



A History Museum

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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History Speaks Lecture Series 2009-2010 opens Oct. 11

Naperville, Ill. — The History Speaks Lecture Series begins its sixth season for 2009-2010 with a variety of historical performances and presentations that run from October through May at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Advance tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for students, youth and Naperville Heritage Society sustaining members; tickets at the door are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and youth. Admission for the two-hour Underground Railroad presentation is \$12 for adults and \$10 for Naperville Heritage Society sustaining members. For tickets, call (630) 420-6010. Visit www.napersettlement.museum for more information.

Burnham's Chicago

Hear Terry Lynch as architect Daniel Burnham describe the history of Chicago from its beginnings as the "Wild Onion" to the "City of Big Shoulders" at this kickoff of the 2009-2010 season of the History Speaks Lecture Series, from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11. The year 2009 is the Centennial of Burnham and Edward Bennett's visionary 1909 Plan of Chicago.

City Beautiful: Celebrating the Burnham Plan Centennial

Art historian and university professor Jeff Mishur of Art Excursions presents a slide lecture about architect Daniel Burnham's 1909 Plan of Chicago and its relationship to European and American precedents from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1. Follow the transition from the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition to the City Beautiful Movement so eloquently manifested in Burnham's plan.

The Legend of St. Nicholas

Hear the stories of St. Nicholas, the protector of children through the ages, heartwarminglly portrayed by veteran performer and historian Terry Lynch. Learn about the origins of St. Nicholas in various countries, popular Christmas symbols, and worldwide Christmas traditions. This special one-man interactive program is meant for audiences ages 1 to 92 and will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, also known as St. Nicholas Day.

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Franklin D. Roosevelt - A Fireside Chat

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's fireside chats helped the people of the United States cope with the challenges of the Depression and World War II that followed. In this presentation that will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, see R.J. Lindsey's striking resemblance to FDR and enjoy this beloved president's favorite stories about his wife, Eleanor, Winston Churchill, Orson Wells and his Scotty dog, Fala. At the conclusion of his Fireside Chat, the president will invite questions from the audience.

The Underground Railroad

This original program on the Underground Railroad, created by Naper Settlement's Education Department, will be presented from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7, as interactive theater with the audience participating in the roles of 1856 scholars. Walking from building to building, participants meet townspeople, among them an abolitionist, a Southern sympathizer and a runaway slave, who offer many different perspectives about the issues of the day. Dress for the outdoors; some standing required.

From Auld (Old) Sod to New Prairie: the Irish in America

Weaving music with stories, singer and songwriter Lee Murdock presents a compelling story of Irish immigrants in Illinois in this presentation from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 14. As they came to America to build their new lives in a foreign land, the Irish were also essential in building the canals, railroads, and towns that became Illinois and America. Both traditional ballads and modern historical songs are featured in this illuminating presentation.

Stories Aboard the Titanic

R.J. Lindsey portrays *New York Times* Managing Editor Carr Van Anda in this compelling presentation to be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 11, that tells the story of the H.M.S Titanic from its construction to its final hours and the newspaper's response to the S.O.S. message it received from the sinking ship on April 14, 1912.

Jacqueline Kennedy

Leslie Goddard portrays Jacqueline Kennedy, who will share her story from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 2. As first lady, she drew intense media attention for her fashion and her youthful appeal, appearing on the covers of thousands of popular magazines. She became a role model for a generation of women with her charm, grace and dignity in the face of heartbreaking tragedy.

History comes to life at Naper Settlement, an outdoor museum village, located in downtown Naperville at 523 S. Webster St. Accredited by the American Association of Museums, Naper Settlement has 30 historic structures ranging from a rustic log cabin to an elegant Victorian mansion, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Open year round, for more information about hours and admission prices, visit www.napersettlement.museum or call (630) 420-6010.

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