



News Release

“Chautauqua Saturday” Comes to Chagrin Falls on January 26 **First in “Chagrin Arts” Series to Feature Noteworthy Speakers in Literature, Music, Art, and Politics**

January 10, 2008 – Chagrin Falls, Ohio – The Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture presents “*Chautauqua Saturday: a one-day spa for your mind*,” the first program of its “Chagrin Arts,” winter series, on Saturday, January 26, 2008. Featuring speakers in literature, music, art, and politics and offered in the spirit of the Chautauqua tradition, this daylong event takes place at venues throughout Chagrin Falls.

“The Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture continues its commitment to bring stellar arts programming to Chagrin Falls. “*Chautauqua Saturday*” builds upon the popularity of last summer’s Chautauqua in Chagrin series, features renowned experts in field, and showcases our historic Chagrin Falls community,” notes Christina Thoburn, Executive Director of the Foundation.

“Chautauqua Saturday: a one-day spa for your mind”

The inaugural “Chagrin Arts” winter series begins on Saturday, January 26, with “*Chautauqua Saturday*,” a daylong lecture series hosted at venues throughout Chagrin Falls. Gate passes for the entire day are \$40 for preferred seating plus reception with speakers and \$25 for general seating. Individual lecture tickets, if available, will go on sale at \$10/lecture on January 21. Complimentary shuttle bus service is provided from venue to venue. The complete schedule is as follows:

Chautauqua Saturday, a one-day spa for your mind

Saturday, January 26, 2008

Gate passes for the entire day: \$40/preferred seating and reception with speakers; \$25/general seating

Individual lecture tickets: if available, will go on sale for \$10/lecture on January 21

Complimentary shuttle bus service provided from venue to venue

10:00am, Federated Church, 76 Bell Street

Ralph G. Williams, Professor of English at the University of Michigan

“Be Your Tears Wet?” Shakespeare, The Sense of Touch, and the Human

In his later plays in particular, Shakespeare locates, in the sense of touch and in the ability to be touched, the criterion of our humanity. This lecture focuses on King Lear and The Tempest, but will include references to a number of other plays.

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1:30pm, Valley Lutheran Church, 87 East Orange Street

Ori Z. Soltes, Professorial Lecturer at Georgetown University and former Director and Curator of the National Jewish Museum

Sacred Signs: Shared Symbols in Christian, Jewish and Muslim Art

Learn what "symbol" means, why art uses symbols, and why there are different "modes" of symbols; how a number of familiar symbols in Abrahamic traditions derive from imagery that pre-dates any of them; how and why in the course of history symbols are often shared among Jewish, Christian and Muslim artistic traditions, and how and why the "modern" age in the West continues use religious symbols more often than commonly thought.

1:30pm, Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, 40 River Street

Ross W. Duffin, Kulas Professor of Music at CASE

Reconstructing Shakespeare's Songbook

Discussion of how integral music was to theater in Shakespeare's time; the 160 songs that appear in, are quoted in, or are alluded to in Shakespeare's plays; and how their inclusion provides a glimpse of popular culture of the day.

2:00pm, Chagrin Falls Library, 100 East Orange Street

Young Readers Program in the Chautauqua tradition (FREE)

Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions, with special interactive drum performance by Rhythm Culture

All ages will enjoy bringing this popular book to life through the use of fun rhythms. Percussion instruments will be provided for audience members.

3:00pm, Federated Church, 76 Bell Street

The Honorable William Purcell, former Mayor of Nashville

A 21st Century City that Works

This lecture draws upon Purcell's great success as Mayor of Nashville during a time of unprecedented economic expansion and residential renaissance to discuss the many components of vibrant cities of the future.

To Purchase Tickets

Tickets for *Chautauqua Saturday* may be purchased through the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre box office at 440-247-8955; online at www.cvlto.org; or in person, Monday through Saturday from 1-6 p.m., at 40 River Street. Plan ahead and save: purchase six or more tickets for *Chautauqua Saturday* or any other programs offered through the "Chagrin Arts" series, in any combination, and save 10%.

To Obtain Additional Information

For more information regarding *Chautauqua Saturday* or to schedule an interview with the speakers, call the Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture at 440-247-9700.

Other “Chagrin Arts” Programming

On Tuesday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m., “Chagrin Arts” presents “Artists from Oberlin: Darrett Adkins and Friends” at the United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls. The program includes works by Schubert, Beethoven and others and features Oberlin faculty musicians Darrett Adkins and Amir Eldan on cello, David Bowlin and Marilyn McDonald on violin, Karen Ritscher on viola, and Peter Takacs on piano. Tickets are \$18/adults and \$10/students.

