people was not guaranteed. The dream to exercise political sovereignty was given urgency by pogroms and the Holocaust, where one-third of the world Jewish population was murdered.

The survivors of the Holocaust, Brodsky said, knew that Jews could not survive without a homeland, and in 1948, the ancient longing came to fruition. She told the congregation that this island of safety came into being during an era where there were broad nationalistic desires.

“Jews sought to restore self-government in their homeland. An ancient longing had been fulfilled. Almost half of all Jews live in Israel,” Brodsky said. “One of the oldest threads of continuity in Jewish ritual is at the end of the Seder when we say, ‘Next year in Jerusalem.’”

For millennia, Jerusalem was a spiritual destination. The Jewish people endured during the diaspora through memory and ritual. “Israel remains central to Jewish life. You can’t separate Judaism from Zionism. This is an important step for understanding Judaism and the Jewish people,” Brodsky concluded.

Robert Wilson-Black, director of the Department of Religion, presided. Arlene Hoffman, who oversees programming at the Everett Jewish Life Center, read the scripture. The prelude was Aeolian Sonata “Shalom” by Dan Locklair, played on the Massey Memorial Organ by Interim Director of Sacred Music Sonya Subbayya Sutton. For the anthem, the Motet Choir sang “R’tzei” by Stephen Richards. The choir sang in Hebrew under the direction of Sutton and accompanied by organ scholar Owen Reyda on the Massey Organ. Cantor Olivia Brodsky served as soloist. For the postlude, Reyda played “Toccata from Symphony No. 5,” by Charles-Marie Widor on the Massey Organ. Support for this week’s chaplaincy and preaching is provided by The J. Everett Hall Memorial Chaplaincy and The Randell-Hall Memorial Chaplaincy.

Baptist House

Visio Divina, Latin for “divine seeing,” is a method of meditation, reflection and prayer through a process of intentional seeing. Visio Divina extends the sixth century Benedictine practice of Lectio Divina by use of visual imagery. Join us at the Baptist House at 7 p.m. to contemplate a piece of contemporary visual art using this structured process, led by the Rev. Laura Harris-Adam, chaplain.

Blessing and Healing Daily Service

The service of Blessing and Healing, sponsored by the Department of Religion, takes place from 10:15 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. weekdays in the UCC Randell Chapel, located on Odland Plaza. All are welcome.

Chautauqua Catholic Community

Join us for Mass at 8:15 a.m. Monday–Friday at Hurlbut Church (NEW worship site and time). Our twice-a-week seminar series is held from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. at the Methodist House Chapel. On Thursday, the Rev. Kevin Nadolski, OSFS, presents “Good Samaritanism: The Politics and Economics of Christianity.” On Friday, Ziad Al Achkar, Ph.D., Catholic Relief Services, will speak on “Faith in Action: Responding to Global Humanitarian Needs with Compassion and Innovation.” All are welcome.

Chabad Jewish House

Chabad invites all Chautauquans to the following pro-

grams. From 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Tisha B’Av service, Torah Reading and Lamentations will take place at the Zigdon Chabad Jewish House (23 Vincent on the Brick Walk).

From 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Friday, Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin teaches “Jewish Mysticism & Philosophy,” exploring Jewish thought on G–d, the soul, free will and creation, at Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.

The Miriam Gurary Challah Baking Series takes place from 12:15 to 1 p.m. at Zigdon Chabad Jewish House; participants make and braid challah while discovering the meaning and significance of Shabbat foods and rituals.

Chabad invites all Chautauquans to a Community Shabbat Dinner at 6:30 p.m. at Zigdon Chabad Jewish House, with a traditional kosher Shabbat dinner, stories, Torah thoughts and Shabbat songs. RSVP is required at cocweb.org/shabbat-dinners.

Chabad’s Kosher food tent/trailer is available at the following times and locations:

From 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday through Thursday at Bestor Plaza

From 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Friday at Bestor Plaza

For dinner service and specialized dining needs, individuals are encouraged to pre-order from a full lunch and dinner menu by visiting cocweb.org.

