

The background of the cover is a photograph of the Chautauqua Institution grounds. On the left, a white building with a porch is visible. Several flags are flying from poles: a large American flag, a green Chautauqua Institution flag, and a blue flag with a white logo. In the foreground, there are large green leaves and white hydrangea flowers. The sky is blue with some trees in the background.

2022 REPORT ON **PHILANTHROPY**

The logo features a stylized illustration of a classical building with columns and a pediment, positioned above the word "Chautauqua" in a script font and "INSTITUTION" in a sans-serif font.

Chautauqua
INSTITUTION



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CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION MISSION STATEMENT

Chautauqua Institution is dedicated to the exploration of the best in human values and the enrichment of life through a program that explores the important religious, social and political issues of our times; stimulates provocative, thoughtful involvement of individuals and families in creative response to such issues; and promotes excellence and creativity in the appreciation, performance and teaching of the arts.

Chautauqua Institution is a not-for-profit, 750-acre community on Chautauqua Lake in southwestern New York State, where approximately 7,500 persons are in residence on any day during a nine-week season, and a total of more than 100,000 attend scheduled public events.



CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

Chautauqua Foundation, Inc. exists to support Chautauqua Institution through the preservation, the appropriate use, and the growth of endowment funds.



A MESSAGE FROM SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF ADVANCEMENT OFFICER **GEOF FOLLANSBEE**

Dear friends,

Themes are a central construct to the Chautauqua experience. For instance, this year's Summer Assembly was organized into weeks ranging from "New Profiles in Courage" to "After Dark: The World of Nighttime." Our past capital campaigns have been organized under concepts like "Promise" or "Renewal". We love them because they tell a story. They unify ideas and give clarity with just a few simple words. They inspire us to think big, while reserving room for nuance.

If I had to select a theme for our philanthropic efforts in 2022, I would select "A Lesson in Resilience". To be resilient is to be able to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change. It's a word we've heard a lot over the last few years, particularly in the nonprofit world, and I struggle to find a word that better defines the people who have given so much of their time and resources to Chautauqua this year. Resilience is something that we have all had to learn to embody. From enduring the continuing challenges of a pandemic and its economic fallout to coping with traumatic events that have shaken our sense of security at Chautauqua and in communities beyond these gates, the world has called on us to adapt, and we have answered back in kind.

Then again, perhaps this commitment to moving forward is unsurprising, given the history and spirit of our enduring mission and strong community. Chautauquans have shown time and time again that in the face of adversity, we choose to forge ahead. I firmly believe that we are well-situated for continued success.

Several members of our staff left to pursue different opportunities over the last year, and we remain grateful for their many contributions to our success. We have been fortunate to bring aboard new colleagues who share an understanding of our goals and have demonstrated deep dedication to our mission from their first day. Our veteran staff has worked hard to help them acclimate to our community and I am confident that the team we have assembled will take our philanthropic efforts to a new level in 2023 and beyond.

Chautauqua's resilience is exemplified as much by the community's generosity as it is by those who show up to work each day. Where some have been forced to adjust their



giving or find new and creative ways to contribute to the Institution, others have stepped up to help fill the gap, ensuring that Chautauqua can continue to grow and be stronger in 2023 and beyond. Many have doubled down on their commitment to this organization. And we are as humbled by, and grateful for, those who have continued

their generosity despite feeling the pinch as we are by those who have increased their giving this year or who have given a gift for the first time. In your dedication, you demonstrated your love for Chautauqua.

In the following pages you will learn about some of the donors, programs and strategic initiatives that make up our community of philanthropy at Chautauqua Institution. No publication could ever fully encompass the depth and impact of generosity at Chautauqua. I am proud to share this sampling with you, which illustrates some of the initiatives we are undertaking to adapt to our changing world. And while this publication is a review of work and generosity in 2022, it also is a preview of the work we still must do. Indeed, the challenges of the last several years illuminate the areas that need our attention and resources most. We invite you to engage with the information herein, to have a continuing conversation with us about the goals we've set in order to build a better Chautauqua, and to join us in our work to bolster the mission of Chautauqua Institution.

We know that Chautauqua isn't just a place. It is a community; an ideal; a mission; a movement. It is a lesson in resilience, and we are so proud to continue learning alongside each of you.

With warm regard and deep appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geof Follansbee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G".