The series finale on Tuesday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the newly-opened Performing Arts Center of Chagrin Falls High School features a performance by GroundWorks Dancetheater. Hailed as one of “25 to watch” nationally by *Dance Magazine*, GroundWorks performs “Latitude” by Artistic Director David Shimotakahara with live music accompaniment by Hal Walker, the virtual one man band from Kent Ohio; a new work by Artistic Associate Amy Miller; and the ever-popular “Always” by New York guest artist Gina Gibney, set to the music of vocal legend Patsy Cline. Tickets are \$18/adults and \$10/students.

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Attachment1: Speaker Biographies

Attachment2: Speaker Photos

Contact: Christina Thoburn, Executive Director
Chagrin Foundation for Arts & Culture
440-247-9700/cthoburn@chagrinfoundation.org
www.chagrinfoundation.org

Chautauqua Saturday, January 26, 2008

Speaker Biographies

Ralph G. Williams is a Professor in the Department of English, Language and Literature at the University of Michigan. He has studied 15 languages including Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic, and uses Italian, French, and Latin, especially frequently. He specializes in Medieval and Renaissance literature, Shakespeare, literary theory, comparative literature and Biblical studies. He has taught such wide-ranging courses as The Bible in English, plus the literature of Chaucer to Frederick Douglass, to the works of Primo Levi and the Memory of Auschwitz. Professor Williams was Associate Chair of the Department of English (for the second time) from 1999 to 2002. He also served from 1996 to 1999 as Director of the Program on Studies in Religion. While Associate Chair of the English Department, he was instrumental in creating and developing the Royal Shakespeare Company Residency program at the University of Michigan. In addition, he continues to work closely with the University Musical Society to further the activities of the RSC Residency.

Ori Z. Soltes is Goldman Professorial Lecturer in Fine Arts and Theology at Georgetown University, as well as a frequent lecturer in the National and Resident Associate Programs at the Smithsonian Institution. Professor Soltes is the former Director and Curator of the National Jewish Museum in Washington, D.C., where he has curated over 80 exhibitions. He has taught and lectured in 22 universities and museums throughout the country, on subjects ranging from the Arab-Israeli conflict to The Body in Ancient Art. With degrees in classics and philosophy, Professor Soltes has authored more than 100 articles, exhibition catalogues, and books on a wide range of disciplines and topics.

Ross W. Duffin was known for many years as the lively, informative host and producer of *Micrologus: Exploring the World of Early Music*, on National Public Radio from 1981-1998. He received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Western Ontario and Master's and Doctorate from Stanford University. He is now Fynette H. Kulas Professor of Music at Case Western Reserve University. He Chaired the Department there from 1993 to 1998 and continues to direct the undergraduate and graduate programs in early music. A winner of the prestigious Noah Greenberg Award from the American Musicological Society for work of benefit to both scholars and performers, Duffin served as founding Chair of the Committee on Early Music in Higher Education for Early Music America. His scholarly work includes articles in many major journals concerning music from the 13th to the 18th centuries, online articles on historical tuning systems, a catalog of musical subjects at the Cleveland Museum of Art, as well as editions of music from the 15th to the 17th centuries. His *Shakespeare's Songbook*, a study of the vocal music in Shakespeare's plays, received the inaugural Claude V. Palisca Award from the American Musicological Society in 2005. Current scholarly projects include the theoretical works of Thomas Ravenscroft and a follow-up to *Shakespeare's Songbook*.

Bill Purcell was the fifth mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, elected first in 1999 and reelected to a second term in 2003 with a record setting 84.8 percent of the vote. During his tenure, Nashville has seen unprecedented economic expansion, earning back-to-back designations in the past two years by *Expansion Management* magazine as the hottest city in America for corporate relocation or expansion. His efforts on behalf of schools have drawn national attention, and through his leadership the city has increased funding for public safety, provided support for the arts, pursued a master plan for the parks system that is resulting in an unprecedented expansion of parks and greenways across the city, and enjoyed a residential renaissance. Prior to his election as mayor, Bill Purcell served five terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives, where was named House Majority Leader and Chair of the Select Committee on Children and Youth. An attorney by profession, he received his law degree from Vanderbilt University and is a recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Vanderbilt Law School.