Chautauqua Mystic Heart

Bhante Chipamong Chowdhury will lead Theravada Buddhism/mindfulness meditation sessions from

7:45 to 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday in the lower-level chapel of the Presbyterian House.

Chautauqua Prays for Peace Through Compassion

Chautauqua Prays for Peace Through Compassion is a communal gathering that takes place from 8:55 a.m. 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

All are welcome to use our Study Room 24/7 as a place of quiet study and prayer. You may study this week’s Bible lesson “Truth,” read Christian Science periodicals, including *The Christian Science Monitor*, and use our computer-based church resources.

Hebrew Congregation

From 5 to 6 p.m. Friday, “Kabbalat Shabbat: Welcoming the Shabbat” service will be held at Miller Park. If there is rain, the service will take place at

Smith Wilkes Hall. If the weather is questionable, call 716-742-2228 for information on service location. Cantors Jodi Sufrin and Roy Einhorn will lead services. Sufrin and Einhorn were ordained in 1983, the first cantorial couple to graduate together from Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. Sufrin is Cantor Emerita of Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Cantor Einhorn is Cantor Emeritus of Temple Israel in Boston.

From 6 to 7:15 p.m. Friday, Shabbat’zza — a post-service pizza picnic — will be held rain or shine at the same location as the Kabbalat Shabbat service. We supply pizza! Bring your own beverage and a side dish or dessert to share.

From 9:30 to 10:25 a.m. Saturday, “Today’s Torah for Today’s Times” (Torah study), led by Sufrin and Einhorn, will take place in the lower level of Hurlbut Church.

From 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Saturday, Sufrin and Einhorn will lead Shabbat morning services in Hurlbut Church sanctuary. Kid-dush luncheon to follow.



INTERFAITH NEWS

COMPILED BY STAFF

Hurlbut Meal Ministry

Hurlbut Church will be serving lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Monday through Friday in Truesdale Hall. From 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Turkey Dinner will be held in Truesdale Hall. Cash and card accepted; proceeds go toward our local and global ministry partners, including the United Methodist Committee on Relief. See our website for menu options.

Labyrinth

The Labyrinth is available throughout the week to all Chautauquans and friends. Enter through Turner Community Center or the Turner Gate. The Labyrinth is on the right under the trees. Remember your gate pass.

Lutheran House

The Rev. Aaron Baughman presides at 7 p.m. Vespers today at the Lutheran House. The Lutheran House hosts Chautauqua Dialogues at 12:30 p.m. Friday. We are located on the Brick Walk at the corner of Peck Avenue.

Presbyterian House

All Chautauquans are invited for coffee, tea, hot chocolate and lemonade in between morning worship and the 10:45 a.m. lecture each weekday morning on the porch.

The Rev. David Bush presents “Understanding in the Length of Days: Transcendence and the Extra Years of Life” at Vespers from 7 to 7:45 p.m. in the Presbyterian House Chapel.

Quaker House

At 12:30 Friday, all are invited to learn about Quaker Voluntary Service from Jonny Costeelo and Clara Fuehler with Liz Nicholson, Friend of the Week (Chaplain). Bring your own lunch, at the Quaker House (28 Ames).

United Church of Christ

Chautauqua UCC Society hosts the group Chautauquans Seeking Justice for Palestinians and Israelis as they show the Oscar-winning 90 minute documentary film “No Other Land” from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

United Methodist House

Join us at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the UM House for the presentation “Do Palestinians Exist?” by Dr. Houssam Abdul Al. Houssam Abdul Al was born in Damascus in 1965 to a successful attorney who was displaced from Palestine in 1948. In 1989, the values of resilience, discipline and perseverance instilled by his father’s story led Houssam to immigrate to the U.S., train in internal medicine, and build his career in Pennsylvania — all while maintaining a deep connection to Palestinian history and identity.

Unity of Chautauqua

Unity holds a weekday morning Daily Word meditation from 8 to 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and a Sunday Celebration service at 9:30 a.m. in the Hall of Missions. For details, visit unitychq.org.