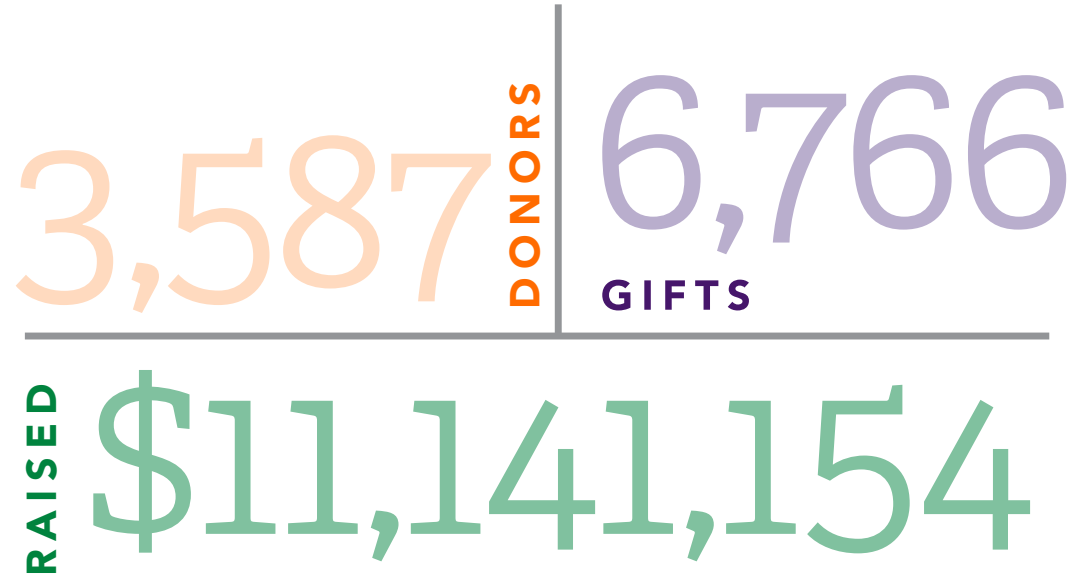
Geof Follansbee

Senior Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer





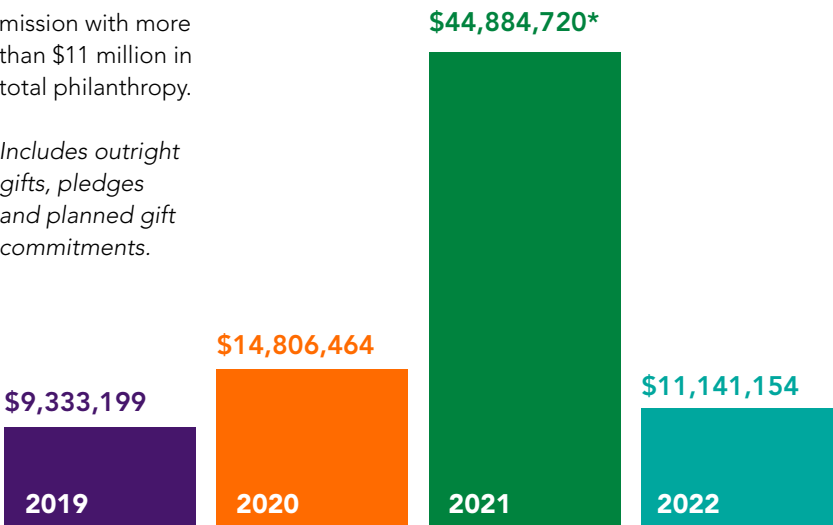
FUNDRAISING REPORT



Total Philanthropic Activity

In 2022, Chautauquans generously supported the Institution's mission with more than \$11 million in total philanthropy.

Includes outright gifts, pledges and planned gift commitments.



*Reflects an exceptionally high number of planned gift commitments and realized bequests

Categories of Support

Chautauqua Fund

All gifts provide annual operating support for the full range of programming Chautauqua offers

Endowment

All gifts, managed by the Chautauqua Foundation, support Chautauqua Institution and its programs in perpetuity

