



## THE BESTOR SOCIETY

### Enriching Lives, Deepening Conversations

The Bestor Society is a community of Chautauqua's closest friends whose generous leadership support plays an instrumental role in advancing the work of Chautauqua Institution. Members enjoy unparalleled access to Institution programs, most notably exclusive receptions and luncheons with program leadership, the multi-day Scholar in Residence intensive, invitation to a summer dinner or reception at the President's Cottage, and other gatherings during the season and throughout the year. Those who wish to engage deeper in Chautauqua's work are encouraged to join.

Bestor Society members are committed to active engagement in Chautauqua's programs, serve as advocates and ambassadors, and help sustain the Institution's mission by amplifying our work for greater impact in shaping a better tomorrow. Bestor Society members are sent regular communications and receive invitations to occasionally join webinar opportunities on topics of interest.

Membership provides important unrestricted and designated support that advances all facets of the Institution's work. Members understand the importance of curating artistic expression, the value of assembly to reflect on the ideals and ideas that define a good society, and the engagement with others to convene probing conversations on important issues of the day.

Join the Bestor Society to advance and expand the work of Chautauqua Institution. Your support is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

To discuss this opportunity further, please contact Tina Downey, CFRE, Director of the Chautauqua Fund at [tdowney@chq.org](mailto:tdowney@chq.org) or (716) 357-6406.

*"There is abroad in the land a hunger of mind."*

- John Heyl Vincent, co-founder, Chautauqua Institution

## Giving to Support Chautauqua's Programs

There could be no clearer or more affirming signal of your commitment to this special place than with an unrestricted gift to the Chautauqua Fund.

Because Chautauqua is not exclusively an arts institute, an institute for political dialogue or one of religious expression, but rather a rich mix of all of the above, gifts given to the Chautauqua Fund without designation are a wonderful way to support all programmatic possibilities.

In addition to unrestricted giving, focused priorities include scholarships for students in the Schools of Performing and Visual Arts, artistic offerings, thought leadership/morning lecture series, afternoon interfaith/ethical lecture series, recreation and youth programs.

### Arts

The enthralling mix of Chautauqua's symphony, dance, opera, theater and the visual arts cannot be found anywhere else. Attracting and retaining excellent artistic directors and artists is essential to the future of the Institution's instructional and performing arts program.

Supporting the arts at Chautauqua provides financial assistance to Opera, Dance, Theater, Symphony, Chamber Music, and the Visual Arts & Galleries.

### Thought Leadership

From its earliest days, Chautauqua has affirmed the lifelong pursuit of wisdom by individuals in a community with shared values. Learning here is carried out freely and authentically through the exploration of challenging and diverse viewpoints.

We honor learning of every kind at every age. We celebrate the craft of teaching. We insist on challenging the known. Those who come to Chautauqua discover in this community a spiritual, intellectual and emotional home, and return annually to "drink from the well."

Supporting educational programs and thought leadership at Chautauqua includes support for the morning lecture series, the afternoon lecture series, the literary arts, the writers' center, the Smith Memorial Library, and the Archives Center.

### Interfaith and Religious Programs

As humans, we are seekers...of wisdom, purpose and meaning. We live in awe of the sacred. We declare that the essence of our times urges us to learn to look beyond our own individual lives, and to discover that meaning is found in connections—to place, ideas, faith, and to other lives.

At Chautauqua, cultivating compassion through honest dialogue and heartfelt sharing of experiences - where differences between religions are respected and similarities discovered - creates a genuine and yet religiously diverse community.

From the earliest days, religion played a vital role in creating the Chautauqua experience. At this time in our nation's history there is a deep yearning for both spiritual development and an exploration of ethical issues. CHQ answers that call through its interfaith programming, Sunday worship services, and afternoon lecture series.

## Recreation

Chautauqua's recreation pillar touches every corner of our community, embracing people of all ages and covering a wide diversity of interests and skill levels. Indeed, it is essential to the Chautauqua experience. Recreation serves the needs of families, it fosters lifelong learning, it nurtures relationships, it re-connects us to the natural world and it feeds our souls.

Gifts towards recreation supports the fitness center, golf, sailing programs, activities at the Sports Club and tennis.

## Youth Programs

Chautauqua's programs for youth present a diversity of activity, in settings varied and historic. From pre-school to day camp, from sports instruction to informal youth centers, from enrichment classes to entertainment, and from reading to experiences in the arts, these programs offer opportunities to explore the Chautauqua experience. At the same time, youth are encouraged to grow in independence, make choices, take responsibility and celebrate family time, all in the safe and supportive community that is Chautauqua.

Support for youth programs include activities at the Children's School, Boys and Girls Club, and the Youth Activities Center.

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**For more information on these opportunities, please contact:**

Tina Downey, CFRE  
Director of the Chautauqua Fund  
(716) 357-6406  
[tdowney@chq.org](mailto:tdowney@chq.org)

*Chautauqua Institution (#16-0758844) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.*



## Pledge Commitment :: Chautauqua Fund

### Section A: Donor Information

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Section B: Pledge Information

- I/we wish to pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards the Chautauqua Fund, payable by Dec. 31, 2022.
- I/we wish to pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year towards the Chautauqua Fund for \_\_\_\_\_ years and totaling \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Pledge payments will begin in the year \_\_\_\_\_ and continue through the year \_\_\_\_\_, payable annually by Dec. 31.

*Gifts and pledges made may also be made online at [www.chq.org](http://www.chq.org). Gifts may be made via check, credit card, transfer or appreciated securities. To transfer appreciated securities, please call (716) 357-6404 for instructions.*

### Section C: How you would like your gift used

- |                                                              |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use my gift where it is needed most | <input type="checkbox"/> Education/lectures/thought leadership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Performing & visual arts            | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth programs                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Literary arts                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interfaith/religious programs       | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships (list School: _____)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Care of physical spaces & grounds   | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts education                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: (_____)      |                                                                |

### Section D: Signature

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name(s) for recognition purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions: please contact Tina Downey, CFRE, Director of the Chautauqua Fund  
Chautauqua Institution, PO Box 28, Chautauqua, NY 14722  
716.357.6406 | [tdowney@chq.org](mailto:tdowney@chq.org)**

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