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Boyle Fund supports Wilkinson climate discussion

The Boyle Family Lectureship Fund generously supports today's 10:45 a.m. lecture in the Amphitheater featuring Katharine K. Wilkinson.

The Boyle Family Lecture-ship Fund was established through the generosity of Edward and Helen Boyle, whose lives reflected both professional accomplishment and

a deep commitment to civic and cultural engagement.

For many years, the Boyles were devoted and active members of the Chautauqua Institution community. Mr. Boyle served on the Chautauqua Institution Board of Trustees from 1976 to 1984 and continued his service as a director of the Chautauqua Foundation from 1984 to 1994.

Mrs. Boyle's contributions were equally meaningful and far-reaching. She was actively involved in the Opera Guild Board, the Bird, Tree & Garden Club and the Chautauqua Society for Peace. In addition, her generosity made possible the Abrahamic Community Program, reflecting her dedication to fostering dialogue, understanding and commu-

nity. Today, the Boyle family's legacy continues through their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom carry forward a deep connection to and appreciation for Chautauqua. Their ongoing engagement is a testament to the enduring spirit of generosity and commitment established by Edward and Helen Boyle.

Hall, Randell-Hall Memorial Chaplancies support Brodsky

The J. Everett Hall Memorial Chaplaincy and The Randell-Hall Memorial Chaplaincy generously support this week's Cantor Olivia Brodsky at 9:15 a.m. in the Amphitheater. Cantor Brodsky serves as cantor and co-clergy of East End Temple in Manhattan and

is dedicated to preserving Jewish culture and tradition while making it evermore applicable to daily life and accessible for people of all generations.

The Randell-Hall Memorial Chaplaincy, created in 1963 by Mrs. E. Snell Hall of Jamestown, honors two

distinguished individuals whose lives were closely intertwined with both Jamestown and Chautauqua: the Rev. Alfred E. Randell and E. Snell Hall. This tribute reflects not only their lasting contributions but also Mrs. Hall's deep commitment to preserving their impact by

continuing to support Chautauqua's religious mission.

Together, these chaplaincies represent a legacy of generosity and devotion. The families' enduring support continues to nurture Chautauqua's traditions of worship and spiritual reflection.

Fausnaugh, Moe, Bellowe Funds support CTC's 'Best for Baby'

The Agnes H. and Hal A. Fausnaugh Fund for Theater Programming, The Helen Moe Fund for Theater and The Arnold and Jill Bellowe Fund for Theater proudly support today's performance in Bratton Theater featuring *Best for Baby* by Sharyn Rothstein,

directed by Oliver Butler.

The Agnes H. and Hal A. Fausnaugh Fund for Theater Programming was established in the Chautauqua Foundation by Agnes H. and Hal A. Fausnaugh of Rocky River, Ohio. In honor of the Fausnaughs' 50th wedding anniversa-

ry, members of Friends of Chautauqua Theater created this fund to which Aggie and Hal also contributed.

The Helen Moe Fund for Theater was established to provide vital financial support for Chautauqua Theater Company and its programming, honoring Helen Moe's enduring legacy.

The Arnold and Jill Bellowe Fund for Theater, established in 1998, also provides support for today's

performance. Arnie and Jill Bellowe have maintained a residence at Chautauqua Shores since 1972 and have demonstrated a deep, multigenerational commitment to the Institution.

Through the generosity of these funds and families, Chautauqua's theater programming continues to flourish, bringing dynamic performances and meaningful storytelling to audiences each season.

Lincoln and Newman Funds support Green ILS discussion

The 2 p.m. Interfaith Lecture today with Leah Naomi Green in the Hall of Philosophy is generously supported by The David and Joan Lincoln Family Fund for Applied Ethics and The Margaret Miller Newman Lectureship Fund.

Throughout his life, David Lincoln supported Chautauqua in many ways. He donated to the Chautauqua Fund, contributed to endowments including the Lincoln Dormitory and established the Lincoln Applied Ethics Series in 1997. Before his passing, he created a \$1 million endowment to sustain the program.

