As co-chairs of the Promise Campaign, we are excited to write to you about recent progress and several remaining opportunities to participate in the last year of Chautauqua’s most ambitious campaign yet.

Against an overall goal of $98.2 million, as of June 30, the community has generously made $96.3 million in commitments to this six-year endeavor.

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of many Chautauqua families, individuals and foundations, this campaign has enabled numerous and significant accomplishments.

• First and foremost Chautauquans have made it possible to move forward with the Amphitheater project, creating a facility that can serve a robust and nationally important Institution for the next 100 years.
• Nearly $2 million has been contributed to the endowment for scholarships.
• A family’s gift created a welcoming guest house for Chautauqua’s program presenters.
• Three critical senior positions have been endowed, setting a new example for the concept of “chairs” at Chautauqua.
• Chautauquans and funding from the State of New York have enabled key environmental investments in the health of Chautauqua Lake.
• Several individuals have funded innovative program initiatives such as the inter-arts collaboration, the new clergy program and arts integration outreach into our local schools.
• And, importantly, this community has collectively provided over $20 million of philanthropy during this campaign to fund Chautauqua’s annual programs and operations.

In the few remaining months of the Promise Campaign, it is vitally important that we accomplish several more objectives to position the Institution for a strong future.

In addition to growing the annual support allocated through the Chautauqua Fund to scholarship, we hope to create new endowed scholarships to ensure that we continue to attract the most talented, young artists to study under Marlena Malas, Don Kimes, Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and our other artistic leaders.

By building an endowment for the Amphitheater, we solidify our commitment to ensuring this will be a safe, efficient and welcoming home for future speakers and performers, audiences and generations of Chautauquans to come. We hope to make major strides in raising the $5 million dollars of endowment necessary to do so.

Earlier in 2016, the Foundation and Institution also announced the receipt of a gift that has made possible the purchase of the Lewis Miller Cottage. The acceptance of this gift reaffirms the Institution’s commitment to the aesthetic character of the community and to the preservation of the only building within the Institution to be designated a National Historic Landmark.

We are proud to be a part of this effort to achieve the Promise of Chautauqua. It is only possible thanks to the continued investment of this community, with opportunities to participate at all levels. Every gift matters! As you consider the opportunities detailed above and how you are part of Chautauqua’s Promise, please do not hesitate to contact the Foundation office by calling 716.357.6404 or emailing foundation@ciweb.org.

Sincerely,

George Snyder
Steve Percy
Promise Campaign, co-chairs

A message from the co-chairs
Endowing existing staff positions — whether that of an artistic director, position in the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra or Director of Religion — will ensure the continuity of excellence and innovation, alleviating the burden on the annual operating budget to fund the future sustainability of these programs.

One of the most significant and challenging initiatives in Chautauqua Institution’s 142-year history, the Amphitheater project addresses serious challenges to performers, presenters and audiences.

Caring for Chautauqua Lake, the shoreline and other natural areas while maintaining Chautauqua’s 100 public buildings is critical. Thanks to generous philanthropy, the Institution has been able to follow best practices and develop both stormwater management and tree canopy maintenance plans to improve water quality and wildlife habitats.

From installing rain gardens to removing invasive species and inoculating trees against disease, these initiatives are part of a long-range effort to safeguard the health of this beautiful space and the lake.

While opportunities exist for additional investment in the Promise Campaign and beyond, three pivotal leadership positions have been endowed in the areas of visual arts, education and youth. Endowing existing staff positions — whether that of an artistic director, position in the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra or Director of Religion — will ensure the continuity of excellence and innovation, alleviating the burden on the annual operating budget to fund the future sustainability of these programs.

ENDOWMENT FOR PUBLIC SPACES
$1,250,000 goal
$2,036,002 raised

INITIATIVES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
$4.5 million goal
$4,495,581 raised

FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
$500,000 goal
$376,000 raised

$2.5 million goal
$2 million raised

$33.5 million goal
$39,240,287 raised

Leadership

Judy Barie
Susan and Jack Turben Director of the VACI Galleries

Sherra Babcock
Richard and Emily Smucker Chair for Education

Greg Prechtl
McCredie Family Director of Boys’ and Girls’ Club

Grounds

AMPHITHEATER

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EXPERIENCE

The Chautauqua Prize, the commissioning of new literary and musical works such as Chautauqua Theater Company’s New Play Workshops, and the inter-arts collaborations are examples of the investments made possible through the Promise Campaign to raise up, and innovate within, Chautauqua’s diverse programming.

Enhanced youth programs and Special Studies offerings, as well as inspiring work through the Department of Religion with clergy development (Interfaith New Clergy Program and Chautauqua Clergy Leadership) and the Abrahamic Program for Young Adults (APYA) are flourishing thanks to the support of Chautauquans, like you, who believe in the ability to breathe new life into Chautauqua’s longstanding pillars of the Arts, Education, Religion and Recreation.