Strategic Initiatives

All gifts support key priorities identified in the 150 Forward Strategic Plan

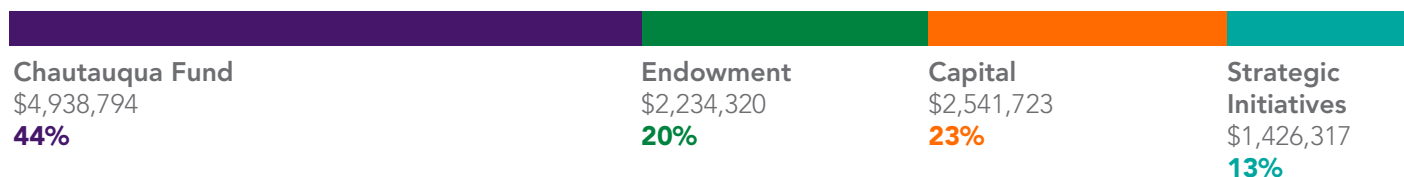
Capital

All gifts support the renovation or construction of facilities



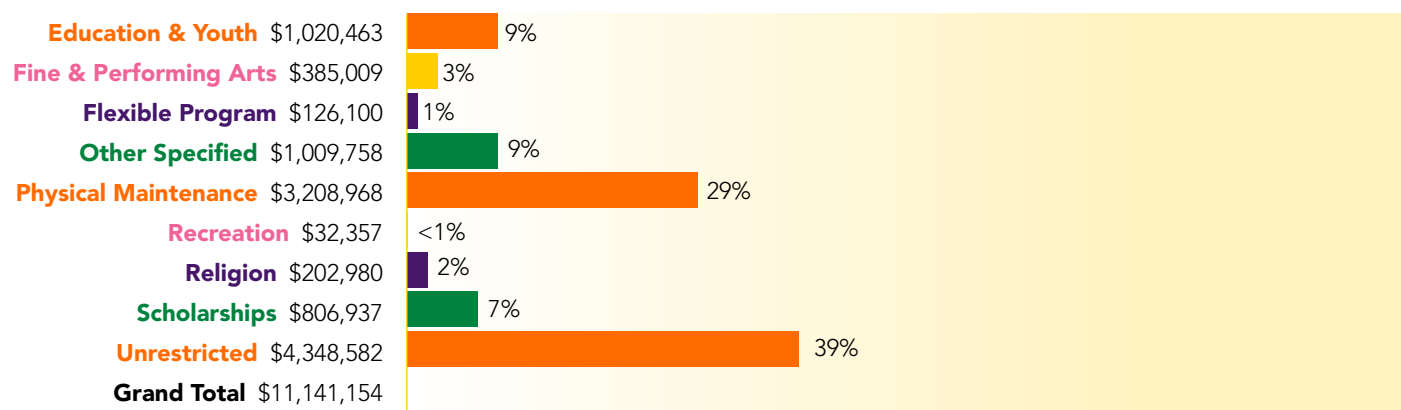
Total Giving by Categories of Support

\$11,141,154



Total Giving by Area of Support

Includes outright gifts, pledges and planned gift commitments



Ways to Give

- Cash gifts
- Appreciated assets such as stocks
- Monthly payments
- Tribute or memorial gifts
- Matching gifts
- Planned gifts such as a bequest or charitable gift annuity
- Donor advised funds or private family foundation
- Corporate and foundation gifts

Contact the Advancement Office to learn more about any of these options.
716-357-6404
advancement@chq.org

LIFETIME GIVING

Numerous individuals and organizations have demonstrated their commitment to Chautauqua through extraordinary expressions of philanthropy.

This lifetime giving list recognizes and thanks the cumulative generosity of donors to the annual Chautauqua Fund, strategic initiatives, capital projects or endowment, or who have pledged or transferred assets as part of certain planned gift commitments totaling an amount of \$250,000 or more.

Donors new to this list appear in **green text**.

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2022 PHILANTHROPY AT CHAUTAUQUA

The following list recognizes, with profound gratitude, all donors who made a contribution to one or more philanthropic areas in 2022.

* Chautauqua deeply regrets the passing of these devoted supporters and is grateful for their legacy support.

\$50,000+

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 in 2022. These
 leadership gifts help
 sustain the delivery
 of the Chautauqua
 experience at the
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DONOR SPOTLIGHT: SUZANNE AND JEFF WATTERS

Suzanne Watters began coming to Chautauqua Institution the way so many Chautauquans do. While vacationing on Chautauqua Lake as a child, her family would drive to the Institution on Sundays to explore the grounds and relax in Bestor Plaza. Years later, after relocating their family from San Francisco to Pittsburgh, Suzanne and her husband Jeff rented a condo for one week to make new memories on the lake with their three children.



decade, founding Sustainable Sewickley, a local community group whose mission is to promote, share and adopt initiatives in a way that protects the environment, supports community health and encourages economic viability.

Inspired by their multigenerational love for Chautauqua Lake, the Watters family made the decision to expand their

"There was some type of artistic, intellectual, or water activity that interested everyone in our family, so we decided that we had to come back the following year," says Suzanne. "We rented a house for one week every summer for the next few seasons, and we enjoyed it so much that soon we began looking to purchase a home on campus." That decision to purchase a home culminated in the redesign and renovation of Chautauqua's first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified home.