Established in 1982, the Margaret Miller Newman Lectureship Fund reflects her dedication to Chautauqua, sustaining its tradition of religious dialogue and learning.

Margaret Miller Newman, granddaughter of Chautauqua co-founder Lewis Miller, was dedicated to preserving Chautauqua's history and community. She served as historian of Smith Memorial Library and led historical organizations in Chautauqua and western New York.

Her lectureship continues her impact on education, history and Chautauqua's mission.

Geller and Shelburne Funds support CSO performance

The Geller Family Fund for the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra and The Gertrude Aldredge Shelburne Fund generously support tonight's CSO performance. Established in 2023 by Marc Geller, the Geller Family Fund honors the family's 60-year connection to Chautauqua and the central role of the Symphony Orchestra in their summer traditions across four generations.

Founded in 1993, The Gertrude Aldredge Shelburne Fund honors one of Chautauqua's most devoted supporters. The Aldredge and Munger families first came to Chautauqua in 1901, starting a legacy that spans generations. Gertrude was baptized by Bishop John

H. Vincent, a Chautauqua founder, and her father was the first president of the Chautauqua Golf Club.

A Wellesley College graduate, Gertrude Shelburne was a leader in civic, educational and cultural life at Chautauqua and in Dallas, Texas. She served as a trustee from 1974 to 1982 and was a dedicated Symphony Patron and advocate for artistic excellence. Her commitment to Chautauqua's arts mission lives on through the Shelburne Fund.

Generations of leadership and devotion to the arts ensure Gertrude Shelburne's legacy remains woven into Chautauqua's cultural history.

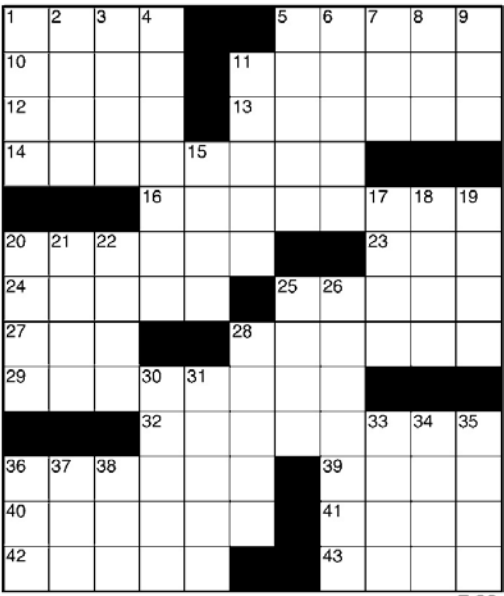
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- 5 Muscular dog
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- 11 In pieces
- 12 Cork's country
- 13 In unison
- 14 Madonna song
- 16 Madonna song
- 20 Indiana team
- 23 Flamenco cry
- 24 Squirrel's find
- 25 Singer Ronstadt
- 27 Little rascal
- 28 Computing whiz
- 29 Madonna song
- 32 Madonna song
- 36 Furniture wood
- 39 Wander
- 40 Bee abode
- 41 Blown away
- 42 Davis of "Thelma & Louise"
- 43 Urges
- DOWN**
- 1 Aid illegally
- 2 Den
- 3 Pale tan
- 4 Rural pest
- 5 Bicker
- 6 Asian peninsula
- 7 Mamie's husband
- 8 Casual top
- 9 What's more
- 11 Pitcher's no-nos
- 15 Farm building
- 17 Knock on the noggin
- 18 Merrie — England
- 19 Put on
- 20 Brace
- 21 Pinnacle
- 22 Perp pursuers
- 25 Tibetan monk
- 26 Cube holder
- 28 Whop-ping
- 30 Movie barbarian
- 31 Colleague of Spock and Sulu
- 33 Hockey's Gordie
- 34 Level
- 35 Some wines
- 36 Funny fellow
- 37 Clumsy person
- 38 Whopper



Yesterday's answer



OPERA

Opera Company to perform final ‘Afternoon of Song’

LAYLA VINSON
STAFF WRITER

Saucy, smorgasbord, folksy and epic — each adjective belongs to one of four studio artists describing their unique repertoire as part of Chautauqua Opera Company’s “An Afternoon of Song” at 3:15 p.m. today in Fletcher Music Hall. Brought to life in the light of pianist and singer collaboration, the program offers selections from classic to contemporary, bookended with six time-honored art songs: Johannes Brahms’ *Liebeslieder Waltzes*.