The dormitory complex Bellinger Hall has many renovation needs, and presents an opportunity for additional support and investment.

Chautauqua’s Schools of Fine and Performing Arts draw an enormous pool of extraordinary talent for intense musical and artistic training. A robust scholarship program is essential to being able to attract these talented artists who give so deeply of themselves in class and on Chautauqua’s stages, to the benefit of a fortunate audience.

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Similarly, gifts to the Chautauqua Fund directly impact innovations to the programs you enjoy each year and Chautauqua’s ability to produce an unparalleled experience for you and your family. Supporting over 3,000 events each summer and scholarships for approximately 300 students, approximately 75% of gifts to the annual fund are less than $500 — every gift makes a difference!

LIMITED TIME ONLY:
Special Matching Gift Opportunity
Join the Bell Tower Society and Chautauqua will receive an additional $500 contribution, courtesy of the Edward L. Anderson, Jr. Foundation.

For details, visit giving.ciweb.org or contact the Foundation Office at foundation@ciweb.org or 716.357.6404 to learn how you can qualify today.

KEEPING CHAUTAUQUA’S PROMISE

Chautauquans today enjoy the legacy of so many who came before them — those who invested their time, talents and treasure to build and sustain this uniquely American resource for intellectual, recreational, spiritual and artistic exploration.

Now, you are invited to keep the Promise of Chautauqua for our children and grandchildren, for the young artists who study here, for the new clergy and other religious leaders who come for spiritual nourishment, and for the great minds of our time who provide insight and perspective on a myriad of topics that have real meaning in our lives. Unspecified endowment resources can be applied to any area of Chautauqua’s diverse program of activities.

Similarly, gifts to the Chautauqua Fund directly impact innovations to the programs you enjoy each year and Chautauqua’s ability to produce an unparalleled experience for you and your family. Supporting over 3,000 events each summer and scholarships for approximately 300 students, approximately 75% of gifts to the annual fund are less than $500 — every gift makes a difference!

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT AND INNOVATION
$8 million goal
$11,549,146 raised

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS
$2 million goal
$1,963,470 raised

BELLINGER HALL
$5.5 million goal
$5,000 raised

HAGEN WENSLEY HOUSE
$2.8 million goal
$2,868,981 raised

CHAUTAUQUA FUND
$2 million goal
$2,147,995 raised

CHAUTAUQUA FUND

The Bell Tower Society recognizes those who initiate a monthly, automatically recurring gift to the Chautauqua Fund, providing consistent and sustainable support.

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These grounds are home to an intentional community that gathers over the course of nine weeks each year in sacred space ... in a landscape that has drawn generations of leading thinkers, scholars, artists, clergy, writers and lifelong learners since its founding in 1874.

The most critical ingredients of this endeavor are Chautauquans themselves — people from many faiths and backgrounds — who together create a lively and respectful atmosphere for discovery. Sharing a reverence for place and practicing civility as we engage in passionate dialogue on issues of personal, national and global significance, you are Chautauqua’s promise!

Thank you, volunteers!

We extend our deepest gratitude to all those who have advocated on behalf of Chautauqua over the course of the Promise Campaign. Your leadership, faith, persistence, love and care are appreciated more than you could ever know.

Karen Arrison
Bill Bates
Stacey and Eve Berger
Mary Boyle and Ted Arrin
Jim Brady
Christina Braschke
Andrew Camden
Diane Carlson and Bill Freyd
Kathy Clingan
Roger Corner
Jack Connolly
Laura Currie
Brad Currie
Roger Doublle
Sylvis Fausi
Scott Fine
Chip Gamble
Karen Goodall
Betty Goodell
Craig Greens
Don Greenhouse
Bennie Oein
Toris and Betty Halfford
Jaime Hart
Anne Hoyt Scavone
Bill James
Bob Jeffrey
Nancy Kylor
Swen Loubish
Jesse Merion
Alison Marhinson
Jack McCrumes
Bob Metzger
Laurie Miller*
John and Cathy Milos
Karen Goodall
Betty Goodell
Craig Greens
Don Greenhouse
Bennie Oein
Toris and Betty Halfford
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Bill James
Bob Jeffrey
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Swen Loubish
Jesse Merion
Alison Marhinson
Jack McCrumes
Bob Metzger
Laurie Miller*
John and Cathy Milos
Sue Murphy
Anne Oldland
Mary Lou and Richard
Petilos
Steve Percy
Jason Phillips
Bob Pickens
Tim Ranfillan
Brad Schrader
Shelia Schroeder
Tom Small
George Snyder
Linda Strockley and Pete
Weital
Udaya Surioki
Steve Zenczak
*deceased

You are Chautauqua’s promise!

For additional information about philanthropy at Chautauqua, or to learn more about how you can participate in the Promise Campaign with a gift, please visit the Foundation Office (first floor of the Colonnade building), or contact 716.357.6404 / foundation@ciweb.org.