

Anything Goes

america in the 1920s



Presented by the
Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa
in association with the
Oklahoma Humanities Council



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**Gene Worthington
as Babe Ruth**

**Debra Conner
as Zelda Fitzgerald**

**Dr. Doug Watson
as Will Rogers**

**Ilene Evans
as Bessie Coleman**

**Dr. Doug Mishler
as Henry Ford**

Retired educator Gene Worthington is a scholar/actor, performing American and Appalachian history throughout several states. His lifelong love of baseball led him to create the character, "Babe" Ruth. Gene has performed as Babe Ruth, frontiersman Simon Kenton, and Theodore Roosevelt for Ohio Chautauqua and has performed as dynamic labor leader John L. Lewis, as well as Babe Ruth, for the West Virginia Humanities Council. In addition to performing, Worthington currently serves as Artistic Director for the Historic Fayette Theatre in Fayetteville, West Virginia. He has directed several award winning productions on the state and regional level.

Debra Conner began portraying Emily Dickinson in 1997, thanks to a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. Since then, she has added in-character portrayals of other notable women to her program offerings. Those include Margaret Mitchell and Civil War surgeon, Dr. Mary Walker, the only woman ever to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. Debra also conducts workshops and residencies in creative writing through the WV Arts Commission and the Ohio Arts Council. She has published essays and poetry in a variety of publications. When not writing or performing, she enjoys horseback riding and competing with her dog in agility trials.

Doug Watson is a retired professor of literature and the humanities, named in 2010 to the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame, after more than thirty-five years in the college classroom. He has been involved with historical characterization since 1991 and has presented versions of his Will Rogers character often since 1997. He and his wife, a retired public school English teacher, live in Shawnee. They have one daughter, one granddaughter, and several cats. Doug enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, and travel, but is perhaps happiest on the golf course.

Ilene Evans is an inventive storyteller weaving music, dance, and drama, to bring history alive. Ms. Evans creates educational theater programs and workshops that span a vast range of arts and humanities as artistic director of Voices from the Earth. She has toured internationally with her historical and original works including *Harvest of Dreams*, *General Moses*, and *Building Bridges*. Ms. Evans portrays other significant women of color who changed the world: Carrie Williams, Coralie Franklin Cook, Memphis Tennessee Garrison and Ethel Waters. Ms. Evans received her B.A. from Trinity College Deerfield and her M.A. at East Tennessee State University.

Over the last twenty years Doug has become nationally recognized for bringing "history to life." In addition to his latest characters Jack Warner and D. W. Griffith, or his first P. T. Barnum, Doug has presented Theodore Roosevelt, General Stonewall Jackson and 14 other historical figures all over the country. The voices in his head keep him busy but when he is not on the road he is either directing or acting in plays or teaching American history at the University of Nevada. Like his idol Theodore Roosevelt, Doug believes there is still plenty of time to grow up and get a "real job" - but later!

Anything Goes America in the 1920s

june 4-8 • osu-tulsa campus

700 north greenwood ave • Room 150, North Hall next to the campus fountain
All workshops and performances are free and open to the public

Oklahoma Chautauqua will begin in Altus, May 28-June 1; Tulsa, June 4-8; Enid, June 11-15; and our finale in Lawton, June 18-22. Oklahoma Chautauqua receives major grant support from the Oklahoma Humanities Council. For additional information, contact afox@ahct.org or 918.549.7492.



tuesday, june 4



12:00 PM WORKSHOP: Dr. Doug Mishler • The Automobile and the Development of Modern America 1890-1960 • Henry Ford and the other early auto manufacturers caused a sea change in America. In this workshop we will explore all the ways the auto altered America from the time of its introduction in 1896 through the 1950's.
5:30 PM WORKSHOP: Debra Conner • Get Square • In the 1920's, Cubism was a radically new movement in the art world. In this workshop, attendees will learn about Cubism and the artists who pioneered this distinctive and influential style. Audience members will have the opportunity to create their own mini-masterpieces. Fun for adults and children ages 5 and up.
6:30 PM MUSIC: SISTERS IN SONG
7:25 PM: MEET YOUR CHAUTAUQUA SCHOLARS
7:30 PM: WILL ROGERS PORTRAYED BY DR. DOUG WATSON

