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**Bright Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties  
Kansas-Nebraska Chautauqua**

**Lawrence • June 18-22, 2008 • South Park  
12<sup>th</sup> & Massachusetts Streets in Historic Downtown Lawrence**

**In the event of bad weather, tent performances will be held inside  
Central Jr. High, 1400 Massachusetts Street**

**All evening tent performances are moderated by  
Will Rogers, portrayed by Doug Watson.**

**For more information contact the Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau at  
(785)-865-4499 or visit [www.visitlawrence.com](http://www.visitlawrence.com) or [www.knchautauqua.org](http://www.knchautauqua.org).**

*All events are free unless indicated by (\$)*

***Youth Chautauqua Camp***

**Presented by Ride Into History**

**Wednesday, June 18- Sunday, June 22**

**1-5 PM Wednesday – Saturday; 1-7 PM Sunday**

**Location: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street**

4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade participants will research a historical figure and portray them under the Chautauqua tent on Sunday evening. Pre-registration required. Contact the Lawrence CVB at 785-856-5284 or [marketing@visitlawrence.com](mailto:marketing@visitlawrence.com) for more information.

***Dust Bowl Traveling Exhibit***

**Thursday, June 19-Sunday, June 22**

**10 AM-5 PM**

**Location: Watkins Community Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts Street**

In the 1930s, the Farm Security Administration (FSA) photographed the faces and landscape of the Dust Bowl. Forty years later, Nebraska photographer Bill Ganzel found and re-photographed the survivors for a book and exhibition. The *Dust Bowl* exhibit, from Humanities Texas, combines the FSA photographs with Ganzel's images to tell a story of strength and triumph in the face of despair.

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### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

#### *Iconic Images*

**High School workshop presented by Ann Dean**

**1 PM**

**Location: Watkins Community Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts Street**  
1930s photographers, like Dorothea Lange, captured the hardship and despair of the Great Depression in images that are still powerful today. Aspiring high school photographers will study local images from the 1930s and will create their own iconic modern-day photographs. Cameras provided. Pre-registration required; contact the Lawrence CVB at 785-856-5284 or [marketing@visitlawrence.com](mailto:marketing@visitlawrence.com) for more information.

#### *Meet the Chautauquans*

**7 PM**

**Location: East side of South Park gazebo, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**  
Meet the Chautauquans, see a preview of upcoming activities, and enjoy the music of the Lawrence City Band.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 19

#### *Agriculture Then and Now*

**Presented by Patrick McGinnis**

**10:30 AM**

**Location: Lawrence Visitor Information Center, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**  
Today's family farm looks much different than the farms of our grandparents and great-grandparents. During the 1930s, New Deal farm policies changed traditional farming practices and the role of government in agriculture. This workshop will examine why these policies were introduced and how they affected rural communities.

#### *Will Rogers: Film and American Society*

**Presented by Doug Watson**

**1 PM**

**Location: Lawrence Visitor Information Center, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**  
From 1929-1935, Will Rogers made 21 "talkies." These movies, filled with Rogers' trademark wit, wisdom, and an optimistic vision of American society, were extremely popular. They also provide insight into social topics from the time period such as new wealth, rural distress, political and economic corruption. This workshop examines how Rogers' movies informed Americans about complex issues. Can the same be said about today's movies?

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*Huey Long and State Innovation*

**Presented by Fred Krebs**

**3 PM**

**Location: Lawrence Visitor Information Center, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Huey Long was innovative in his approach as Governor of Louisiana from 1928-1932. He worked to create laws that would make life easier and more equitable for the people. This workshop will examine Long's work as a reformer in his home state. How did his ideas effect change in Louisiana and the nation?

*Concessions (\$)*

**5:30-7:30 PM**

**Location: South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Streets, adjacent to Chautauqua tent**

Snacks and drinks available from local vendors.

