




Chautauqua Celebrating Public Spaces - Sept. 30, 2017

Programs confirmed so far....

Speaker	Presentation
 Allison Blais 9/11 Memorial, NYC	KEYNOTE: 9/11 Memorial: Place of Remembrance and Resilience The 9/11 Memorial is perhaps the most iconic Public Space in America today. So what goes into designing a space to tell the story of the worst tragedy in our country's history, with so many diverse visions and needs and with pain and passion so intense? Join Memorial Executive VP Allison Blais as she tells the unique story of the design, planning, and evolving role of this American public space and need it fills for Americans. Ms. Blais has been involved in the 9/11 Memorial throughout the all the years of its design and building and has co-authored it official book. She will sign and sell books at Chautauqua.
 The Old Fashioned Singers Waxahachie, TX	"All Are Welcome Here": Old-Fashioned Singers Kick Off The Day These words will reverberate in the Chautauqua Auditorium at the 2017 Chautauqua. The powerful voices of the Old-Fashioned Singers will lead off the Chautauqua at 9am on Sat. Sept. 30 with this hymn and other welcoming old gospel songs.
 Jon Schmitz Chautauqua Institution, NY	Chautauqua's Gathering Places Across America: Past & Present Archivist and historian Jon Schmitz from the Chautauqua Institution in NY will tell the story of the Public Spaces of Chautauqua, through history and across the country, from New York to Texas. And we'll get to discover how the Waxahachie Chautauqua fits in with all those other spaces! Mr. Schmitz directs the extensive Chautauqua Archives, organizes a popular summer lecture series on Chautauqua historical topics.



Stephen Edenbo
Philadelphia, PA

Thomas Jefferson: Inter-weaving Democracy & Architecture

It turns out that Thomas Jefferson is considered to be one of the most influential American architects of all time! His intention was that democracy and architecture together would safeguard liberty and democracy forever. Mr. Edenbo will bring Jefferson's architectural vision to the Chautauqua Auditorium stage and Jefferson's role in America's architecture, landscapes and public spaces. Mr. Edenbo is a scholar/actor/historian who has been researching, portraying and immersing himself in Thomas Jefferson for 18 years including Monticello, the Smithsonian Institution, History Channel, and so many more.



Dr. George Keaton, Jr
Remembering Black Dallas, Inc.

William Sidney Pittman: First Black Architect in Texas

Dallas historian George Keaton, Jr. will tell the story of this important African American architect, William Sidney Pittman, and his legacy in North Texas. Known as the first black architect in Texas, Pittman's notable public buildings include the Knights of Pythias Hall and the St. James AME Church in Dallas and the Joshua Chapel AME Church in Waxahachie, built just 100 years ago. Pittman was the son-in-law of Booker T. Washington and is considered to be the first African American architect in Texas. Dr. Keaton is the founder and executive director of Remembering Black Dallas Inc., a non-profit that preserves and promotes the African American life, history, artifacts, and culture of Dallas.



Stonhenj Players

Renaissance Spaces: Singing, Dancing & Jousting

The Stonhenj Players return to Chautauqua to offer their interactive high-energy performance - to entertain, educate, and transport us to the city centers of the Renaissance era. We'll gather with these actors, stage combatants, dancers and singers who come from diverse backgrounds, from opera & stage to passionate re-enactors of the Renaissance. Stonhenj performs regularly at Scarborough Faire as well as at other festivals, museums, schools, fairs, pubs, and madrigal feasts.



**Sherry Owens
Dallas, TX**

Art in the Open

Well-known artist Sherry Owens will come to Chautauqua to share her perspectives on Public Art. Especially known for her meticulous crepe myrtle sculptures and large outdoor works in bronze and steel, in 2014 she received the Artist/Craftsman Award from the AIA Dallas. Her work has been shown throughout Texas and the southwest and internationally in Peru, Greece, Turkey and India.



City of Waxahachie

Transforming Waxahachie Through Public Spaces

2017 is a big year for Public Spaces in Waxahachie! Join Parks & Recreation Director, John Smith, and discover the decisions and processes that actually create compelling Public Spaces in this small Texas city – spaces that citizens all get to watch transform the city, little by little. Explore the ways a city on the verge of expansive growth can use their parks and trails to retain their heritage and character to avoid the too prevalent urban sprawl.



**Kevin Sloan
Dallas, TX**

Inspiring Public Landscapes

Noted Dallas landscape architect, Kevin Sloan, will return to Chautauqua to help us discover what makes a meaningful Public Space. His studio's projects range from crafted landscapes such as at the Dallas Urban Reserve, the Centennial Quadrangle and Pavilion at Southern Methodist University, and the 17-acre spring fed Vitruvian Park.



**Kelley Rayner,
"Last Chance Forever"**

Soaring With the Birds of Prey

Witness the powerful beauty of dynamic raptors as they soar through one of Waxahachie's favorite public spaces - Getzendaner Park! The ancient art of falconry allows us up close and personal with these hawks, owls, falcons, eagles and other birds of prey.



**Mexico 2000 Ballet Folklórico
Dallas, TX**

Ballet Folklórico Takes the Chautauqua Stage!

Experience the historic Chautauqua Auditorium as it is transformed by the energetic sounds and colors and movement of the award-winning Mexico 2000 Ballet Folklórico. These traditional dances have been part of Mexico's and Texas' Public Squares for centuries and will complete our look at Public Spaces with joy!