"We feel strongly that we all need to do our part, to consider what is best for the future of the planet and to cut carbon emissions now," she says. "We put a lot of thought into sustainable design and construction, and we decided to pursue a LEED certification because it gave us a guideline to follow for the best sustainable practices in home renovating." Some of the sustainable aspects of the home design include preservation of portions of the original structure with furnishings made of recycled or reused materials, and features like additional insulation and a heat pump system that allow for no fossil fuel usage in the home, complimented by a landscape design that features a no-mow lawn, permeable hardscape and rain gardens.

"Many people imagine sustainability as a very high-level societal concept, and they also see it as something that someone else is going to fix," she says. "But we truly believe that it takes a series of coordinated individual actions and everyday decisions to foster change." Securing LEED certification wasn't an easy process, but it was worth it, she says.

"We hope our project, in some small way, will inspire others in this community and beyond to think about sustainability in their own home renovation and building projects," says Jeff. Their home renovation is just one of the many individual actions that the Watters family has taken to fight climate change. Suzanne has been engaged with the climate crises for more than a

conservation efforts at Chautauqua through a significant investment in the Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative. Their support, in conjunction with that of several other donor families, has provided operational support for Chautauqua's Climate Change Initiative Director position, lake research, and educational programming. Among the Initiative's 2022 accomplishments were the facilitation of 27 climate-themed programs throughout the Summer Assembly, substantial data collection on Chautauqua Lake's health, and advancements in plans for on-grounds electric vehicle charging stations and sustainable facility enhancements.

"The lake is too important an asset — and the threats to it too significant — for us to ignore the need for action," says Jeff. "Chautauqua Institution is well-suited for this work because of the strong leadership in this administration, the community of scholarship and shared learning, and the collaboration with the sophisticated and data-driven approach of The Jefferson Project at Lake George."

The Watters family recently relocated from their home near Pittsburgh to Brooklyn, where Suzanne is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts in painting from Pratt Institute. She has wedded her passions for sustainability and art, both of which are hallmarks of her Chautauqua experience, in her work and education. She has challenged herself to work only with foraged, natural and reused materials in her art practice, and is making inks with natural materials and painting on reused fabrics. She is also working on a special project with the New York City-based environmental artist Mary Mattingly. It is a project that will encourage artists to expand their understanding of climate change and sustainability.

"Stay aware and informed," they say. "And when you have a choice to make, whether in the renovation of a home or in the way you shop for your groceries, consider the more sustainable path. Every single decision we make every single day will have a profound impact on the world we leave to the next generation."

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PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative

Since Chautauqua Institution's founding, Chautauqua Lake has been the centerpiece of the Chautauqua experience. Aside from serving as one of the largest economic drivers to the region, the Lake's serenity has provided spiritual rejuvenation to countless Chautauquans. Now, as the region and the world grapple with the accelerating effects of climate change, Chautauqua Institution has taken on the mantle of preserving Chautauqua Lake, becoming a leader in facilitating climate-related dialogue and creating solutions to halt climate change. This work is firmly rooted in Chautauqua's 150 Forward Strategic Plan and the resulting Climate Change Initiative.

Since its inception in 2021, the Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative has served as a launchpad for insightful programming both inside and outside of the Summer Assembly. Throughout the 2022 Summer Assembly, there were 27 climate-related lectures, presentations and performing arts programs around the grounds, which also engaged more than a dozen partner organizations. Outside of the Summer Assembly, the Initiative hosted a Climate Ride weekend where 100 participants raised nearly \$100,000 in support of local, regional and national climate and conservation

organizations. The initiative also organized the 2022 Chautauqua Lake Water Quality Conference, which will be an annual event going forward, and produced three programs exclusively for the CHQ Assembly online platform. Chautauqua's climate-related programming and impact continues to compound as Chautauqua Institution becomes a leading voice in the fight against climate change.

Fortunately, Chautauquans recognize the importance of this work, and several generous leadership donors have made significant investments in its success. Donors Julie Veitch, Peter Nosler and Jane Batten have been among the leading contributors to this work. Their support allowed Chautauqua to hire Mark Wenzler as inaugural Director of the Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative, giving much-needed capacity and a guiding vision to the program. Their support has also sparked a wave of growing interest in this work, and continued philanthropy will ensure that combatting climate change remains a top priority for Chautauqua Institution, in accordance with the 150 Strategic Plan. The community's investment in preserving and protecting Chautauqua Lake now will pay dividends in the region for generations to come.

