

Some Notes on Chautauqua

A Memo from the Executive Director

GETTING TO CHAUTAUQUA

Conference staffers will arrange ground transportation to Chautauqua from the airports in Buffalo, NY; Jamestown, NY; and Erie, PA. In rare instances is Erie, PA the most economical choice. Buffalo provides the most flight-schedule options. Jamestown is the closest airport to Chautauqua and is especially convenient if you are arriving from Pittsburgh.

One of the best features of the Chautauqua Institution is that very few cars are allowed within its grounds, making for a peaceful and healthful break from the problem of traffic congestion in a residential area. Chautauqua is a very walking-oriented community. Parking lots are available adjacent to the grounds, and we will assist you in reserving a space at the visitors' rates charged by the Institution.

Accommodations

The Chautauqua Institution is a remarkable place—an idyllic, peaceful village dedicated to culture and education. Much of the architecture reflects the charm of the late nineteenth century, when the Institution was founded, but the buildings have been modernized and, along with the grounds, are beautifully maintained.

We have reserved accommodations in various Chautauqua residences: the landmark Victorian style Athenaeum Hotel, and other inns . . . charming apartments in old houses . . . tasteful new condominiums . . . and more.

One emphasis of the workshops is getting to know other writers of children's literature informally. You may enjoy sharing a room with another writer.

If you know someone with whom you'd like to room, we'll be happy to make those arrangements.

Note that a variety of housing options are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Old-style Chautauqua residences are inns, hotels, and guesthouses that reflect vintage Victorian charm. Although most offer private baths, some maintain the old-world European style of shared baths. Gentle lake breezes wafting over verandas and open-air porches provide nature's air conditioning. New-style Chautauqua condominiums are new and renovated private residences with modern conveniences and amenities.

Some accommodations are a short walk from where the workshops will be held. Some—newer facilities but located on the periphery of the Institution—are far enough away that they are best suited to more ambitious walkers or bicyclists. (Bikes may be rented on the grounds.) Minibuses shuttle back and forth between these newer accommodations and where our workshops take place.

You may, of course, make your own housing arrangements through the Chautauqua Institution's Accommodations Referral Service. Their phone number is (716) 357-6204.

When you arrive at Chautauqua on July 12, we'll greet you at our hospitality center, give you a quick overview of the week's program, then get you settled in. You will probably have time to become a bit acquainted with Chautauqua before the opening banquet at 6:30 P.M.

Throughout the week you'll experience various culinary treats. Each day will begin with a breakfast of fresh fruit, cereal, yogurt, protein items, assorted muffins and breads, and coffee, tea and juices. Lunches will be simple American cooking—with style. You'll enjoy excellent dinners at the Chautauqua Golf Club, at the Athenaeum Hotel, and at other delightful spots. Breakfasts, lunches, and a few dinners will be served buffet style.

What to Pack

Dress at Chautauqua is informal. You should feel comfortable in slacks, shorts, or casual dress. A pair of sturdy walking shoes is strongly recommended as well as an umbrella and sweater or jacket for cool evenings. You may also wish to pack a swimsuit, as lake swimming is available.

Slightly more formal apparel will be useful at our opening and closing banquets, which will be held at the Athenaeum Hotel. Such attire is also appropriate for some of the optional cultural programs (i.e., the operas and plays).

If you wish to bring along a laptop, you may do so. Bestor Plaza, the main square at Chautauqua, has free wireless, as does the Athenaeum Hotel. Internet service and printers are available for your use for a nominal fee at the Institute's Business Center.

We have no objection to your bringing a portable audio recorder to record general sessions and workshops for your personal use.

Free-Time Activities

Every day during the summer Chautauqua offers a full program of performances (music, theater, or dance) and lectures. Evening events include performances by the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, as well as guest artists in concert programs. The cost of attending these events is covered by the gate ticket you will receive in your registration packet. There is, however, an additional fee for the performances at the Chautauqua Opera.

Our Hospitality House will be open all week. It's centrally located and a great place to drop in for relaxation, conversation, or snacks.

Further Information

You can familiarize yourself with the Chautauqua environment by clicking on www.ciweb.org.