“They’re fantastic. There’s just a little bit of Hungarian drive in them, and some of it sounds like Johann Strauss and some of it sounds like an art song,” Carol Rausch, Company music administrator, chorus master and pianist said. “They’re really varied ... and they’re for piano four hands.”

Of the five Company pianists performing for the art song recital — Miriam Charney, Rick Hoffenberg, Nathaniel LaNasa, Allison Voth and Rausch — four will play the highly coveted duets in accordance with singers Lindsey Weissman, Jared Peterson, Gabriel Chona Rueda and Sydney Dardis; mezzo-soprano, bass, tenor and soprano, respectively.

“I’m finding a lot of freedom walking into the room with Carol and working on these Brahms songs and just absolutely collaborating together and not saying, ‘Oh, I had all these plans in my head and what I wanted to do,’ but actually just listening to what she’s playing, and reacting,” said Weissman, referencing her decision to tackle entirely new repertoire for the recital. “We’re finding more and more ideas together. It’s a really fulfilling rehearsal period.”

In both discovering and revisiting repertoire for singers, Hoffenberg emphasized the fulfillment he feels when he finds what works best for each artist. For his collaboration with Peterson, whom he deems as having a “wide enough range and solid upper range that he can sing songs that might have been written for a slightly different voice category,” navigating elements such as transposition are common components of the rehearsal process.

“Ultimately [we] decided to do them in Vaughn Williams’ original keys; [Peterson] does them well, and we’ve been figuring out the approach that works best for him,” Hoffenberg said in reference to Peterson’s choices from Williams’ song cycle, *Songs of Travel*.

For Peterson, the art of performance is highly visual, imaginative and requires complete immersion in the story he shares with an audience.

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—LINDSEY WEISSMAN
Young Artist,
Chautauqua Opera Company

“I imagine everything in front of me that is happening, and I can pretty much picture the scene,” Peterson explained. “Even if I’m in an audition setting or a recital setting, I am in the scene, and I can see the scene in front of me and I’m interacting with things.”

Chona Rueda shares the same passion for associative imagery in his art, specifically relating to one of his chosen pieces, “The Red Vineyard” from the song cycle *Dear Theo*, composed by Ben Moore.

“[Van Gogh’s] brother, Theo, was his main benefactor and supporter ... in the scene where he describes all of the colors and all of the hues he uses in his imagination to describe it to his brother, it’s really profound to me as an artist having to prove our work — that we are working, that we are producing,” Chona Rueda said.



From top left, Chautauqua Opera Company Young Artists Lindsey Weissman, mezzo-soprano, Jared Peterson, bass, Gabriel Chona Rueda, tenor, and Sydney Dardis, soprano, rehearse Monday for the *Afternoon of Song* performance today in Fletcher Music Hall.

Chonda Rueda emphasized the endeavor of translation spans not only artistic imagery but language as well, highlighting the classical Colombian art song

“Algún día” written by Dora Castellanos. With the title translating to “someday” or “one day,” Chonda Rueda revealed the unctuous tendency of the Spanish lan-

guage and how it can drastically impact the meaning of a song for each individual. “The beauty of this is ... I don’t think there’s a right way or a wrong way,” Rausch said,

reflecting on the preparation at large. “We’ve given each other permission — ‘Could I take this liberty? Why not? I’m taking this liberty.’ It’s just so rewarding.”