wednesday, june 5



12:00 PM WORKSHOP: Dr. Doug Watson • "Born Sober" and "Staggering to the Polls" – Prohibition in Oklahoma • The 1920's was the nation's only decade to prohibit manufacture and sale of alcohol; in Oklahoma, the story has been considerably longer and more complicated.
5:30 PM WORKSHOP: Dr. Doug Mishler • Popular Culture and the Dawn of Modern America 1900-1930 • Boxing, football, baseball, and other sports as well as circuses, vaudeville, cinema, the radio all forever changed American life during these decades. Together we will explore the wide variety of popular entertainments and activities that American citizens experienced in the early decades of the twentieth century.
6:30 PM MUSIC: JOHN SOUTHERN
7:30 PM: HENRY FORD PORTRAYED BY DR. DOUG MISHLER

thursday, june 6



12:00 PM WORKSHOP: Debra Connor • The Crack Up • F. Scott Fitzgerald spent his last years in emotional and financial ruin. In 1936, just four years before he died at age 44, Fitzgerald wrote and published several gloomy autobiographical essays. They are, according to one writer, "part self-autopsy and part funeral sermon." What was behind Fitzgerald's "crack up?" How was Fitzgerald's literary reputation rescued after his death?
5:30 PM WORKSHOP: Gene Worthington • Sports in the Roaring Twenties • World War I was over, people had more money, and they had the time to spend it. The roaring twenties presented a new kind of hero. Fighters, Tennis players, and Baseball stars became the leading men in an era that was new and exciting and mores and morals changed.
6:30 PM MUSIC: JOHN SOUTHERN
7:30 PM: BESSIE COLEMAN PORTRAYED BY ILENE EVANS

friday, june 7



12:00 PM WORKSHOP: Ilene Evans • African American Expressive Art in Dances, Stories, Games and Songs • Join Ilene Evans in a fun interactive workshop for young and old alike. Life in the 1920's was filled with dances, songs, games, riddles, and rhymes. Learn more about history of these art forms that continue to enrich American culture and life today.
5:30 PM WORKSHOP: Dr. Doug Watson • Boom and Bust – Will Rogers on Wealth and the Economy • Films helped to make Will a wealthy man, but his films and his media comments often included warnings about undeserved fortune, social pretension, and an ill-managed economy. Many of these pronouncements remain timely.
6:30 PM MUSIC: DUO SONICS
7:30 PM: BABE RUTH PORTRAYED BY GENE WORTHINGTON

saturday, june 8



12:00 PM WORKSHOP: Ilene Evans • Our Proper Sphere • Those attending this workshop will examine the changing values regarding women and their proper place in the world during the "Roaring 20's." Learn more about how the "Cult of Domesticity" was shattered in the 1920's as the modern woman emerged once women gained the right to vote and used their voices to change the course of American history.
5:30 PM WORKSHOP: Gene Worthington • Fields of Dreams • Spend some time with Gene Worthington as he talks about the stadiums he has visited and shares some stories about America's great pastime and the arenas where it is played. He will tell you about America's historic ball parks and the traditions they built.
6:30 PM MUSIC: DUO SONICS
7:30 PM: ZELDA FITZGERALD PORTRAYED BY DEBRA CONNER

what is chautauqua?

The modern Chautauqua movement began in 1976 as a type of "tent revival" for the humanities, to evoke discussion about history. The idea of Chautauqua also answered the dilemma many humanities organizations faced: how to make it possible for scholars to interact with the public in an open and accessible forum.

refreshments and entertainment

Come early for dinner and enjoy a variety of local food vendors each evening under the tent!

Tuesday, June 4: TBA

Wednesday, June 5: Brownie's

Thursday, June 6: TnT Dyno Dogs

Friday, June 7: Brownie's

Saturday, June 8: TBA

Check out local musicians each evening beginning at 6:30 p.m.

parking

Plenty of parking is available! Guests visiting the OSU-Tulsa campus are welcome to park in any lot on the campus.

sponsors

In its 22nd continuous year, the Oklahoma Chautauqua is a program of the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa. Major funding is provided in part by a grant from the Oklahoma Humanities Council. Additional support for this program is provided by the following: Oklahoma State University – Tulsa, The Avery Family Trust, Williams, Tulsa Community College and the Downtown Double Tree Hotel.