"Chautauqua Lake is perhaps the Institution's most precious asset and protecting it for future generations is essential. Chautauqua County is a microcosm of so many communities across the United States. The work we do here to learn about and address climate change will have far-reaching effects for communities across the country."

— Mark Wenzler, Director, Chautauqua Climate Change Initiative



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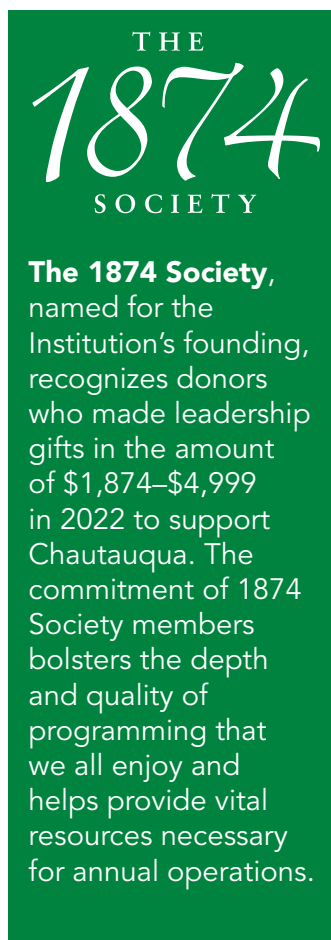
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DONOR SPOTLIGHT: SAMUEL AND LYNN STAHL

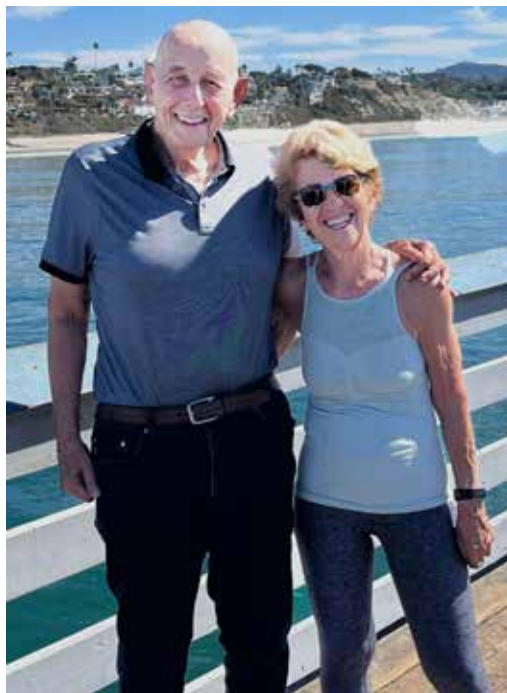
For some, growing up as an outsider can inspire a deep desire to find community and belonging based on shared identity. But for Samuel and Lynn Stahl, growing up Jewish in communities dominated by Christians (Samuel in Sharon, PA and Lynn in Ishpeming in Michigan's Upper Peninsula) would form the foundation of their lives' work to build bridges between people of different faiths. It helped that they had strong role models from the outset.

"My rabbi at home, from the time I was eight until I was 16, was Meyer Abramowitz," recalls Samuel. "He was very involved with interfaith relations of the city. In fact, he started a pulpit exchange with a minister from the Disciples of Christ. The minister spoke in the Temple on Friday night at the Shabbat service and the rabbi spoke on Sunday morning at the church service."

But as the only Jewish student in her high school, the responsibility of interfaith discussion was often left to Lynn. She relished dialoguing with her Christian classmates and discussing the similarities between her faith and theirs. She came away from that experience with a deep understanding of how productive and important interfaith discussion can be in building friendship and understanding. Her father, who taught the Confirmation Class of four students from the surrounding area, took the class to several different churches during the year.

"I think religion, at its best, has a humanizing influence," he says. "At its worst, religion has a dehumanizing influence." They both recall the "genteel anti-Semitism," as Samuel refers to it, of the 1950s and '60s, when Jewish people were excluded from social circles and private clubs. The Stahls felt then, as they do today, that interfaith work was an essential part of building a more productive, peaceful, and understanding humanity. It has been a cornerstone of Samuel's rabbinical work since he became a rabbi in 1967, both at home in Texas and at Chautauqua Institution.