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PROGRAM

Th THURSDAY JULY 23			8:30 (8:30–10:30) Library Day celebration. Join the Friends of Smith Memorial Library! Smith Memorial Library	12:30 BYO Lunch: A Quaker's Perspective on the Theme of the Week. Liz Nicholson, Friend of the Week (Chaplain) with Jonny Costello and Clara Fuehler, Young Friends of the Week. Quaker House. 28 Ames	6:30 Pre-Concert Lecture with David Levy. Hultquist 101
			8:30 (8:30–10:15) "Tisha B'Av – Morning Services & Lamentations." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent. Fast ends 9:19 p.m.	12:45 (12:45–4) Duplicate Bridge ABCL Sanctioned. Fee. Sports Club	6:30 (6:30–8) Join Chautauquans Seeking Healing for Palestinians and Israelis as we view the 90 minute Oscar-winning documentary "No Other Land." UCC Randell Chapel
			8:55 Chautauqua Prays for Peace through Compassion. Hall of Philosophy Grove	1:00 English Lawn Bowling. Free tips 1–1:15. Stay and play for \$12. Bowling Green	7:00 Vespers. Presbyterian House Chapel
			9:15 ECUMENICAL WORSHIP. Cantor Olivia Brodsky. Hall of Philosophy and online	2:00 INTERFAITH LECTURE SERIES. Leah Naomi Green. Hall of Philosophy and online	7:00 Vespers. Lutheran House. 25 Peck on the Brick Walk
			10:00 Coffee on the Porch. Presbyterian House	2:00 Regional Summer School of Excellence trash art project. Heinz Beach	7:00 Pastor in the Parlor Program "A Visit with Peter Storey: Minister to a Nation Torn Apart." The Dr. Rev. Yoost. UM House Chapel
			10:15 Service of Blessing and Healing. UCC Randell Chapel	2:00 THEATER. <i>Best for Baby.</i> Fee. Bratton Theater	7:00 Visio Devina. Led by the Rev. Laura Harris-Adams, chaplain. Baptist House. 35 Clark
			10:15 Coffee/Tea on the Porch. UM House Porch	3:15 OPERA. <i>An Afternoon of Song.</i> Fletcher Music Hall	7:00 AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL. Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. Hovhanness and Shostakovich. Rossen Milanov, conductor. Amphitheater
			10:45 Children's Story Time. (Programmed by Smith Memorial Library). Rain location in library. Bestor Plaza	3:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Baptist House. 35 Clark	• Alan Hovhanness Symphony No. 2 "Mysterious Mountain"
			10:45 CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES. Katharine K. Wilkinson. Amphitheater and online	3:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). United Methodist House	• Dmitri Shostakovich Symphony No. 12 "The Year 1917"
			11:00 (11–5) Exhibitions open. Fowler-Kellogg Art Center & Strohl Art Center	3:30 Creating an Inclusive Chautauqua & Beyond. Registration at chq.org/ally . Alumni Hall Prose Room	8:30 Cinema Film Screening. "Power Ballad." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
			12:00 Locals at the Library. Meet Friends of Chautauqua Writers Center authors: Martha J. Rogus, Joan Wahl & Jason Bussman	3:30 Islam 101. "Shariah." Khalid and Sabeeha Rehman. Hall of Christ Sanctuary	
			12:00 (12–2) Play CHQ. (Programmed by Youth and Family Programs). Bottle Print Flowers. Bestor Plaza	3:30 Cinema Film Screening. "Power Ballad." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema	
			12:15 CTC Theater Chat: <i>ERASERS: A Bloodthirsty Comedy.</i> (Programmed by Chautauqua Theater Company). Smith Wilkes Hall	4:00 Piano Faculty Masterclass: Charis Dimaras. Sherwood-Marsh	
			12:15 Book Discussion: Welling Hall presents: <i>Counting the Cost: A Summer at Chautauqua</i> by Cornelia A Teal. Porch of Alumni Hall. 50 Wythe	4:00 (4–6) Play CHQ. (Programmed by Youth and Family Programs). Juggling w/ Zach Fish. Heinz Beach	
			12:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Everett Jewish Life Center. 36 Massey	4:15 Kids' pick up wiffleball game, ages 5–13. Extra gloves available. Sharpe Field	
			12:30 Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program. Bhante Chipamong Chowdhury, Theravada Buddhism/Mindfulness Meditation. Hall of Missions	4:15 Purple Martin Talk. Jack Gulvin, naturalist. Sports Club by Purple Martin Houses	
			12:30 What's In Our Waters? A Workshop on Microplastics. Sherri Mason and Rachael Zoe Miller. Heinz Beach	6:00 Cinema Film Screening. "Mary Oliver: Saved By The Beauty Of The World." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema	
				6:00 Live music. Sarah James, musician. 3 Taps	
				6:15 Chautauqua Choir Rehearsal. Fletcher Music Hall	
				6:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Disciples of Christ House	