*Will Rogers*

**7 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Will Rogers (Doug Watson) opens the evening's tent program with his authentic American commentary, rope tricks, and down-home humor.

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

**7:30 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Franklin D. Roosevelt (Patrick E. McGinnis) chats about his New Deal programs and his plans to put the nation back on track.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 20**

*Dear Eleanor, Dear Laura*

**Youth Workshop presented by Jane Johnston**

**10-11:30 AM**

**Location: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street**

If you could write a letter to the First Lady of the United States, what would you write? During the Great Depression of the 1930s, children from all over the country sent letters to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. In the letters, children asked Mrs. Roosevelt for everything from a pair of roller skates to food for their family. Participants in this workshop will become historians-in-training as they research the letters and learn about the 1930s. At the end of the workshop, they will write a letter to First Lady Laura Bush.

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*Crisis and the role of the Demagogue*

**Presented by Fred Krebs**

**10:30 AM**

**Location: Lawrence Visitor Information Center, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

A demagogue can be defined by a leader who champions the cause of the common people or a leader who makes use of popular prejudices and false claims and promises in order to gain power. So - was Huey Long a demagogue? Participants in this workshop will consider what leadership meant to politician Huey Long. Clips will be shown of Roseen's 1949 film "All the King's Men," a fictitious account of Long's life.

*Brown Bag Lunch – Art & the Dust Bowl-era*

**Presented by Kate Meyer**

**Noon**

**Location: Watkins Community Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts Street**

Examine the art of the era and how life imitates art, or is it the other way around? Bring a brownbag lunch to enjoy.

*What Do Historians Say?*

**Presented by Patrick McGinnis**

**1 PM**

**Location: Lawrence Visitor Information Center, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

In 1932 during his presidential campaign, Franklin Delano Roosevelt introduced his New Deal ideas. Historians differ on the interpretation of the impact and legacy of these relief programs. This workshop will explore many interpretations and give participants the opportunity to discuss how the image of FDR changes with the perspective presented.

*Radio in the Thirties*

**Presented by Tonia Compton**

**3 PM**

**Location: Lawrence Visitors Center, 402 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Radio in the 1930s changed the ways Americans learned about the world around them. Used by FDR, Huey Long, Will Rogers, and Aimee Semple McPherson as a new way to reach the American public, this workshop will include samples of popular shows. Workshop participants will analyze radio's impact on cultural, political, and social changes of the 1930s. How does today's technology influence American society?

*Concessions (\$)*

**5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Location: South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Streets, adjacent to Chautauqua tent**

Snacks and drinks available from local vendors.

*Radio Show Entertainment*

**Presented by The Vintage Players**

**7 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Relive the magic of old-time radio by watching – and listening – to a live performance of *Flash Gordon*.

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*Huey Long*

**7:30 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Meet Louisiana Senator, and former governor, Huey Long (Fred Krebs). The larger-than-life politician will share his plan to make "Every Man a King."

**SATURDAY, JUNE 21**

*Breakfast with the Chautauquans & Caught on Film: The Work of the Kansas Emergency Relief Committee*

**Presented by Matt Veatch, State Archivist and Asst. Division Director for the Kansas State Historical Society**

**9 AM**

**Location: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street**

Enjoy a continental breakfast and a chance to meet and mingle with the Chautauquans. After breakfast, stay for a presentation about the Kansas Emergency Relief Committee and the film documentation of its work during the Great Depression.

*Floods, FEMA & the Faithful: Religious Organizations' Relief Efforts in the Wake of Disasters*

**Presented by Tonia Compton**

**10:30 AM**

**Location: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street**

This workshop will examine the development of religious groups' work providing relief efforts to people across the United States when natural or man-made disasters wreak havoc on human habitation. From the recent devastation of Hurricane Katrina, to disasters in the early twentieth century like the San Francisco earthquake in 1906, victims and government agencies have increasingly come to rely on private efforts by religious organizations to provide aid. This workshop will consider the development of this trend, and look at how churches and other religious groups responded to the Dust Bowl on the Great Plains.