The Stahls first came to Chautauqua in 1998 when Samuel was invited to be a speaker for the afternoon Interfaith Lecture Series. He was invited again in 2000 to offer another series of afternoon interfaith lectures. For the 2003 season, he was



appointed Chautauqua's Theologian-in-Residence. The Stahls have returned to Chautauqua every summer since, with Samuel becoming the "unofficial Chautauqua rabbi," as he puts it, in his role as an Associate in the Department of Religion.

"One of the reasons that we really resonate so much with Chautauqua is it seems to be a magnet for people whose values coincide with ours," says Lynn. It was that spirit of connection that inspired the Stahls to first establish the Rabbi Samuel and Lynn Stahl Lectureship for the Understanding of Judaism in 2010 and to include Chautauqua in their estate plans.

The fund promotes forward-thinking discussion of religion's role in the world (and Chautauqua), particularly as it

relates to Judaism and interfaith work. Among the issues that the Stahls are passionate about is how younger generations will embrace traditional faiths in a technology-obsessed world.

"The aspects of religion that are relevant to interaction with others need to be brought down to the younger generations," says Lynn. "Kids [who don't practice faith] will say, 'I came out of a Jewish or a Christian or a Muslim family, but it doesn't resonate with me.' I would hope that somehow or other Chautauqua's Department of Religion would be able to address the emptiness that so many people are feeling today. Social media cannot fill that void."

The Stahls believe that Chautauqua is the right organization to address the disconnect. And they hope that through their charitable giving, Chautauqua will continue to expand its role as a convener for productive interfaith discussion and community. Samuel continues to be actively engaged with the Department of Religion and the Hebrew Congregation, and Lynn serves as the co-coordinator of the Chautauqua Dialogues program.

"We're on this Earth such a short time. No matter what our belief in the afterlife is, our work at Chautauqua hopefully will perpetuate our values while we are alive. We have committed ourselves to finding the humanity of people of all faiths, races, and sexual orientations," says Lynn. "We're trying to set an example for our daughters and their families. They know how we feel about Chautauqua and its mission. This is our legacy."

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PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Religion

For many Chautauquans, the spiritual rebirth and rejuvenation that is offered through the Department of Religion is the hallmark of their Chautauqua experience. One of the Institution's original pillars, Religion has formed the bedrock of Chautauqua's programming since its first days under the founding vision of Bishop John Heyl Vincent. Since then, the Department of Religion has evolved to offer an expansive array of programs to reach those of every faith and no faith. Countless pastors, rabbis, imams and religious leaders have come to Chautauqua throughout its 150-year history to promote interfaith understanding and cooperation.

In addition to the daily worship services, afternoon Interfaith Lecture Series, vespers and sacred music program, the Department's partnerships with Chautauqua's many denominational houses and religious organizations provide for a wide array of community programming throughout the year. Among the more recent additions to Chautauqua's religious programming

is CHQ Dialogues, which capitalizes on community partnerships to encourage interpersonal connection and conversation across diverse experiences and backgrounds. Spiritual diversity has become an essential component of community, in part because of the philanthropy of families whose faith lies outside of the founding Methodist tradition.

The Department's work is dependent on the generosity of Chautauqua's community. Memorial and honorary tributes, lecture sponsorships and chaplaincy endowments held within the Chautauqua Foundation are a few ways that Chautauquans enthusiastically support religious programming. Annual philanthropy not only ensures that Chautauqua's infrastructure can meet the Department of Religion's programming needs (both in-person and online on CHQ Assembly), but also supports the many speakers, musicians and religious leaders who come to the grounds each year to bring programming to life.

"Chautauqua is a spiritual home for people with a diverse range of religious beliefs, including people who do not identify as religious at all – the beauty and power of Chautauqua is found in the ability to be a sacred space that is also inherently inclusive. The generosity of our dedicated community enables this unique environment, and it is a privilege to see that carry on across generations."

— Melissa Spas, Vice President of Religion



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DONOR SPOTLIGHT: GWEN AND PETER NORTON

When Gwen and Peter Norton first came to Chautauqua on the advice of friends, they didn't imagine that someday they'd be playing host to dozens of friends each summer. Well, perhaps "host" isn't exactly the right word.

"Our goal is to bring in interesting people who are engaged in whatever they deal with, wind them up, and turn them loose," says Peter, who, along with Gwen, recently purchased a second home on the grounds that they've opened to friends and colleagues for a week each. "We might have a couple of meals together or drinks a few days, but by and large we don't want to be in their hair. We want them to have their own Chautauqua experience."