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6:30	Pre-Concert Lecture with David Levy. Hultquist 101
6:30	(6:30–8) Join Chautauquans Seeking Healing for Palestinians and Israelis as we view the 90 minute Oscar-winning documentary "No Other Land." UCC Randell Chapel
7:00	Vespers. Presbyterian House Chapel
7:00	Vespers. Lutheran House. 25 Peck on the Brick Walk
7:00	Pastor in the Parlor Program "A Visit with Peter Storey: Minister to a Nation Torn Apart." The Dr. Rev. Yoost. UM House Chapel
7:00	Visio Devina. Led by the Rev. Laura Harris-Adams, chaplain. Baptist House. 35 Clark
7:30	THEATER. <i>Best for Baby.</i> Fee. Bratton Theater
8:00	AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL. Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. Hovhanness and Shostakovich. Rossen Milanov, conductor. Amphitheater
	• Alan Hovhanness Symphony No. 2 "Mysterious Mountain"
	• Dmitri Shostakovich Symphony No. 12 "The Year 1917"
8:30	Cinema Film Screening. "Power Ballad." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

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FRIDAY
JULY 24

6:00	(6–7) Sunrise Paddle - Kayak/SUP. Fee. Sign up in advance at 716-357-6281. Sports Club Waterfront
7:00	(7–11) Chautauqua Farmers Market. Massey and Miller
7:00	(7–9) "Dawn Patrol" Round Robin Doubles. Chautauqua Tennis Center
7:45	Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program. Bhante Chipamong Chowdhury, Theravada Buddhism/Mindfulness Meditation. Presbyterian House
7:45	Episcopal Holy Eucharist. Chapel of the Good Shepherd
8:00	Daily Word Meditation. (Programmed by Unity of Chautauqua). Hall of Missions
8:15	Catholic Mass. Hurlbut Church Sanctuary. 21 Scott
8:30	Movement and Meditation with Monte Thompson. Hall of Philosophy Grove

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8:55	Chautauqua Prays for Peace through Compassion. Hall of Philosophy Grove
9:00	Jack's Nature Walk. Jack Gulvin, naturalist. Smith Wilkes Hall lake-side patio
9:15	ECUMENICAL COMMUNION SERVICE. The Rev. Katie Campbell-Morrison, homilist. Hall of Philosophy
9:15	(9:15–10:15) Jewish Discussions. "Jewish Mysticism & Philosophy." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent
10:00	Coffee on the Porch. Presbyterian House
10:15	Service of Blessing and Healing. UCC Randell Chapel
10:15	Coffee/Tea on the UM House Porch
10:45	CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES. Rainn Wilson. Amphitheater and online
11:00	(11–5) Exhibitions open. Fowler-Kellogg Art Center & Strohl Art Center
11:30	(11:30–1:30) Chabad Kosher Tent. Bestor Plaza
12:00	OPERA. Chautauqua Opera Guild: Annual Meeting & Picnic. Norton Hall
12:00	(12–2) Flea Boutique. Behind the Colonnade
12:15	Community Reading. Alumni Hall Porch
12:15	Twelve Step Meeting. Hurlbut Church Marion Lawrance Room
12:15	"Challah Baking – Miriam Gurary Challah Baking Series." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent
12:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Lutheran House
12:30	Quaker Voluntary Service. Jonny Costeelo and Clara Fuehler with Liz Nicholson, Friend of the Week (Chaplain). Quaker House. 28 Ames
12:30	Introduction to Jum'u'h Muslim Prayer. Visitor introduction at 12:30 p.m. service at 1:05 p.m. Hall of Christ Sanctuary
12:30	Miami of Ohio Program — Andrew Busch. Smith Wilkes Hall
12:45	Catholic Seminar. "Faith in Action: Responding to Global Humanitarian Needs with Compassion and Innovation." Ziad Al Achkar, PhD., UM House Chapel. 14 Pratt
1:00	Archives Tent Talk with Jon Schmitz. Oliver Archives Center
1:00	English Lawn Bowling. Free tips 1–1:15. Stay and play for \$12. Bowling Green
1:15	Docent Tours of Alumni and Pioneer Halls. 50 Wythe

