

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 55 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 2010. 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, 2011 and July 31, 2013. 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 7, 2010 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 21, 2010 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 7, 2010.

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 1992–2009

Atta kul kulla
Lucy Bakewell Audubon
Alben Barkley
Mary McLeod Bethune
Ruth Hanly Booe
Daniel Boone
John C. Breckinridge
Mary Breckinridge
Belle Brezing
Aunt Clara Brown
Simon Bolivar Buckner
A. A. Burleigh
George Rogers Clark
Anna Mac Clarke

Cassius M. Clay
Henry Clay
Laura Clay
Rosemary Clooney
Irvin S. Cobb
Catherine Conner
Rev. Elijah Craig
Emmit Davenport
Samuel Drake
Joseph Galloway
Margaret Garner
Rev. Elisha Green
Johnny Green
Winifred Green

Justice John Marshall Harlan
Emilie Todd Helm
Billy Herndon
Price Hollowell
Grandpa Jones
Simon Kenton
Maxine Lacey
Lily May Ledford
Abraham Lincoln
Mary Todd Lincoln
John C. C. Mayo
Dr. Ephraim McDowell
Rose Will Monroe
Gov. Edwin Morrow

Mary Owens
Dr. J. J. Polk
PeeWee Reese
Adolph Rupp
Laura Scott
Cora Wilson Stewart
Jesse Stuart
Miss Dinnie Thompson
Sojourner Truth
Harriet Tubman
Dr. Thomas Walker
Sallie Ward
Henry Watterson York

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KENTUCKY HUMANITIES COUNCIL, INC.
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Call for Characters