In a way, the Nortons have become ambassadors for Chautauqua in their personal and professional networks. It was an idea they piloted after years of experience at their home in Martha's Vineyard, where friends would often stay with them for the weekend. The Nortons thought that several of their friends and colleagues would enjoy Chautauqua's wide range of programming, and hosting those who otherwise would not have come would be a good way to get them onto the grounds.

Since 2022, the first year they owned their "guest house," they've hosted 18 families who have marveled at the educational and artistic programming available to visitors of every age. The Nortons fondly recall a special moment on Children's Beach when their guests' five-year-old twins were invited by a group of other young Chautauquans to take part in a science experiment. And a reluctant 10-year-old city kid who found friendship at the lake and independence on his bike.

"We had no expectations," says Gwen. "We were interested in having people who were intellectually curious. That was our only criteria. And we wanted to have people with young kids who, if it did stick, would come back because the kids enjoyed it, but have invited families of all types." Some of their guests have already made their own arrangements to return next summer. "You know, as Peter says, we give them one bite."



Building new audiences is a passion for the Nortons, who are active supporters of many nonprofit organizations both nationally and at home in New York City. Gwen has served on the Institution's Board of Trustees since 2021, following a 28-year banking and finance career, and has used her position to become an advocate for audience development at Chautauqua, both within her network and on a larger scale.

"We have to figure out how to keep this institution

running, broaden our revenue, and take it to more people," says Gwen. She hopes that Chautauqua will continue to broaden and diversify its audience and adapt to the challenges of today's financial world. "There was a time when you could come for nine weeks, but people are working now and have competing obligations. I think we need to think more broadly about who needs or wants to come to Chautauqua."

This broad thinking also extends to the Nortons' giving philosophy, which is decidedly unrestricted.

"There are a lot of people who want every dollar to go to some purpose that is meaningful to them," says Peter. "Who's going to keep the lights on?"

"I think [unrestricted giving] is important and necessary for Chautauqua," says Gwen, "In order for Chautauqua to survive and thrive, it's got to have new generations of folks who want to give and be substantial and important donors to the Institution."

"There's a line from the novel *The Leopard*: 'If we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change,'" says Peter. "And so, we tell the people to maintain the good things and the traditions of Chautauqua. But it also has to adapt to the changing world ... How do you figure out the changing elements that will maintain the value of Chautauqua? It's an interesting puzzle that we want to try and solve."

The Nortons are committed to solving that puzzle, one new family at a time.



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PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Buildings & Grounds

April brought the ceremonial groundbreaking of a new \$6.4 million facility that will consolidate Chautauqua's Buildings & Grounds department under one roof, exceeding 21,000 square feet and scheduled for completion in spring 2023. Funded largely by philanthropy, this project is but one example of the community's deep commitment to maintaining Chautauqua's beloved grounds far into the future. For years, Chautauqua's maintenance facilities have faced compounding wear-and-tear. This capital investment addresses an immediate need while building capacity to continually improve the experiences of every resident and visitor.

The new Buildings & Grounds facility is not the only grounds project that philanthropy will impact at Chautauqua. In addition to the endowment funds dedicated to maintaining Chautauqua's gardens and greenery held within the Chautauqua Foundation, private

donors make annual gifts to support upkeep, renovation, and construction of existing and new facilities alike. Philanthropy offsets the cost of capital improvements to facilities to maintain their beauty, as well as structural repairs to keep them safe for Chautauquans to use throughout the year.

One of the capital projects on the horizon is the renovation of Bellinger Hall. The renovation will go beyond the traditional fixes to include a reimagining of the space, its purpose and its capabilities. In accordance with Chautauqua's strategic goal to become a year-round convening authority, Bellinger Hall will be renovated to allow for perennial use, whether in a hot summer or a snowy winter. Additional upgrades will be made to modernize the food service facilities to meet the needs of Chautauqua's students and visitors, and to create flexible infrastructure to accommodate different rooming requirements for varying audiences.

"We often hear from visitors that coming onto Chautauqua's grounds feels like stepping back in time. Our challenge is to maintain the historic character of the grounds, while ensuring that our campus remains safe and beautiful throughout the entire year. Thanks to the generosity of Chautauquans, we can ensure that our new constructions and capital improvements account for both Chautauqua's character and our changing modern needs."

— John Shedd, Vice President of Campus Planning and Operations

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DONOR SPOTLIGHT: SARAH AND KAREN JAMES

For Sarah James, music has always been a quintessential part of the Chautauqua experience, from her earliest days when her family would drive past the Institution grounds.

"When we would drive down the road and pass all the music shacks, my mom would say, 'There's a piano in every one of those and students come here,'" Sarah recalls. "She'd tell the whole story. I was just really taken by that."

