

Kentucky Chautauqua®

Telling Kentucky's Story



Call for living history presenters

Here's your chance to help us tell Kentucky's story by portraying a person from Kentucky's colorful past. Since 1992, our presenters have brought 50 Kentuckians back to life as Chautauqua characters (see list on other side). There are many more compelling stories out there—let us know which one you want to tell.

Kentucky Chautauqua is seeking presenters to develop dramatic programs portraying the lives of historical Kentuckians. Through the application and audition process described here, we will select five new Kentucky Chautauqua characters in July 2008. This is your only chance to apply. Dramatic experience is desirable but not required.

Proposed Chautauqua characters do not have to be famous, but their lives should illuminate some part of Kentucky's history, and their stories should be compelling enough to appeal to audiences in every part of the state. Chautauqua characters, who must be deceased, have ranged from the unknown, such as former slave Dinnie Thompson of Louisville, to household names like Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln. The common thread is that they all have great stories to tell.

A Kentucky Chautauqua portrayal should last about 45 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer session of up to 30 minutes. Applicants

chosen as Chautauqua characters will receive an honorarium of \$1,000 for script development, and the Humanities Council will pay for drama, costume, and scholarly consultants to ensure the historical accuracy of the characterization. Presenters agree to provide their own costumes, props, and transportation, and must be available to travel statewide for at least 45 performances between August 1, 2009 and July 31, 2011. We will pay presenters \$350 per performance plus lodging.

If you have a character you want to portray for Kentucky Chautauqua, you have until May 9, 2008 to submit an application. See the required elements of a Chautauqua application below.

We will invite selected applicants to audition for a panel of judges chosen by the Humanities Council. Auditions and final selection of characters will take place July 23, 2008 in Lexington. The audition consists of a five-minute in-character presentation followed by a ten-minute Q & A with the judges.

A Kentucky Chautauqua application must include all of the following:

- A separate sheet stating your name, mailing address, e-mail address, home and work phone numbers, and the name of the character you want to portray
- Your current resume, including any acting, public speaking, and research experience
- Names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references, including their relation to you
- A 2-3 page description of your proposed character, including why his or her story is of interest and importance to Kentuckians
- A brief bibliography of your sources of information about your character

Your Kentucky Chautauqua application must be postmarked by May 9, 2008! Mail to:



Kentucky Chautauqua
Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc.
206 East Maxwell Street
Lexington, KY 40508-2613
859/257-5932
kyhumanities.org



Kentucky Chautauqua Call for Characters

Kentucky Chautauqua Characters 1992–2008

Atta kul kulla	Cassius M. Clay	Price Hollowell	Adolph Rupp
Alben Barkley	Henry Clay	Grandpa Jones	Laura Scott
Mary McLeod Bethune	Laura Clay	Simon Kenton	Cora Wilson Stewart
Ruth Hanly Booe	Irvin S. Cobb	Maxine Lacey	Jesse Stuart
Daniel Boone	Catherine Conner	Lily May Ledford	Miss Dinnie Thompson
John C. Breckinridge	Rev. Elijah Craig	Abraham Lincoln	Sojourner Truth
Mary Breckinridge	Emmit Davenport	Mary Todd Lincoln	Harriet Tubman
Belle Brezing	Samuel Drake	John C. C. Mayo	Dr. Thomas Walker
Aunt Clara Brown	Joseph Galloway	Dr. Ephraim McDowell	Sallie Ward
Simon Bolivar Buckner	Margaret Garner	Rose Will Monroe	Henry Watterson
A. A. Burleigh	Rev. Elisha Green	Gov. Edwin Morrow	York
George Rogers Clark	Winifred Green	Dr. J. J. Polk	
Anna Mac Clarke	Emilie Todd Helm	Pee Wee Reese	

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