*Iconic Images*

**Workshop presented by Ann Dean**

**11 AM**

**Location: Watkins Community Museum of History, 1047 Massachusetts Street**

Day two of the high school photography workshop. Aspiring high school photographers will study local images from the 1930s and will create their own modern-day photographs. Cameras provided. Pre-registration required; contact the Lawrence CVB at 785-856-5284 or [marketing@visitlawrence.com](mailto:marketing@visitlawrence.com) for more information.

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***Making Murals with Folktales: How Butterflies Were Made***

**Presented by Wanda Schell**

**1 PM**

**Location: St. Luke AME Church, 900 New York Street**

Zora Neale Hurston compiled folktales for the Works Progress Administration from her home state of Florida. One folktale tells how the colorful butterflies were created to keep the flowers company and how they came to be called butterflies. In this workshop, children will listen to the vibrant story told by "Zora" and will talk about the tale and compare it to the world they live in today. They will create a mural based on the images in the folktale and related images from their own experiences. The mural will be photographed and displayed on the website.

***Walking Tour of Downtown Lawrence: the 1930s***

**Tour led by Dennis Domer**

**3 PM**

**Location: Meet at Watkins Museum, 1047 Massachusetts St.**

Take a guided walking tour of Historic Downtown Lawrence and learn about the area's history from the 1930s.

***Concessions (\$)***

**5:30-7:30 PM**

**Location: South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Streets, adjacent to Chautauqua tent**

Snacks and drinks available from local vendors.

***Radio Show Entertainment***

**Presented by The Vintage Players**

**7 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Relive the magic of old-time radio by watching – and listening – to a live performance of *Flash Gordon*.

***Aimee Semple McPherson***

**7:30 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Aimee Semple McPherson (Tonia Compton), the charismatic founder of the Foursquare Church, will recount her pioneering work in the church and on the radio.

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## **SUNDAY, JUNE 22**

### ***Go Gator and Muddy the Water***

**Presented by Wanda Schell**

**1 PM**

**Location: Presbyterian Manor, 1429 Kasold Drive**

Zora Neale Hurston wrote for the Federal Writer's Project during the Thirties, collecting folklore as well as other stories. In this workshop, participants will compare Kansas and Nebraska folklore, myths, and rituals to that of Florida collected by Hurston and its importance both then and now. Additionally, participants will explore healing rituals, songs, and children's games from Hurston's writing and how some of the more controversial themes were received by her contemporaries.

### **Youth Chautauqua Camp**

**Presented by Ride Into History**

**1-7 PM Sunday**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade participants will research a historical figure and portray them under the Chautauqua tent on Sunday evening. Pre-registration required. Contact the Lawrence CVB at 785-856-5284 or [marketing@visitlawrence.com](mailto:marketing@visitlawrence.com) for more information.

### ***Role of Political Satire & Comedy***

**Presented by Doug Watson**

**3 PM**

**Location: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street**

During the 1930s, political cartoons, radio programs, newspaper articles and film mirrored, and sometimes exaggerated, how Americans responded to political and religious leaders. This workshop will use examples of Will Rogers' work from the 1920s and 1930s to discuss the continuing role of humor as a response to today's world.

### ***Concessions (\$)***

**5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Location: South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Streets, adjacent to Chautauqua tent**

Snacks and drinks available from local vendors.

### ***Youth Chautauqua Camp Performances***

**5:30 PM**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Come and watch the youth camp participants bring Lawrence's history to life as they portray famous local figures from the past.

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***Zora Neale Hurston***

**7:30 p.m.**

**Location: Chautauqua Tent, South Park, 12<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts Street**

Zora Neale Hurston (Wanda Schell), Harlem Renaissance author and folklorist, will discuss her work with the Works Progress Administration and her efforts to preserve African American folklore.