2:00	THEATER. FutureNow New Play Lab 2: ERASERS: A Bloodthirsty Comedy. Fee. Roe Green Theater Center
2:00	The 2026 Chautauqua Prize Presentation of <i>Flashlight</i> by Susan Choi. Hall of Philosophy.
2:30	"Do Palestinians Exist?" Hussam Abdul. UM House Chapel
3:30	School of Music: Violin Masterclass with Ilya Kaler. Fletcher Music Hall
3:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Christian Science House. 10 Center
3:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Episcopal Cottage
3:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3:30	Islam 101. "Islam in America." Khalid and Sabeeha Rehman. Hall of Christ Sanctuary
3:30	Masters Series Masterclass: A Dialogue with Rainn Wilson. Fee. Norton Hall
4:00	THEATER. <i>Best for Baby.</i> Fee. Bratton Theater
5:00	(5–6) Hebrew Congregation "Kabbalat Shabbat: Welcoming the Shabbat" service. Led by Cantor Jodi Sufrin and Cantor Roy Einhorn. Miller Park (rain location Smith Wilkes Hall). If the weather is questionable, call 716-742-2228 for information on service location
5:00	(5–8) Men's Softball League. Sharpe Field
5:30	Cinema Film Screening. "Arco." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
6:00	(6–7:15) Hebrew Congregation Shabbat'zza. Post-service pizza picnic. Miller Park (rain location Smith Wilkes Hall). We supply pizza! Bring your own beverage and a side dish or dessert to share
6:15	Chautauqua Choir Rehearsal. Fletcher Music Hall
6:30	"Community Shabbat Dinner." RSVP required. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent
7:30	AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL. Alison Krauss & Union Station featuring Jerry Douglas with special guest Theo Lawrence. Amphitheater
8:00	Cinema Film Screening. "One Battle After Another." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
9:15	Popcorn on the Porch (post-Amp program) UM House porch
10:00	THEATER. Conservatory Improv Night! Fee. Roe Green Theater Center

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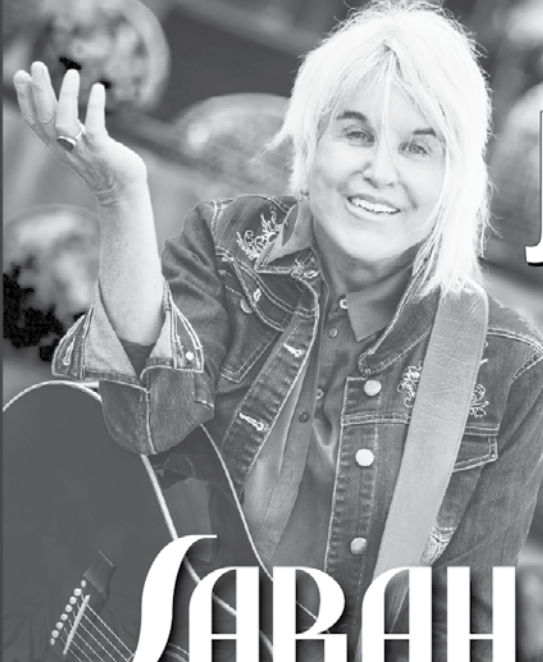
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