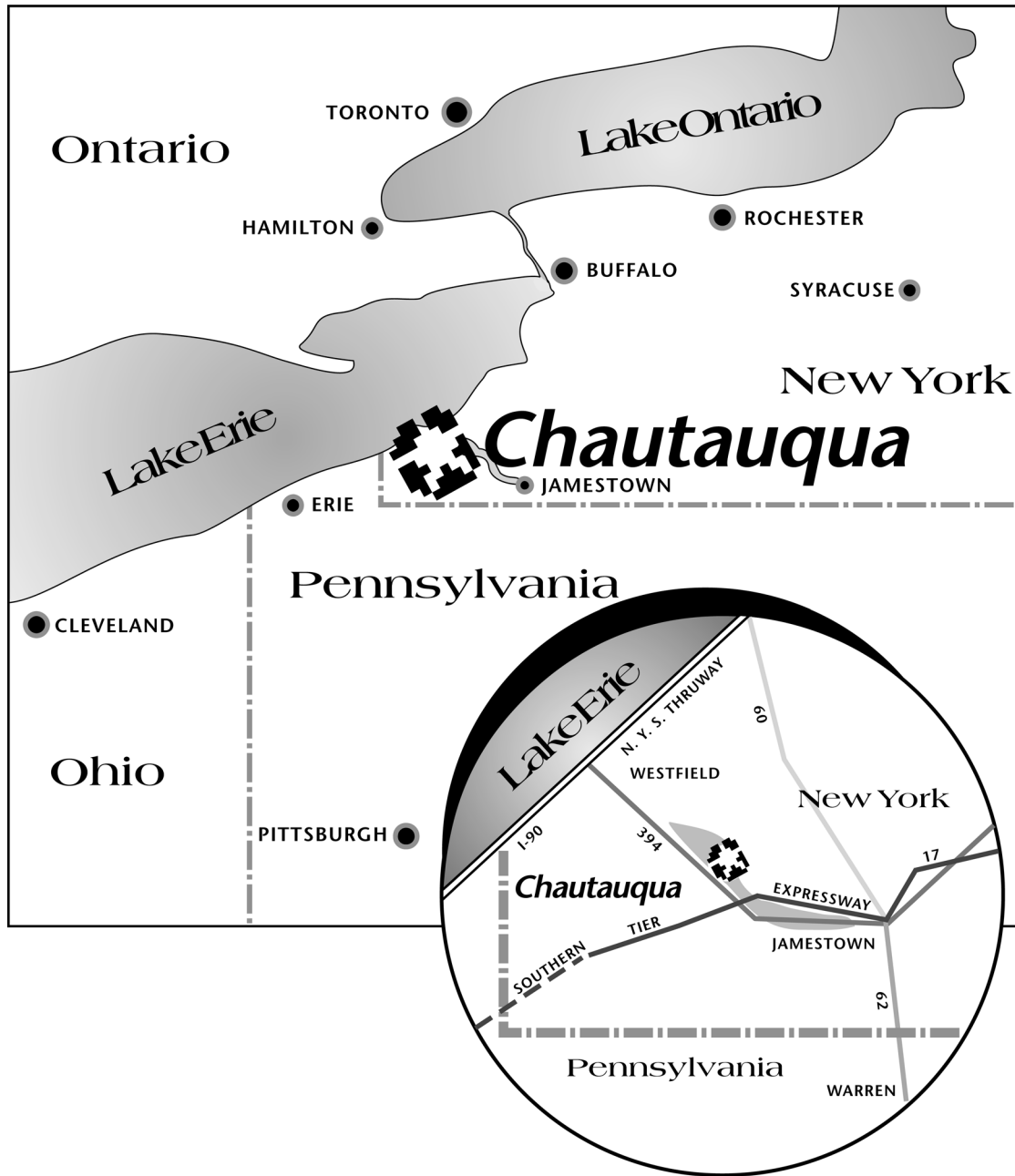
We'll be in touch to let you preregister for workshops, and to give you details about a manuscript to be submitted in advance and critiqued at your one-on-one faculty conference.

If you have any questions, call (570) 251-4557. You may also e-mail contact@highlightsfoundation.org.

We'll look forward to seeing you in July.



Kent L. Brown Jr.
Executive Director



How to find Chautauqua:

Chautauqua Institution is located approximately halfway between Buffalo, New York, and Erie, Pennsylvania. It is easily accessible from the north, east, or west via Interstate 90 to the Westfield exit. Follow Route 394 to Mayville and south to the entrance. Chautauqua is sixteen miles north of Jamestown.

Chautauqua is also served by the county airport at Jamestown through USAir. The Buffalo Airport is also convenient.