



## NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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# **N E W S   R E L E A S E**

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## **Falls City plans schedule of events for Chautauqua**

The community of Falls City has planned a five-day schedule of events surrounding the visit June 25-29 of “Bright Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties,” the Nebraska Humanities Council’s 2008 Chautauqua program.

The schedule includes a “Dust Bowl” exhibit of photographs, a youth camp and high school workshops. Among the opening-day events are a 5:30 p.m. social to meet the Chautauquans and a 7 p.m. concert by the Southeast Nebraska Community Band.

Main events will be held each evening June 26-29 at Stanton Lake Park on West 25th Street. Evening stage performances offer local entertainment and first-person interpretations of historical figures from the era of the Great Depression. Evening Chautauqua sessions begin at 7 p.m. June 26 and at 7:30 p.m. June 27-29. Daytime workshops will be held for adults and children.

Scholars will portray five historical characters who helped shape America’s response to the Great Depression. The scholars are Doug Watson as humorist Will Rogers, Patrick McGinnis as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Fred Krebs as Louisiana governor and U.S. Sen. Huey Long, Tonia M. Compton as evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson and Wanda Schell as Harlem Renaissance writer Zora Neale Hurston.

A collaboration of the Nebraska Humanities Council and the Kansas Humanities Council, the Chautauqua also visits Hastings July 2-6 and goes to Lawrence and Beloit in Kansas.

The “Bright Dreams, Hard Times” Chautauqua is funded, in part, by a major three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the NEH’s special “We The People” initiative.

For additional information on this summer’s Chautauqua, go to the Nebraska Humanities Council’s website, [www.nebraskahumanities.org](http://www.nebraskahumanities.org) or contact Beth McQueen at (402) 474-2131 ext. 108 or [beth@nebraskahumanities.org](mailto:beth@nebraskahumanities.org).

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