Over the years, Sarah and her wife Karen, both longtime Western Pennsylvania residents, would occasionally come to Chautauqua to enjoy the many musical offerings on the grounds. But it wasn't until they retired to Arizona that they began coming regularly, first as weeklong visitors and eventually as homeowners. In one of those early summers, Karen encouraged Sarah to attend a brown bag discussion facilitated by a group of LGBTQ Chautauquans that was advertised in *The Chautauquan Daily*.

"That was our introduction to the group," says Karen. "It was easy to become a part of that community because we were so welcomed into it." Karen and Sarah became increasingly active in that community group, now known as LGBTQ & Friends at Chautauqua, and it set them on a path to further promote and support Chautauqua's efforts to become more inclusive.

The Jameses have since become substantial supporters of Chautauqua's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) efforts. Along with a handful of other donor families, their support was instrumental in the hiring of a Senior Vice President and Chief IDEA Officer, a position that has been funded entirely by private philanthropy since its inception.

In addition to hiring this new senior staff position, their generosity has supported Chautauqua's work to establish an



IDEA Strategic Plan, enhance the Institution's physical accessibility offerings, and provide training and resources to community groups to make them more inclusive and welcoming.

"If you want to see Chautauqua continue to be what it's been, to offer the experience that you've come to expect during the summer, it has to reflect the world," says Karen. "It will enrich our lives to a greater degree." The Jameses acknowledge that Chautauqua's efforts to diversify its audience have not always been met with universal understanding, but they're hopeful that the community will increasingly embrace those efforts. "People work together when there's a sense of cooperation and dignity and respect for one another," Karen says. "And you can't really have that to any degree if not everyone is welcomed at the table."

Aside from lecturers and musical performances, the sense of community remains their favorite aspect of the Chautauqua experience. These days, Sarah can often be found performing on Chautauqua's grounds, though not at the practice shacks that fascinated her as a child. She supports community groups like the Chautauqua Fire Department and LGBTQ & Friends at Chautauqua by donating the tips she collects while singing lakeside or at 2 Ames.

"I'm thankful. I hope Chautauqua continues to be an example as a place where we can differ and still love each other," says Sarah. "A place where everyone is provided the opportunity to explore, whether it's intellectual, spiritual, artistic or musical. Whatever it is your heart is inclined to, there's something here for you to grow."



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PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility

Among the cross-cutting imperatives introduced in Chautauqua's 150 Forward Strategic Plan is a renewed commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA). Philanthropy has been the source of funding for the work that Chautauqua has taken on in these areas since the adoption of the Strategic Plan. In addition to the programmatic offerings introduced under the purview of the Institution's IDEA work, the support of several donor families has also allowed the Institution to establish the Senior Vice President & Chief IDEA Officer position, currently held by Amit Taneja.

Since stepping into the role, Taneja has worked closely with community groups including the African American Heritage House, LGBTQ & Friends, Friends of Chautauqua Theater Company and denominational houses to facilitate programming and dialogues centered on topics related to inclusion. He has also piloted an in-depth evaluation of the Institution's

physical spaces, programs and technology to form a holistic picture of where we can improve access for individuals with disabilities. Details of these efforts, along with the IDEA strategic plan, are available at idea.chq.org.

The outcomes of this work are already being felt throughout the Institution. The initiative has revealed opportunities for philanthropic Chautauquans to get involved, including updating buildings to become more accessible, endowing opportunities for artists or students, and providing resources for new audiences to explore and participate in Chautauqua's programming. The Institution's focus on IDEA efforts was deemed essential by Chautauquans and the board of trustees, as it ensures pathways to welcome new, diverse audiences to our grounds, and thereby helps Chautauqua grow and thrive for generations to come.

"The core tenets of our IDEA work are synonymous with the aspects of Chautauqua that make it so special: creating an environment conducive to learning and robust discussion, celebrating the worth and value in each person, and working together to build community and understanding."

– Amit Taneja, Senior Vice President & Chief IDEA Officer

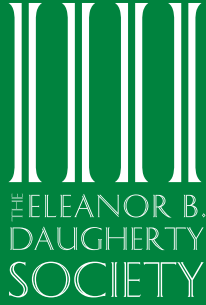


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| | Phyllis and Shel Seligsohn | Mark Williams | |
| | Mary Ellen Sheridan | Joan Williamson | |



Scenes from construction of Chautauqua's new Buildings & Grounds facility. Learn more about this project on Page 21.



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